

FACULTY WELFARE COMMITTEE:

Annual report, 1986-7

The Faculty Welfare Committee consists of Drs. J.R. Burkhard (Law), A.J. Currence (USC-Lancaster), J.G. Fraser (Criminal Justice), R.W. Weinbach (Social Work), H.N. Wheeler (Business Administration), C.A. Williams (Nursing) and T.H. Howard-Hill (English), Chairman. Drs. P.W. Becker (History) and S.R. Goode (Chemistry) were elected as new members to serve from the summer onwards.

The Committee met on 13 occasions. On October 7th the Committee discussed faculty benefits with the Welfare Committee of Clemson University. On May 6th the Committee held a public meeting in Calcott auditorium to allow faculty to express their concerns about benefits and salaries; the attendance was remarkable.

The Committee's principal achievement was to complete a survey of the faculty's attitudes to present and prospective benefits. A questionnaire prepared by J.G. Fraser was circulated to faculty on the 4-year campuses; 276 responses were received. With the guidance of the survey the Committee will shortly recommend a range of improved benefits for the consideration of the Administration.

An equally important issue was faculty salaries, the subject of continual comment at Senate meetings throughout the year. Despite the unpropitious fiscal situation, the Committee studied the range and distribution of salaries in departments and colleges of USC-Columbia in relation to comparable institutions in the South. The Committee was greatly assisted by data compiled by Personnel, and to reports compiled by Dr. P.W. Becker and Dean Carol M. Kay (Humanities and Social Sciences), to which the Committee's own report is heavily indebted. Because the Committee's report is presented as an attachment to the present Senate agenda, it is not necessary to summarise the Committee's conclusions on salaries here.