

## Minutes of the Faculty Senate

The fifth regular meeting of the 2002-2003 Faculty Senate took place on Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m. in ECTR 116. Forty-seven Senators attended.

Speaker Hugh Wilder called the meeting to order. The minutes of the December meeting were approved.

### Speaker's Report

Mr. Wilder reminded Senators of several events. Later the same evening, the College would be presenting its annual program in honor of Martin Luther King Day. After a candlelight vigil on the Cistern at 7:15, an 8:00 program in Sottile would feature Ronald Walters, a professor of political science at the University of Maryland, as its distinguished guest speaker. Mr. Wilder urged Senators to attend. Next, he thanked Sean Green and David Cohen for their work on the new College website that has just been launched. Mr. Wilder encouraged all faculty to note that Mr. Green solicits faculty response to the new site, welcoming our comments and suggestions. On the topic of faculty input, the Speaker continued, the draft of the College's Strategic plan is now posted on the web. There will be two open forums at which faculty can respond to the plan: February 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, both at 3:00 p.m. in ECTR 118. Faculty may offer comments online as well. This draft is the penultimate version, available for comments this semester; in July the Strategic Planners will submit a final version of the plan to the Board of Trustees. The Speaker also reminded faculty that nominations for Distinguished Faculty Awards were due the 14<sup>th</sup> of February to Andy Abrams.

Mr. Wilder noted that the choice of book and speaker for Convocation 2003 had recently been announced. Steve Olsen, author of *Mapping Human History: Discovering The Past Through Our Genes*, will address the entering freshmen. Convocation will take place on Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, at 4 p.m., the day before Fall classes begin. Mr. Wilder, having served on the selection committee, was enthusiastic about the book, which will be of special interest to faculty in the social sciences, natural sciences, and philosophy. Calling the book "a good read" and "a provocative work," the Speaker told Senators that the book will be on reserve. Later in the semester, copies will be available to faculty. He also informed Senators that the scheduling of Convocation has crowded the calendar in August, a time when the gym is heavily in use, so that it is now difficult to find a time to hold the Faculty-Staff Back-to-School Picnic. He asked faculty if they would be disturbed if the picnic were held the Wednesday before the semester opened, rather than Friday. "Let me know if you think it would make a difference" to attendance, the Speaker said.

Next, the Speaker reminded Senators of the work of the Faculty Compensation Committee, recently announced by Lynne Ford, committee chair. In Ms. Ford's report, she explains how the committee developed a list of "comparable institutions" and provides the list of these institutions. She solicits faculty comments to this work, and the Speaker urged faculty to send their input to Lynne Ford or any member of the committee.

Finally, the Speaker noted, the next Senate meeting has an agenda deadline of January 30<sup>th</sup>, which is not far off. Since the Senate voted at the December meeting to defer until February a vote on the Tenure & Promotion Committee's proposal to require external review of all candidates for tenure and promotion, Senators need to be sure to use the remaining time to discuss this issue with their colleagues.

### **Committee on Nominations and Elections**

David Gentry, Chair, conducted an election to replace an At-Large Senator. The nominees were Bob Mignone (Mathematics) and David Mann (Political Science). Since the nominations had been made, however, David Mann had been elected by his department to replace a vacancy there. The ballots, therefore, gave Senators the choice of Bob Mignone or a write-in candidate. Ballots were distributed and collected, and later in the meeting Mr. Gentry announced that Bob Mignone had been elected.

### **Curriculum Committee**

One new graduate course was approved. FREN 680: French Phonetics and Phonology, will count toward an MED in Languages. The following undergraduate proposals were approved:

1. F02-73 DSCI 306 Introduction to Electronic Commerce – New Course Proposal
2. F02-74 TRAN 431 Issues in Intermodalism – Proposal to Change a Course
3. F02-75 TRAN 312 Intermodal Logistics – Proposal to Change a Course
4. F02-76 COMM 245 Introduction to Television Production – New Course Proposal
5. F02-77 Communication/Concentration in Media Studies – Proposal to Change Degree Requirements

### **Constituents' Concerns**

The Speaker then invited discussion of a topic over which several faculty had expressed great concern. The preceding week, a faculty member had sent a mass e-mail describing how his computer had been removed from his office without his prior knowledge. The e-mail said that the computer was searched to see if there was any evidence of illegal activity, that no such evidence had been found, and that his computer had been returned. Faculty were greatly disturbed by this report, wondering what degree of privacy faculty can expect for computers they use in their offices. A lengthy discussion, off the record, followed. The Senate then voted to suspend the rules and return to New Business in order to make a motion.

### **New Business**

David Mann (Political Science) moved “That the Senate invite Chief Cronin to the next Senate meeting, to discuss the nature of the liaison between College of Charleston Public

Safety and outside law enforcement agencies.” Discussion followed in which several faculty wondered if it would be advisable to bring in an attorney or the Provost to discuss the law with regard to privacy rights for state employees. The question was called and the motion passed on a voice vote. Another Senator moved that the Senate invite Andy Abrams to come to the next meeting to discuss the legal situation of faculty with regard to use of state-owned computers and office space. This motion passed. Next, Todd McNerny said that there are other ways to examine a faculty member’s computer besides removing it from one’s office. He moved that the Senate invite Marcia Moore, head of Administrative Computing, to discuss such technical matters with the Senate at its next meeting. The motion carried.

Following the announcement of Bob Mignone’s election to At-Large Senator, the Senate adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Eichelberger  
Faculty Secretary

**Remaining Spring 2002 Senate Meetings (5:00 PM, 116 ECTR):**  
**Tuesday, February 11; agenda deadline Thursday, Jan. 30, 3:00 PM.**  
**Tuesday, March 11; agenda deadline Thursday, Feb. 27, 3:00 PM.**  
**Tuesday, April 1 (continued Tuesday, April 15, if necessary); agenda**  
**deadline Thursday, March 20, 3:00 PM.**  
**Faculty Meeting (5:00 PM, Physicians Auditorium):**  
**Monday, April 21; agenda deadline Wednesday, April 9, 3:00 PM**