

GENERAL FACULTY MEETING
September 4, 2013

1. Call to Order.

PRESIDENT HARRIS PASTIDES called the meeting to order and greeted his faculty colleagues across the University System. He welcomed everyone back to the start of a new academic year.

2. Approval of Minutes.

PRESIDENT PASTIDES asked for corrections to the General Faculty minutes from the meeting of April 30, 2013. There were no corrections and the minutes were approved as submitted.

3. Report of the President.

PRESIDENT PASTIDES extended a special welcome to the approximately 150 new faculty members who have recently joined the University. He noted that Provost Michael Amiridis would soon preside over the introduction of new faculty members.

The President observed that we have a very diverse group of faculty joining us this fall, some coming from Finland, the Netherlands, India, Australia, and from fine universities around the United States. These faculty members disciplines are also very diverse: from Epidemiology and Biostatistics to the Environment and Sustainability, from Religious Studies to Criminal Justice, from Philosophy to Mathematics, from African American Studies to Earth and Ocean Sciences, from Electrical Engineering to Hotel Restaurant and Tourism Management, to name but a few.

President Pastides noted that, for the first time, our number of tenured and tenure-track hires is divided evenly along gender lines.

By way of getting acquainted, the President provided a bit of background information on himself. He is starting his 33rd year in academia. This is his 16th year at the University of South Carolina and his 6th as President of the University. Prior to his Presidency at USC, he served as Vice President for Research and Health Sciences, and before that he served as Dean and Professor in the Arnold School of Public Health. He received his baccalaureate degree from what was formerly known as the State University of New York at Albany, part of the SUNY system. It is now known as the University at Albany. His Master's and Ph.D. are from Yale University.

President Pastides noted that he and wife, Mrs. Patricia Moore-Pastides, have the opportunity to live on campus and that they enjoy life on the Horseshoe a great deal.

The President observed that we have an outstanding team of leaders here at the University...our vice presidents in the academic division, the Provost, Vice Provosts, and Associate Provosts and an excellent faculty.

President Pastides reported that this year we will have close to 5,000 freshmen on campus, and that the University has been able to respond to the accompanying housing needs. Everyone who needed a room has a room. The President observed that the extra-large class reflects the extra-high popularity of the University of South Carolina. Last year, we admitted a freshman class of approximately 4,650 and this year we are hovering around 5,000.

We consider it great news that we are increasing not only in our popularity and our financial base but also in the impact that we have. About 50% of the freshmen class is from the State of South Carolina. We endorse the diversity in the student body that comes from out-of-state applicants, while at the same time understanding that we have the responsibility and imperative to connect with the fate and fortune of the people of South Carolina. And we believe that the fate and fortune of the Palmetto State pass directly through the University of South Carolina. Nearly one in two South Carolinians who are enrolled in a public college today in the state are enrolled in one of the universities of South Carolina. President Pastides noted that the University takes its responsibilities very seriously, but acknowledged that it is a wonderfully happy challenge, as well.

The President emphasized to the faculty that before we grow again with respect to student body size we will grow with respect to the quantity and quality of our infrastructure – the classrooms that are available for teaching, the TAs who are available to assist the faculty, the size of the faculty, and advisors who serve the students in academics and in career counseling. We will be looking at what the preferred size of the freshmen class is next year, but we will be in a period of replenishing the faculty and replenishing the infrastructure before we decide to grow any further.

President Pastides observed that a current national phenomenon is a decline in graduate enrollment. This is not a choice we made. As a Carnegie One (a very high research university), our peers are the best public and private universities in the country; we have to remain focused on graduate education and, in particular, doctoral enrollment and doctoral graduation.

The President invited the University Community to be present at his State of the University address on Wednesday, September 18, at 10:00 a.m. on the Horseshoe in front of the McKissick Museum.

President Pastides reported that we are doing well in setting new standards in philanthropy and fund raising. We call our capital campaign Carolina's Promise. It has a \$1 billion goal and we have met every annual mark since we started the campaign. We are about \$756 million toward that \$1 billion capital campaign. Last year saw a record - \$149.1 million in gifts and pledges. The President observed that the majority of these funds are in the form of planned gifts, with initial amounts given in the present and the rest delivered incrementally over time. Philanthropy has now superseded state funding as the fourth leading source of revenue for the University of South Carolina. Tuition is the No. 1 source of revenue; federal grants and contracts are No. 2; auxiliary services (the rooms that we rent to students, the food that we serve, the tickets that we sell to athletic events, the money that we get from athletic events) are No. 3; philanthropy is No. 4; and state funding is the 5th leading source of revenue.

President Pastides observed that on September 11 we will commemorate the 50th year of desegregation at the University of South Carolina in Columbia. The President noted that

desegregation came too late and that it came not without pain and suffering. Two of the three heroes who crossed the threshold into the Osborne building will be with us on September 11th. The third passed away unfortunately, but his family will be with us and that will be a beautiful day of commemorating, of remembering, and of pledging to go forward and continue our own path toward being the most open and diverse and accepting university that we can be. September the 11th will culminate in a beautiful event at the Koger Center, a free event where former UN Ambassador and civil rights leader Andrew Young will provide a lecture. President Pastides invited everyone in the University Community to the commemorative events.

