

## **Minutes of the Spring 2004 Meeting of the Faculty of the College of Charleston**

The Faculty met on Monday, 19 April, at 5:00 p.m. in Physicians Auditorium. Speaker Hugh Wilder called the meeting to order. The minutes of the Fall 2003 meeting were approved, and the Speaker immediately recognized President Higdon.

### **Reports: President Higdon**

“Are you glad it’s April?” the President asked the faculty. He thanked them for their hard work and dedication during the academic year. “It’s been a year of great progress despite a few bumps along the way,” he said, and that progress “is because of you.” Mr. Higdon thanked Hugh Wilder for his work as Speaker, noting that he had first met the Speaker during the Presidential search process three years ago. Since then, the Speaker has been someone the President could consult regularly; he has “an institutional view” and has been willing to give Mr. Higdon “the straight answer, not the answer I wanted to hear.” Mr. Higdon thanked the Speaker, and the faculty applauded. This is the Provost’s first year, the President noted, and he expressed appreciation for her work as well, noting that “this institution benefits from having her here.”

The President addressed the faculty on the state of the College. “There has probably never been a more difficult and challenging time for the institution of higher education,” he noted. Appropriations have been cut nationwide, but only one other state’s cuts to higher education have been of a greater percentage than the cuts made in South Carolina. Meanwhile, our costs increase as the demand for quality rises, especially with regard to technology and financial aid. “That being said, I think our institution has done well,” Mr. Higdon continued. The Fourth-Century Initiative is being implemented, the Master Plan has been completed, and we will soon have a Technology Plan. All the aspects of the Fourth-Century Initiative are having a positive impact on campus (more details will be reported at the upcoming Board meeting). We are “on task in virtually every area,” he said.

We do have more work to do towards the goal of diversifying ourselves, the President noted. He said he looks forward to working with the Diversity Committee, since this goal is “critically important.” Also critical is improving student quality. “We may be in a position to have the highest yield of admission acceptances ever,” which has both good and bad points. Additional lines are being filled as part of the Fourth-Century Initiative, but Mr. Higdon is concerned that not all departments’ searches have been successful this year. “Elise [Jorgens] and I want to do all we can” to help departments recruit new faculty, he said. He noted that the Compensation Study issued in January contains a mechanism for addressing any salaries that need to be raised. This “merit-based process” is “complicated” and “is taking longer than we first thought. But it is moving forward.” Other committees on workload and class size are about to conclude their work, Mr. Higdon said. “You should have filled out a survey about what needs repair” in department offices, he told the faculty. The Provost has announced that a Space Committee will be formed, and this will help them to address both current space needs and those that will occur as the College builds new facilities but must relocate faculty and

staff in temporary quarters during construction. “Ultimately there will be 50-60% more space,” he said, and in the interim, they hope to minimize disruption. Mr. Higsdon also said he wants to study the issue of maintenance, as well as other needs that the Master Plan has identified: traffic, parking, beautification. “We’re looking to allocate significant resources in this area,” he said.

Overall, the President said, he is “very optimistic” about our future. “We need programs that support excellence, support our students, and sharpen the distinctiveness of our institution.” The Schools are already working in various ways to emphasize our distinctiveness. The Board, at its next retreat, will be exploring the topic “What Does Excellence Cost?” Mr. Higdon said the Board needs to understand what resources are necessary for us to execute our plans. The issue of student retention also “needs our collective focus,” he noted. The institution needs to let faculty know how they can help in this regard. Compared to other institutions, we are performing well, “but we need to do better.” To this end, the President and the Provost will bring in some ideas and best practices for improving retention, a goal which can produce financial as well as academic benefits, he said. The President concluded by reminding faculty that he hoped to see as many of them as possible at both the graduate and undergraduate Commencements.

#### **Faculty Retirements and Awards**

The President recognized the following retiring faculty. Each was also thanked by his Dean or department chair and presented with a commemorative plaque.

Charles Matthews (Education)

Earl Rickerson (Chair, Division of Languages)

Gordon Jones (former Dean, School of Sciences & Math)

Jeffrey Johnson (English)

John Michel (Studio Arts).

Next, the President joined with the Provost to present the 2003-2004 Distinguished Faculty Awards.

#### **Distinguished Advising Award**

Charles E. Biernbaum, Biology

Ann Stein, Sociology

#### **Distinguished Service Award**

Sylvia Gamboa, English

#### **Distinguished Research Award**

Jack DiTullio, Biology

#### **Distinguished Teaching Award**

Martin Jones, Mathematics

#### **Distinguished Teacher-Scholar Award**

Franklin Ashley, Theatre

#### **Speaker’s Report**

Hugh Wilder joined the faculty in congratulating the winners of these awards. He then noted that this was his last time to preside at a Faculty meeting, and thanked Deb Vaughn

for serving as webmaster and projectionist at meetings (both tasks she continues to do as a volunteer). He also thanked the Faculty Secretary, Julia Eichelberger, for taking minutes and helping him to plan Faculty and Senate meetings, and thanked George Pothering for his service as Parliamentarian on these occasions. And, the Speaker told the faculty, he was grateful for the support and input they had given him during his service. He seconded the President's invitation to the Commencements in May, and urged faculty also to attend Convocation on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August (the day before Fall classes begin). Charles Johnson, Professor of English at the University of Washington, will address the convening faculty and the entering freshmen, who will all have received (and, we hope, read) a copy of his award-winning novel *Middle Passage*.

