

## **MINUTES OF THE SPRING FACULTY MEETING**

The Spring meeting of the Faculty of the College of Charleston convened at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 21 in Physicians' Memorial Auditorium.

Speaker Hugh Wilder called the meeting to order and began by inviting corrections to the minutes of the Fall 2002 Faculty meeting, which had been distributed to all faculty. No corrections were offered, and the minutes were then approved.

### **Reports**

Mr. Wilder recognized President Lee Higdon, who took the podium to report to the faculty on the past academic year. Mr. Higdon reported that he has finished his series of visits to all academic departments, which has enabled him to learn more about their academic program and the scholarship members of that department are doing. "This was an exciting year for me," the President said, noting that after meeting more and more of the College faculty, he now understands even better why the College is so well regarded.

Mr. Higdon noted that this year has included many accomplishments. This was "probably the best admissions year in our history." Departments have conducted several successful searches. In April, the Board ratified the Strategic Plan that was developed last Fall, and the Master Planning process, intended to maximize and wisely develop our physical campus resources, is underway. The College has received good publicity in the past few months, with faculty research making news in articles in the New York Times, the Boston Globe, and the Chicago Tribune. The Computer Science department has received a commendation of excellence, which brings the College's total number of commendations to 18—more than any public institution in the state. The President also noted that 5 major facilities, 4 of them academic, are now under construction, and that he is pleased with the progress of the College's fundraising efforts.

That said, Mr. Higdon conceded, there are also many challenges facing the College. We are now in our third year of budget cuts from the South Carolina legislature, totaling 9-10 million dollars in reductions. \$ 6.5 million of our appropriations were reduced in the past year. Our funding from the state used to be around 30% of our total budget; now state funds account for about 20%. The state's total budget has gone from around 6 to 5 billion dollars. "I think the worst is behind us," the President said, but he added that we really can't be sure of that. So far, no major programs here have been cut, and no employees have been fired, nor have we instituted a mid-year tuition increase. The College is still in a position to increase its indebtedness to raise more money while we weather this downturn. And we will be able to increase our tuition for 2003-2004. Mr. Higdon explained that he has postponed setting the new tuition rate in order to avoid the scenario of last year, when the College set its new rate and the Legislature then imposed further budget cuts. Another positive factor was the possibility that the state will reform some of the regulations currently imposed on higher education, loosening some of the restrictions on how colleges and universities spend money.

Another potential reform from the state could be that CHE (The Commission on Higher Education) may cease to exist. The President noted that CHE has not always been an

effective advocate for our interests, and he said it could be replaced by a system of separate boards, with each having oversight over a different sector (type of institution). It's possible that some sectors (such as research universities) could come away from this with more privileges while our sector might be disadvantaged. The President told the faculty that the very next day, he would be meeting the Governor, along with other S. C. university presidents, and he would be doing all he could to make sure the new review process was one that would safeguard the College's special mission as a liberal arts and sciences university. In short, the President reported that he did not foresee that the College would be "backing off from the Fourth-Century Initiative" even though we have had to tighten our belts somewhat.

The President then commented on goals he hoped to achieve. He remains concerned about faculty salaries, he said, and has charged a committee to identify our peer institutions in the South and in the nation and scrutinize salaries by rank and discipline. "I expect this study to tell us we are behind the peer institutions," Mr. Higdon said, adding that such information would be made available to faculty. His plan is to begin setting aside money each year to address salary inequities. He has already begun to create a pool of such money, and will set more aside in the coming year, amassing an amount that he estimated would pay for about half the adjustments that will be called for; therefore, this fund will have to be built up over a few more years. He noted that preventing salary compression was a high priority of his. He also said he wanted to add more lines, so that students would have easier access to the courses they need to graduate. After all 50 of the lines from the Fourth-Century Initiative have been filled, the College will be in much better shape, the President said, particularly once undergraduate enrollment has stabilized at a level lower than it is now. However, after all these measures are in place, there will probably still be some departments that need more lines, and the President said he planned to seek out new ways of funding these additional future hires.

The President also discussed his hopes for the other Ad-hoc Committees that have been formed to implement the Strategic Plan. The Workload Committee was one he was interested in meeting with right away, he said. Mr. Higdon spoke of the need for "a better understanding of workload discrepancies on campus." Still, "I want to be realistic about what we can afford" given the current economic conditions in our state. He expressed his approval of the Master Plan process that is underway, noting that it should give the College a long-term view of how the institution should look over the next twenty years. He said he was very pleased with the work that the consulting firm Ayers-Saint-Gross had done this far. Mr. Higdon also acknowledged that the construction of and relocation into new buildings on campus will cause "some short-term displacement." These and other issues can be addressed at the Open Forums that will take place next year on topics like maintenance, traffic, and infrastructure.

