MINUTES - FACULTY SENATE MEETING, DECEMBER 7, 1988

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rufus G. Fellers at 3:01 p.m.

I. Correction of Minutes.

Secretary Silvernail added on p. M-2, III.D., second line - Faculty Budget before the word committee. The minutes were approved as corrected.

II. Reports of Officers.

President James B. Holderman noted the $365 bonus appropriated by the legislature was for classified employees not unclassified. He stated the Board of Trustees has been asked to take a strong stance on faculty salary improvement including adopting a policy and a specific percentage request for the next 12 years. He is optimistic the Board will agree. In addition, he pointed out the Ways and Means Committee has appointed the members to the Subcommittee on Higher Education, chaired by Representative Kirsch with members Representatives Jim Johnson and Jarvis Klapman. Last year's committee was friendly to higher education but, we are not sure about this committee. Faculty who reside in Representative Klapman's district may wish to approach him.

President Holderman reported on the meeting with the Commission on Higher Education (see Minutes of 11/30/88) and complimented the Provost's "tremendous" persuasive power in obtaining a 60 day delay in the CHE timetable to consider adoption of the guidelines. He was pleased that members of the Commission seemed willing to listen to higher education. He asked for questions.

Professor Mack (ARTH) asked where the University now stands in terms of involvement with SRP?

Holderman said nothing had been signed with SRP and our Board of Trustees would be involved in any decision. A not-for-profit arrangement has been formally organized among the three universities involved, not just for SRP but also other research activities we may undertake together. There are many concerns which must be ironed out before anything is done with an SRP agreement. He will continue to inform this group when appropriate and to work with the Senate appointed committee. There is nothing specific to report at this time.
Provost Arthur K. Smith confirmed there has been a 60 day postponement as CHE decided at their 1 December meeting. He believed the resolution passed by this body played an important role in obtaining the postponement. To that resolution others were added from faculty groups at Aiken, Spartanburg, and Coastal Carolina and from the Student Government Association USC-Columbia. Chief academic officers from Clemson University, Francis Marion College, the Citadel and the Technical Colleges also supported the 60 day postponement request and expressed their concerns over the January 1990 submission to the General Assembly of a statewide plan for higher education. The 60 day postponement is not 60 working days for it includes the holiday break. The Commissioner has called a meeting of the Advisory Council on Planning for 11 January, 1989. Thus, we must prepare our presentation for 11 January. He has already met with the chairs of several university committees as well as with the University Self-Study Committee. These faculty committees are working on a set of revisions to the planning perspectus and the guidelines for institutional effectiveness.

There will be an additional layer of review by CHE as a new committee has been established - the Committee on Planning and Assessment - which will review what the Advisory Council on Planning proposes before submission to CHE in early February. We will try to play an active role at every stage. He is optimistic that we will be able to achieve some important changes that would remove the prescriptive elements of the guidelines on institutional effectiveness and perhaps stretch out some the timetable for planning so that higher education could have a more realistic role in the statewide planning process.

Professor Tucker (SOCY) wanted to know what impact the new committee will have?

Smith said he did not know except that it will screen new materials and do basic committee work like other established CHE subcommittees. Professor Holst (FORL) said he understood the CHE passed the concept of the guidelines. Smith said the CHE passed a substitute motion which would approve in principle that there be a planning perspectus and there be guidelines for institutional effectiveness. There was no approval of substantive wording. This will be done at their February meeting.

He then reported he had met with Faculty Budget and Faculty Welfare Committees to provide his analysis of the most recent round of faculty salary increases, especially that part relating to the 2 percent that was intended to redress salary inequities based on long term merit. One of the committees will make a report at a later time but he believes a good deal of progress was made in this area.
His last report dealt with the international mail problem expressed at the November meeting of Faculty Senate. Vice President Rinker has told him he believes the problem occurred at this end when we lost, unexpectedly, two of five key employees of the post office. That staffing problem is now corrected and things should be back where they are supposed to be in terms of time involved. He should be informed if this is not the case.

III. Reports of Committees.

Fellers changed the order of committee reports to allow the Bookstore Committee to present its report before the President had to leave.

A. Bookstore Committee, Professor Thesing, Chair:

Thesing referred to the committee report found in the attachments - pp. A-9 to A-11. Page A-12 has a motion by Professor Howard-Hill. He thanked the committee members - Professors Alexander, Ashley, Castner, Hillbish, Luke, Peters, and Rossatti - for working with him over the summer and into the fall. He also thanked University Bookstore personnel Peggy Lynch, Don Myles, and Winifred King along with Vice Presidents Wertz and Denton, Registrar Gunter and President Holderman for their participation in committee discussions. He then said President Holderman, Professor Castner and he would speak.

President Holderman:

"Last spring as you will recall the Senate adopted a resolution to change the wording in the Faculty Manual with respect to the bookstore and its operations . . . I talked with Professor Castner about sitting down with that committee on a fairly regular basis. . . . in order to work out problems that seem to be serious in nature between members of the faculty and the bookstore. . . . the Faculty Manual. . . . says the President is an ex-officio member. . . . of all faculty committees. I want to tell you it is not a perogative which I will exercise very often and ought to clarify the attitude that we were not attempting to change intent of the Senate. We did report this item to the Board of Trustees and the Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee several months ago. I asked that committee not to consider it pending a resolution in December . . . . I am happy to report that I think most of these problems have been addressed, perhaps not all of them yet, but I think all of them are being addressed in a very appropriate fashion. . . ."
A lot has been accomplished since last spring. They dedicated the new section of the bookstore which was in answer to a specific faculty request.... I do want to say to you the resolution being presented by the committee is one that has been worked out very closely with the administration.... I wanted to put the institutional administration's participation into proper perspective...."