Mr. Wilder then offered some reflections on his three years as Speaker. His term began in Fall 2001 with open forums on parking, and is ending with another forum on the same subject. ("Bob, good luck," he said to Mr. Mignone, the Speaker-elect.) These have also been the first three years of Lee Higdon's presidency. "Lee was a bold appointment at the College, and the right one," because he is making the future of the College brighter. It has also been a pleasure to work with Elise Jorgens during her first year as Provost, the Speaker continued. Less positive is the fact that "support for higher education has fallen to historic lows," with many government officials seeing higher education not as a public good, but as an unwanted expense. "Our challenge is to convince the public that higher education, especially liberal arts education, is an investment rather than a drain on resources," he said.

Within the institution, we face other challenges and opportunities. The campus is in the midst of a building and renovation boom that is "unprecedented since the 1970's," the Speaker noted, and the Master Plan calls for more construction in the future. The College and its new Diversity Council are seeking more ways to keep the student body diverse. We also must continue to improve the balance between permanent and visiting or adjunct faculty, he said, if we are to become as "engaged and engaging" as we hope to be. The Speaker asserted that the President had made "an unprecedented commitment" by endorsing the Compensation Study, which the faculty appreciates. Additional committee reports are forthcoming with plans for improvement in other areas: Academic Planning (regarding Freshman Seminars), Workload, Class Size, Communication Across the Curriculum, and Technology. "As always, there is a lot of good work going on, and yet to do, at the College," the Speaker concluded. "Being Speaker has given me a new perspective on our common work" and the many people on campus who contribute to it. His job as Speaker of the Faculty is "the best one I've had."

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

David Gentry presented the slates for the 2004-2005 Faculty Committees. The following faculty were elected.

Academic Standards, Admissions and Financial Aid (Seven)

Borg, Barbara Sociology and Anthropology  
Cortese, Michael Psychology  
Cudahy, Diane Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education  
Gomez, Michael Hispanic Studies  
Krantzman, Kristin Chemistry and Biochemistry  
McCauley, Renee Computer Science  
Vaughn, Deborah Library

Advisory Committee on Tenure and Promotion

(Five tenured regular and five tenured alternates)

Baginski, Thomas Classics, German, and Italian Regular  
Barfield, William Physical Education and Health Regular  
Clary, Betsy Jane Economics and Finance Regular  
Nusbaum, Robert Geology Regular  
Winfield, Idee Sociology and Anthropology Regular  
Diamond, Beverly Mathematics Alternate  
Jos, Philip Political Science Alternate  
Lindner, Bernhard Physics and Astronomy Alternate  
Mazzone, Marian Art History Alternate  
Turner, Greg Management and Marketing Alternate

Committee on Assessment of Institutional Effectiveness (Nine)

Boucher, Christophe History  
Callicott, Burton Library  
Colomina-Garrigos, Maria Hispanic Studies  
de Buron, Isaure Biology  
Finefrock, Michael History  
Futrell, Michelle Physical Education and Health  
Litvin, Stephen Management and Marketing  
Sadler, Mary English  
Turner, Laura Theatre

Committee on Nominations and Elections

(Seven, at least three years at the College of Charleston)

Caveny, Deanna Mathematics  
Doig, Marion Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Farrell, Susan English  
Heldrich, Rick Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Morris, Frank Classics, German, and Italian  
Nunan, Richard Philosophy and Religious Studies  
Phillips, Michael Library

Curriculum Committee (Nine)

Ayme-Southgate, Agnes Biology  
Bielsky, Katherine Library  
Boyle, Deborah Philosophy and Religious Studies  
Dobson, John Physical Education and Health  
Garton, Tessa Art History  
McCandless, Amy History  
Morrison, Susan Biology  
Powell, Sara Elementary and Early Childhood Education  
Yost, Jeffrey Accounting and Legal Studies

Educational Technology Committee

(Seven, no more than two from one department)

Fowler, Robert Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education  
Kinard, W. Frank Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Lyndrup, Allen Theatre  
Moore, Christine Computer Science  
Profit, Steven Library  
Seaman, Myra English  
Styles, Alan Accounting and Legal Studies

Faculty Advisory Committee to the President (Eleven)

Curtis, Claire Political Science  
Daniels, Roger Accounting and Legal Studies  
Fitzharris, Linda Elementary and Early Childhood Education  
Francis, Conseula English  
Hart, Edward Music  
Keyes, Denis Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education  
Quinn, Moore Sociology  
Shields, Sandra Mathematics  
Weyers, Joseph Hispanic Studies  
Wiseman, D. Reid Biology  
Zeiner, Noelle Classics, German, and Italian