"That's a long litany," the President concluded. "The one common item in all these is money. Well, I wanted a challenge." The College may not have sufficient resources to do all the things he wants, Mr. Higdon said, but he promised to have "further conversations about these issues next year" to keep faculty informed. The President, noting that it is very rare for a public institution today to be adding faculty and cutting enrollment, said

he was “very pleased overall” with the state of the College. Despite difficult economic times, he believed the Fourth-Century Initiative was the right course for the College to follow. Finally, the President added, “I would like as many of you as possible to come to graduation.” He was pleased with faculty turnout last year, calling it a “testament to our commitment to students,” and urged faculty to make every effort to attend this year.

Hugh Wilder then invited faculty to direct their questions to the President. Reid Wiseman asked about the College’s plans for Dixie Plantation, and the President explained that while the Plantation had been given to the College, there was no endowment with which to maintain the property, and questions had been raised as to its purpose and value at the College. The Dean of the School of Math and Sciences and several other faculty have since provided the President with ample evidence that Dixie has significant academic value. The President still has not found a good source of funding to maintain this property, and does not want to deplete Foundation money meant for student scholarships, but he remains committed to retaining this property as an important academic resource.

### **Awards**

The Speaker then recognized Acting Provost Andy Abrams, who began by noting that he expected that this would be the last time he addressed the faculty as Provost. Judging from the vitas of candidates for the Provost position, he was sure the new Provost would be a good one, he said. He thanked faculty for their hard work during his two and a half years of service, saying that the College was “poised for great things.” President Higdon then added his thanks to Mr. Abrams for “an outstanding job.” Mr. Abrams invited the President to present the Outstanding Faculty Awards, and the President read a citation for each recipient that detailed that faculty member’s special record of excellence. The awards were as follows:

#### **Distinguished Teaching Award**

Dr. Lindsay A. Packer, Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics

#### **Distinguished Research Award**

Dr. James E. Neff, Associate Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy

#### **Distinguished Service Award**

Dr. George E. Haborak, Professor, Department of Mathematics and former Vice President of Student Affairs

#### **Distinguished Advising Award**

Dr. Deanna M. Caveny, Associate Professor & Chair, Mathematics Department

Dr. Norris W. Preyer, Associate Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy

#### **Distinguished Teacher/Scholar Award**

Professor Michael R. Tyzack, Professor and Chair, Department of Studio Arts

President Higdon also recognized 9 retiring faculty members. They are as follows:

Jeffery A. Foster, Associated Professor (French)

Jake H. Halford, Senior Instructor (Physics and Astronomy)

David H. Hall, Associate Professor (Physics and Astronomy)

Barbara Jean Hamilton, Associate Professor (Physical Education and Health)

Thomas Livingston, Associate Professor (Economics and Finance)  
Carla L. Lowrey, Associate Professor, (Classics)  
Dorothy Marban, Senior Instructor (Hispanic Studies)  
Richard G. Shainwald, Professor (Management and Marketing)  
Robert Tournier, Professor (Sociology and Anthropology)

### **The Speaker**

Mr. Wilder addressed the faculty at the last official meeting of the 2002-2003 academic year. He thanked those who had assisted him in conducting these meetings: Debbie Vaughn, who was the volunteer and very able webmaster for the Senate's website and the projectionist of website materials during meetings; Trisha Folds-Bennett, who has served as Parliamentarian this year, and Julia Eichelberger, who served as Faculty Secretary. All these faculty received a round of applause. Mr. Wilder noted that our traditional end-of-the-year reception was in abeyance this year because of financial constraints; anyway, another event was scheduled in Physicians immediately following the meeting (a debate on the legalization of marijuana called "Get A Buzz On"--presumably no snacks offered).