The President invited faculty members and their families to “Faculty Food for Thought,” an event at the President’s house on Thursday, September 12th from 6:30 p.m. He then invited Provost Michael Amiridis to oversee the introduction of the new faculty.

4. Report of Provost.

PROVOST MICHAEL AMIRIDIS greeted his faculty colleagues and opened his report with an overview of the highlights from last year’s tenure and promotion cases.

We had 130 tenure and promotion cases last year, many of which involved two decisions related to a single person. Of these 130 decisions, there was disagreement involving only 10% of the files. In all of them we agreed by more than 90% at the different levels of the administration.

The Provost and the Deans agreed on 118 out of 130 cases. The Deans and the UCTP (University Committee on Tenure and Promotions) agreed on 124 out of 130 cases. The Deans agreed with the President on 120 out of 130 cases. The agreement between the Provost and the UCTP was 118 out of 130 cases, and the agreement between the Provost and the President was 122 out of 130. So basically administrators disagreed on 8 cases. The agreement between the UCTP and the President was 126 out of 130 cases. Provost Amiridis will submit the full report for the minutes.

The Provost reported that this fall the University welcomes more than 130 new faculty members to the Columbia campus. Ninety-five of them are either tenured or tenure-track; 11 came in as tenured faculty and 84 are on the tenure-track. For the first time in our history this fall we will have over 1,100 tenure/tenure-track faculty members on campus. This defies a national trend toward an increase in the percentage of temporary faculty at the expense of tenure/tenure-track faculty or long term clinical faculty and instructors. To a large extent this is due to the Faculty Replenishment Initiative and our plan to increase the size of the tenure/tenure-track faculty by more than 1,200 within a period of 4 years. We are well on our way, more than half way there. The initiative owes its success to the President’s efforts with the Board of Trustees to secure the necessary funding. The Provost considers the Faculty Replenishment Initiative to be one of the best accomplishments of the current administration, and believes that we are building a very strong foundation on which the institution will continue to rely for the support that it needs to fulfill its triple mission of teaching, service, and research.

Provost Amiridis then asked the Deans to introduce their new faculty. The following list is a summary:

College of Arts and Science: 58 new faculty members in the following departments: Anthropology, Art, Biological Sciences, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Criminal Justice and Criminology, Earth and Ocean Sciences, English Languages and Literatures, Film and Media, Geography, History, Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, Mathematics, Philosophy, Physics and Astronomy, Political Science, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, Statistics, Baruch Institute, and Southern Studies.

Moore School of Business: 26 new faculty in Accounting, Economics, Finance, International Business, Marketing, Management, and Management Science.

College of Education: 11 new faculty members in Educational Studies, Instruction and Teacher, and Physical Education and Athletic Training.

College of Engineering and Computing: 3 new faculty members in Computer Science and Engineering, Electrical Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering.

College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management: 7 new faculty members

School of Law: 3 new faculty members

University Libraries: 4 new faculty members

College of Mass Communications and Information Studies: 2 new faculty members, one of whom will join in January

School of Medicine/Columbia: 1 new faculty member

School of Medicine/Greenville: 6 new faculty members

School of Music: 4 new faculty members

College of Nursing: 8 new faculty members

Collage of Pharmacy: 4 new faculty members

Arnold School of Public Health: 10 new faculty members

College of Social Work: 5-1/2 new faculty members

Palmetto College: 12 new faculty members

Provost Amiridis and President Pastides welcomed all new faculty to the University.

5. Reports of Committees.

Faculty Advisory Committee, Professor Jennifer Vendemia (Psychology), Chair.

PROFESSOR VENDEMIA reported on proposed revisions to USC Faculty Manual which would allow non-tenure-track faculty to join the Graduate School. The proposal was presented to the General Faculty in April. Dean Mary Anne Fitzpatrick of the College of Arts & Sciences had some suggestions for these proposed changes which would limit non-tenure-track faculty to their unit area of expertise. Brian Habing, who created the proposal, drafted those changes during the summer. Faculty Advisory has had the proposal open for comment all summer long and there were two additional changes suggested that were substantive in nature. One change is a requirement that the individuals must be full-time members of the faculty in the relevant unit. A second change allows non-tenure-track faculty to stand as chairs of master's and doctoral committees.

CHAIR KNAPP clarified that the process: an individual seeking that privilege would first be admitted to the Graduate Faculty in a new category called an "associate membership" of the Graduate Faculty. That would be determined by a unit that wanted to allow that individual to serve in that capacity for their students. The proposal has been vetted very extensively by the Graduate School. As Jennifer said, we did have it before the General Faculty last spring and I think barring any serious reservations it would be time to move forward with this change.

A motion to accept the proposal was seconded and the proposal as approved.

6. Old Business/New Business/Good of the Order.

There was no old business, new business, or discussion for the good of the Order.

7. Announcements.

There were no announcements.

8. Adjournment.

A motion to adjourn was seconded and passed. The next meeting of the General Faculty will be held on Tuesday, April 29, 2014, 2:00 p.m. in the Law School Auditorium.