MINUTES - FACULTY SENATE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 6, 1985

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM by Chairman Charles B. Weasmer.

I. Correction and Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of the December 5, 1984 Senate meeting were approved as distributed.

II. Reports of Officers.

President James B. Holderman stated that the Provost and Vice President Rinker would comment on the asbestos in buildings question. He noted the progress on the budget is slow but he is optimistic over receiving full formula funding. The formula now reflects the recognition by the Commission on Higher Education that graduate education is more expensive than undergraduate education.

President Holderman announced groundbreaking for the new Engineering Center will take place this Friday (February 8) at 11 o'clock on land to be obtained through a gift purchase arrangement from the Norfolk and Southern Railway. In addition, South Carolina Electric and Gas Company has given the University a large part of their building complex, valued between $4.5 and $5 million, on South Main Street.

A group of Jamaicans will arrive on campus this evening (February 6) to discuss the potential for exchanges with the University of the West Indies; the College of Arts, Science and Technology; and the Administrative Staffing Center in Kingston. The areas under discussion will include Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism; Health; Business; Public Administration; Nursing; Marine Science; and related areas.

The University will take to the Commission on Higher Education a proposal involving a reorganization of the Byrnes International Center. The center was approved by the Board of Trustees some time ago. The Commission is being asked to consider the Center's reorganization which will allow better coordination of the international programs and activities of the nine campuses. A distinguished international board of advisors is being established with Larry Eagleburger, a former Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs, as chairman.
A university committee, with Professor Charles Kegley as chairman, will be appointed. The Committee will be flexible in size and will be composed of representatives of programs which have international involvement. The Byrnes Center will have the capability to coordinate activities with our centers in Africa, Asia, Europe and the western hemisphere. There will be faculty involvement as each of the four centers will have a faculty committee as the principal operating agent assisted by Byrnes Center staff. He then asked if there were any questions.

Professor Richard Conant (MUSC) inquired about the Arts Center.

President Holderman stated he was optimistic, and that within the next couple of weeks perhaps something would emerge which would see city, county and University participation. There were no further questions.

Provost Francis T. Borkowski announced that on March 8-11, 1985, the telephone company will put in the new voice data network. On March 11, the beginning of Spring Break, the campus will be closed down in the same manner that we follow on Christmas Day.

The Provost then commented on the certification programs in teacher education. The reason the programs were not presented to Faculty Senate is that they are not degree programs. The certificate will simply attest to the fact that the University considers that the requirements for state teaching certification have been met and recommends such certification to the State Department of Education. All course changes involved in the shift of emphasis from the College of Education to other colleges have been approved by the appropriate faculty bodies. Teacher education will be monitored by a Teacher Education Council. This Council will not replace the approval authority of any of the mechanisms within the institution or take away any decision-making powers of the faculty.

The Provost then turned to the asbestos situation. He stated that in his judgment the Office of Facilities Planning headed by Vice President Rinker has done a first-rate job. The plan was to first make the announcement of the fact-finding survey here today, but the Gamecock was determined to present the report in yesterday's paper. This being the case, it seemed prudent to send out a press release to the media. However, the Provost did meet with Faculty Welfare Committee last Thursday and shared with them the substance of the report. Vice President Rinker was at the meeting and responded to questions. A full copy of the report will be in the Faculty Senate Office for any one who wishes to use it.
The Provost stated that we will not have any wholesale closing down or movement out of facilities. There is a "clear" strategy laid out as to how to address the issue. The Provost stated there was no danger to the faculty, students or administrative staff. The University has gone to court and is suing Johns-Manville for $100 million. Plans are underway to go to the Legislature and seek funds this year to be able to address the problem in those buildings that need to be handled immediately.

Vice President David P. Rinker reported on the sequence of events leading to the report on asbestos in University buildings. (Secretary's Note: the complete transcript of Vice President Rinker's statement is on file in the Faculty Senate Office. A brief abstract follows.) The asbestos report is the result of determining whether we have any asbestos, if so where is it located, is it an immediate problem, and how the problem will be taken care of in order to protect the health environment. The investigation showed that no building on the nine campuses had to be closed immediately. However, the investigation showed the need to make sure people are fully aware of the fact that problems do exist and remedial measures will need to be taken over time. Asbestos was not found to be a problem in buildings constructed after 1973.

A variety of developments ranging from local to national levels led to the decision to establish in December 1983 an asbestos advisory committee composed of representatives from many segments of the university community. A nationally known consulting firm was hired to aid in the asbestos investigation. It was decided to make the investigation system-wide and all 251 buildings on the nine campuses were inspected. Initially, maintenance and renovations workers were instructed to take appropriate precautions when they came across asbestos. Currently, problem facilities have been identified, the data collection completed and a portion of a corrective plan has been completed.

We are now working on two additional phases. First is an operation and maintenance plan of how to take care of the facilities now while waiting for the legislature to appropriate the necessary money to go in and remove or contain the asbestos in those buildings where it is felt necessary to do so. Second is the continuing effort on a legal action plan. We hope to obtain $3.5 million this spring so work can be started this summer. It will take three to five years, provided funding is appropriated, to handle those buildings with the greatest problem.