Professor Castner (FORL), as past-chair of the Bookstore Committee, recounted the steps taken after the April Faculty Senate meeting. They agreed to work with the administration for six months to bring about improvements in the bookstore's operations. The committee saw a choice between having a resolution go forward to the Board of Trustees and receiving a negative response or working with the administration to effect significant improvements in the bookstore operations. She then referred to pp. A-9 and A-10 which list changes that have taken place. She placed special emphasis on three items: 1) the expanded book section; 2) the hiring of a permanent full time ombudsperson - Ms. Peggy Lynch - and; 3) ordering 30 percent more textbooks to handle the problem of textbook shortages.

Thesing added the resolution on p. A-11 had been worked and reworked and many persons had been consulted before the resolution was finalized by the committee. He then moved approval of the two paragraph motion.

Several Senators asked for clarification of the last sentence, second paragraph. Howard-Hill summed it up by saying as he saw it "there is no obligation on any faculty member now to put his book orders into the University Bookstore exclusively."

Thesing said "correct."

Fellers said he believed the incorporation of the bookstore is now complete.

Vice President Denton said the incorporation would allow the University Bookstore to better serve the university community. He added the Board of Directors of the bookstore would be two ex officio members (Vice Presidents Wertz and Denton) three faculty members - two from the Bookstore Committee and one appointed by Faculty Senate Steering Committee, a student representative and an alumni representative. Professor Aylward (FORL) asked about the Faculty Senate Steering Committee appointee.

Fellers said no one has yet been appointed and would welcome any input.
Howard-Hill asked the parliamentarian if Faculty Senate should rescind its previous resolution before acting on the current resolution on the floor.

Professor Weasmer (Parliamentarian) said in his opinion "no" as this would simply replace an earlier action of Senate.

Professor Smith (HIST) wanted to know where the profits of this non-profit organization would go?

Denton said to the benefit of the University, probably including scholarships.

The motion was adopted as presented.

B. Faculty Senate Steering Committee, Professor Silvernail, Secretary:

Silvernail announced a one year vacancy on Academic Responsibility Committee (Dr. Pary - MEDC). The committee placed the name of Professor McCullough (MEDC) in nomination.

C. Grade Change Committee, Professor Bledsoe, Chair:

Bledsoe moved the committee report. It was adopted as distributed.

D. Curricula and Courses Committee, Professor Kuiper, Chair:

Kuiper withdrew item I. from the College of Engineering. She moved item II.A. It was passed. She moved item II.B., with editorial changes: in GERM 330, JAPA 323 and JAPA 322 where the prerequisite was changed from JAPA 201 to JAPA 321. This section was passed. Item II.C. was moved with the change in PSYC 225 to PSYC 227 and adding (Prereq: PSYC 226) to PSYC 227. It was passed. The remaining section, III., is for the Senate's information.

E. Faculty Advisory Committee, Professor Herr, Chair:

Herr noted the committee is still studying the structure of Faculty Budget Committee, but will have no report until that committee has been in operation for two years or the Fall 1989. He reported the committee had made the suggestion that involved the nomination procedures for endowed professorships. They will now all follow the same procedure.
F. Faculty Welfare Committee, Professor Becker, Chair:

Becker referred to the committee report pp. A-7 and A-8. He spoke briefly to the report on annualization of salaries and then moved the committee recommendations 1 and 2. Discussion of the recommendations centered on which was "best." Becker noted that these would be options that an individual faculty member could choose from depending upon which was "best" for that person. He also noted that once one option was chosen it would last through the year - no changing horses in the middle of the stream. He also pointed out these recommendations applied only to faculty on 9 month contracts. The motion was passed.

G. Athletic Advisory Committee, Professor Robinson, Chair:

Robinson informed the Senate the committee had taken a tour of the University's drug testing facilities and had received an update on the procedures involved in the program of testing.

She also noted the committee was examining its role and responsibilities as listed in the Faculty Manual. If the senators have any suggestions, they should let the committee know of them.

Dr. Jerry Odom is chairing a subcommittee looking into the ticket distribution situation. The subcommittee has already had two meetings with officials of the Athletic Department.

IV. Report of Secretary.

None.

V. Unfinished Business.

None.

VI. New Business.

Howard-Hill (ENGL) asked permission of Senate to withdraw his motion, p. A-12.

Fellers, on behalf of Senate, accepted the offer.

Weasmer (GINT) asked that an appropriate committee or the chair look into the matter of a shuttlecock bus service from campus to airport being run and advertised (in the Gamecock) Monday and Tuesday before holidays such as Thanksgiving. He did not think students should be encouraged or be facilitated in cutting classes.
VIII. Good of the Order.

Tucker congratulated the Bookstore Committee on doing a fantastic job.

Fellers asked for additional nominations for the committee vacancy. There were none and Professor McCullough (MEDC) was declared elected.

There was no further business and the hall rang with a joyfully adjourn at 4:10 p.m.