Mr. Wilder reminded faculty that commencement is May 11<sup>th</sup> (graduate commencement is May 10<sup>th</sup>). Our attendance means a lot to students and their families, the Speaker said, adding that Faculty Marshal Lynn Cherry had been working on streamlining the procession and that he expected the event to take less time this year. Looking ahead, the Speaker urged faculty to plan to attend Fall Convocation. The speaker, Steve Olson, has written *Mapping Human History: Discovering the Past Through Our Genes*, and this book will be mailed to all entering freshmen over the summer. Many classes and disciplines will be able to incorporate this text. Another reminder was that service on this year's campus-wide committees runs through August 14<sup>th</sup>. On the 15<sup>th</sup>, new committees begin their service, but the old committee should complete any remaining business over the summer. It is the responsibility of the outgoing committee chair to call a meeting of the new committee and elect a new chair before the Spring semester is over. They should then send the name of the new chair to the Faculty Secretary. Finally, committees need to write an annual report on their year's work and send this report to the Speaker.

### **Election of Faculty Committees**

The Speaker recognized David Gentry of the Committee on Nominations and Elections to conduct elections for standing Faculty Committees. 18 of these committee slates were uncontested, and they were elected by acclamation. Ballots were distributed to elect the Committee on Research and Development and the Committee on Nominations and Elections. The results of elections are as follows:

**Academic Standards, Admissions and Financial Aid** (Seven)  
Cudahy Diane Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education  
Heston Mary Beth Art History  
Krantzman Kristin Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Lindsey Robert Physical Education and Health

Moreira Luci Hispanic Studies  
Spicer C. Vincent Psychology  
Vaughn Deborah Library

**Advisory Committee on Tenure and Promotion**

(Five tenured regular and five tenured alternates)

Bah Alpha History Regular  
Diamond Beverly Mathematics Regular  
Lesses Glenn Philosophy and Religious Studies Regular  
Nusbaum Robert Geology Regular  
Turner Greg Management and Marketing Regular Baginski Thomas  
Classics, German, and Italian Alternate  
Hopkins George History Alternate  
Kelly Joe English Alternate  
Lindner Bernhard Physics and Astronomy Alternate  
Whitt Alisa Library Alternate

**Committee on Assessment of Institutional Effectiveness (Nine)**

Bowers Terence English  
de Buron Isaure Biology  
Futrell Michelle Physical Education and Health  
Gehr Kathy English  
Jones Martin Mathematics  
Kaiser Charles Psychology  
Rodriguez Silvia Hispanic Studies  
Turner Laura Theatre  
Yost Jeffrey Accounting and Legal Studies

**Curriculum Committee (Nine)**

Blackwell Calvin Economics and Finance  
Boyle Deborah Philosophy and Religious Studies  
McNerney Todd Theatre  
Morrison Susan Biology  
Powell Sara Elementary and Early Childhood Education  
Preyer Norris Physics and Astronomy  
Tursi Renee English  
Van Sickle Meta Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education  
Yoshiki Chikuma Classics, German, and Italian

**Educational Technology Committee**

(Seven, no more than two from one department)

Fowler Robert Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education  
Kinard W Frank Chemistry and Biochemistry  
LeMesurier Brenton Mathematics  
Mann David Political Science  
Phillips Michael Library  
Puleo Victor Economics and Finance  
Wragg Jeff Physics and Astronomy

**Faculty Advisory Committee to the President (Eleven)**

Ashley Franklin Theatre

Callahan	Timothy	Geology
Davis	Julie	Communications
Everett	Jean	Biology
Godow	Annette	Physical Education and Health
Harrison	Gary	Mathematics
Hollings	Marie	Library
Hopkins	George	History
Litvin	Stephen	Management and Marketing
Moore	Christine	Computer Science
Weyers	Joseph	Hispanic Studies

**Faculty Grievance Committee** (Five: three tenured, two not tenured; and four alternates: two tenured, two not tenured)

Della Lana	Stephen	Classics, German, and Italian	Regular	Non-tenured
Ellis	Edith	Physical Education and Health	Regular	Non-tenured
Jin	Renling	Mathematics	Regular	Tenured
Linares-Ocanto	Luis	Hispanic Studies	Regular	Tenured
Simonian	Susan	Psychology	Regular	Tenured
Branscombe	N. Amanda	Elementary and Early Childhood Education		
	Alternate			Non-tenured
Kunkle	Tom	Mathematics	Alternate	Tenured
Peeples	Scott	English	Alternate	Tenured
Staats	Wayne	Computer Science	Alternate	Non-tenured

**Faculty Hearing Committee** (Five tenured, at least two full professors; and six tenured alternates, at least two full professors)