Of the 251 buildings involved in the study, 133 were given a negative certification meaning that asbestos did not exist there. About 50 buildings have very small amounts
of asbestos and can be remedied with a minimum amount of action by our own people. In these buildings, the asbestos is in non-accessible (to the public) areas. These areas are accessible only to maintenance and renovation personnel. The remaining buildings (about 70) have asbestos in them in areas which are accessible to the public in normal day-to-day activities. It is in those locations prudence and care must be taken until the material can be removed or suitably contained. On this campus five buildings will need a long term approach to rectification. In seven other buildings on campus, our maintenance people have the ability to immediately take care of the problem.

The greatest problem in the five buildings is the expanse of the material such as fireproofing over steel and as insolation in the Business Administration Building, the Law Center and the Physical Sciences Center. These are spray-on types of material and should not be disturbed. This material is encapsulated now and relatively stable but if disturbed can spread. It is because of this kind of situation that training programs are being held for maintenance and renovation people. While the initial request will be for $3.5 million to get started, some $14-15 million will be necessary to take care of all buildings. During the rectification process there will be inconvenience.

Professor Glenn Abernathy (GINT) asked about the situation in Gambrell Hall as the building was not listed in the paper as having a problem but one of the inspection team told him there was some on the pipes.

Vice President Rinker responded by noting that the buildings listed in the papers were those that had asbestos in publicly accessible areas. Those buildings which were not listed fall into two categories, the first category is a building with some asbestos but so well contained that the consultants do not advise any removal until a renovation takes place. The second category includes those buildings with asbestos found only in maintenance areas. In this case, the maintenance people know about the situation and are to proceed with caution. The investigative report showed that Gambrell Hall is completely asbestos free.

Professor Robert Philp (CHEM) stated that one of their faculty members hired in September is not yet able to use his laboratory due to the asbestos problem. He asked if the intent was to train more maintenance and renovation people to use the protective equipment?

Vice President Rinker said one more team of three would be trained but would be used in emergency situations only. The other two trained teams will be used to respond
to the consultants' recommendations of working on the build­
ings with publicly accessible asbestos but which have small amounts of the material. These teams could handle a building's problem in a short time, from a quarter of a day to four days. It is planned that these seven buildings would be done in the next four to six weeks. The remaining five buildings will require outside contractors to do the work.

Professor Philp wanted to know if the departments could be involved in planning the actual strategy?

Vice President Rinker agreed that it is absolutely essential for the departments to be involved in the strategy and further added that the problem in the Physical Science Center was greater than originally thought. He again noted that the full report is on file in the Faculty Senate Office and is available for people to look at and check out the findings concerning any building in the system.

Professor Ben Gimarc (CHEM) wanted to know if the asbestos on the steel beams were removed would it be replaced with a suitable alternative?

Vice President Rinker said yes and added that was one of the reasons the cost of repair would be so high.

There were no further questions.

III. Reports of Committees.

A. Senate Steering Committee, Professor Richard Silvernail, Secretary:

Silvernail placed in nomination the name of Professor Lewis Johnson (MEDICINE) on the Faculty Welfare Committee. The term will run through Summer 1986.

Chairman Weasmer asked for additional nominations. There being none, he noted the nomination process would be reopened before adjourning.

Silvernail announced the Steering Committee has approved a change in the name of the Academic Forward Planning Committee to Academic Planning Committee.

B. Grade Change Committee, Professor Richard Zingmark, Chairman:

Zingmark moved the adoption of the Committee's report as circulated. There was no discussion and by voice vote the report was adopted.
C. Curricula and Courses Committee, Professor Jennie Kronenfeld, Acting Chairman:

Kronenfeld noted the Committee's report included a handout and moved the adoption of the report. There was no discussion and by voice vote the report was adopted as circulated.

D. Faculty Advisory Committee, Professor William McAninch, Chairman:

McAninch reported the Committee has before it an issue relating to the policy of conditional admissions to some schools and colleges. The issue was referred by Faculty Steering Committee. Some units have higher entrance admission requirements than the University as a whole. These students have to satisfy a 30-hour requirement composed by the units before they are finally admitted to a degree program. To be discussed is whether this approach infringes upon faculty perogatives in admitting individuals to degree programs within the unit. The Committee will welcome any comments from the faculty on this matter.

IV. Report of the Secretary.

Silvernail announced that names to be considered for faculty committees should be turned into the Faculty Senate Office by 15 February. The Faculty Steering Committee will announce its nominations in time for the March Senate meeting. He also reported receiving a thank you card for flowers from Professor Dave Husband.

Chairman Weasmer commented on the matter of committee nominations. The Faculty Steering Committee acting as the nominating committee will present as a part of the agenda a slate of nominees at the March meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor at that meeting.

V. Unfinished Business.

None.

VI. New Business.

None.

VII. Good of the Order.

None.
VIII. Announcements.

None.

Chairman Weasmer then reopened the nominations procedure for the vacancy on Faculty Welfare Committee. There being none, he declared Professor Lewis Johnson to be elected to the committee.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:04 PM.