Daniels	Roger	Accounting and Legal Studies	Regular	
Doig	Marion	Chemistry and Biochemistry	Regular Professor	
Hettinger	Ned	Philosophy and Religious Studies	Regular	Professor
Parker	Herb	Studio Art	Regular	
Silverman	Herb	Mathematics	Regular	Professor
Bartel	Virginia	Elementary and Early Childhood Education	Alternate	
Dukes	Bob	Physics and Astronomy	Alternate	Professor
Garton	Tessa	Art History	Alternate	
Harold	Antony	Biology	Alternate	
McCandless	Amy	History	Alternate	Professor
Peacock	Cliffton	Studio Art	Alternate	

**Faculty Research and Development** (Nine)

Ayme-Southgate	Agnes	Biology
Brana-Shute	Rosemary	History
Bretting	John	Political Science
Crotts	John	Management and Marketing
Davis	Carol Ann	English
Jones	Linda	Physics and Astronomy
Perkins	Bob	Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education
Regnier	Ireland	Music
Riggs-Gelasco	Pamela	Chemistry and Biochemistry

**Faculty Welfare Committee** (Eight)

Duval Barbara Studio Art  
Hough Sheridan Philosophy and Religious Studies  
Lacroix Celeste Communications  
Long Robin French  
Miller Deborah Physical Education and Health  
Neville Robert Library  
Penny Laura Physics and Astronomy  
Ross Lisa Psychology

**Graduate Education, Continuing Education and Special Programs** (Five - one graduate faculty)

Francis Conseula English  
Owens Sarah Hispanic Studies  
Runyon Cassandra Geology Graduate  
Russell Robert Art History  
Voorneveld R. Burke Chip Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education  
Graduate

**Honor Board**(Five)

Callicott Burton Library  
Gomer Raisa Classics, German, and Italian  
Mac Michelle Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Piccione Peter History  
Verlinden Marianne Hispanic Studies

**Honors Program Committee**(Five, three teaching in Honors Program)

Bjerken Zeff Philosophy and Religious Studies Honors  
Carens Timothy English Honors  
Clary Jane Economics and Finance  
Curtis Claire Political Science Honors  
Kolowitz Lauren Geology

**Library** (Seven)

Balinsky Susan Physical Education and Health  
Berg Karen Hispanic Studies  
Finefrock Michael History  
Ivey Thomas Mathematics  
Stiglitz Beatrice French  
Williams Dennis English  
Wiseman D. Reid Biology

**Parking Adjudication** (One regular and one alternate)

Westerfelhaus Robert Communications Regular  
Waddell Gene Library Alternate

**Post-Tenure Review Committee** (Five tenured; and five tenured alternates)

Asleson Gary Chemistry and Biochemistry Regular  
Gurganus Susan Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education Regular  
Nichols Shaun Philosophy and Religious Studies Regular  
Packer Lindsay Mathematics Regular  
Strauch Katina Library Regular

Barfield Bill Physical Education and Health Alternate  
 Janas Monica Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education Alternate  
 May Kim Psychology Alternate  
 Norton Robert Mathematics Alternate  
 Pharr Walter Computer Science Alternate  
**Recycling and Environmental Responsibility** (Five)  
 Beutel Erin Geology  
 Hart Edward Music  
 McCarthy Deborah Sociology  
 Richardson Terry Physics and Astronomy  
 Tsai Jung-fang History  
**Student Affairs and Athletics** (Five)  
 Balaban Rita Economics and Finance  
 Fidalgo-Eick Maria Hispanic Studies  
 Frazier Valerie English  
 Rivers Mary Mathematics  
 Skinner Mike Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education  
**Ad Hoc Campus Tree Committee** (Three)  
 Bretting John Political Science  
 Everett Jean Biology  
 Rashford John Sociology and Anthropology  
**Committee on Nominations and Elections** (Seven, at least three years at C of C)  
 Caveny Deanna Mathematics  
 Fitzharris Linda Elementary and Early Childhood Education  
 Gentry David Psychology  
 Grantham Todd Philosophy and Religious Studies  
 Heldrich Rick Chemistry and Biochemistry  
 Maves David Music  
 Moreira Luci Hispanic Studies

**Approval of Degree Candidates**

Finally, the Speaker recognized President Higdon, who asked the faculty to approve the list of degree candidates that had been circulated to department chairs. The President received this approval on a voice vote, and wished the faculty a safe and rewarding summer.

With no announcements, the Faculty adjourned for the year 2002-2003 at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Eichelberger  
 Faculty Secretary