Faculty Grievance Committee

(Five: three tenured, two not tenured; and four alternates: two tenured, two not tenured)

Ellis, Edith Physical Education and Health Regular; Non-tenured  
Fitzwilliam, Marie English Regular; Non-tenured  
Lamb, Chris Communications Regular; Tenured  
Liu, Gouli Political Science Regular; Tenured  
Van Sickle, Meta Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education Regular; Tenured  
Della Lana, Stephen Classics, German, and Italian Alternate; Non-tenured  
Heldrich, Rick Chemistry and Biochemistry Alternate; Tenured  
Katuna, Mike Geology Alternate; Tenured  
Smail, Karen Physical Education and Health Alternate; Non-tenured

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

Hettinger, Edwin	Philosophy and Religious Studies	Regular; Professor
Miller, Deborah	Physical Education and Health	Regular; Professor
Sarvate, Dinesh	Mathematics	Regular; Professor
Tennyson, Mack	Accounting and Legal Studies	Regular; Professor
Tsai, Jung-fang	History	Regular; Professor
Bartel, Virginia	Elementary and Early Childhood Education	Alternate
Ford, Lynne	Political Science	Alternate
Fowler, Robert	Foundations, Secondary, and Special Ed.	Alternate; Professor
Hittner, James	Psychology	Alternate
Peacock, Clifton	Studio Art	Alternate; Professor
Silverman, Herb	Mathematics	Alternate; Professor

Faculty Research and Development (Nine)

Attafi, Abdellatif	French
Crotts, John	Management and Marketing
Davis, Carol Ann	English
Jones, Martin	Mathematics
McDaniel, June	Philosophy
Newhard, James	Classics, German, and Italian
Perkins, Bob	Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education
Regnier, Marc	Music
Wyatt, Justin	Chemistry and Biochemistry

Faculty Welfare Committee (Eight)

Berg, Karen	Hispanic Studies
Danaher, Bill	Sociology and Anthropology
Deavor, James	Chemistry and Biochemistry
Frankel, Sara	Studio Art
Hough, Sheridan	Philosophy and Religious Studies
Jaume, Steven	Geology
Lacroix, Celeste	Communications
Ross, Lisa	Psychology

Graduate Education, Continuing Education and Special Programs

(Five, at least one graduate faculty)

Martin, Elizabeth	Chemistry and Biochemistry	
Owens, Sarah	Hispanic Studies	
Runyon, Cassandra	Geology	Graduate
Russell, Robert	Art History	
Voorneveld, R. Burke Chip	Foundations, Secondary, and Special Ed.	Graduate

Honor Board (Five)

Agrest, Sofia Mathematics  
Birrer, Doryjane English  
Brooks, Michelle Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Huddleston, John Philosophy and Religious Studies  
Korey, Christopher Biology

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

Ashley, Franklin Theatre  
Bjerken, Zeff Philosophy and Religious Studies  
Kelly, Joe English Honors  
Overby, Jason Chemistry and Biochemistry Honors  
Poole, Scott History Honors

Library (Seven)

Balinsky, Susan Physical Education and Health  
Blöse, Julia Management and Marketing  
Breedlove, William Sociology and Anthropology  
Ivey, Thomas Mathematics  
Skinner, Michael Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education  
Williams, Dennis English  
Wragg, Jeff Physics and Astronomy

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

Asleson, Gary Chemistry and Biochemistry Regular  
Muldrow, Ralph Art History Regular  
Norton, Robert Mathematics Regular  
Pharr, Walter Computer Science Regular  
Phillips, Michael Library Regular  
Gentry, David Psychology Alternate  
Grantham, Todd Philosophy Alternate  
Johnson, Diane Art History Alternate  
Moreira, Luci Hispanic Studies Alternate  
Thom, Katherine Mathematics Alternate

Recycling and Environmental Responsibility (Five)

Carroll, Tom Physical Education and Health  
Chico-Wyatt, Irene Hispanic Studies  
Rodriguez, Silvia Hispanic Studies  
Stackel, Martha Library  
Wasielewski, Noah Physical Education and Health

Student Affairs and Athletics (Five)

Barnette, Scooter Physical Education and Health  
Espinoza, Herbert Hispanic Studies  
Hoffmann, Heath Sociology and Anthropology  
Rogers, Amy Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Swickert, Rhonda Psychology

Bookstore Advisory Committee (Three with two-year terms; two elected this year and one elected next year)

Aziz, Abdul Management and Marketing 2004-2006  
Mann, David Political Science 2003-2005  
Morrison, Susan Biology

**Approval of Degree Candidates**

Bob Mignone moved that the faculty approve the previously-circulated list of degree candidates, and Charles Kinard seconded this motion, which then passed.

**For the Good of the Order**

The Faculty Secretary read the following statement into the record.

A RESOLUTION OF THANKS

The Faculty of the College of Charleston wish to thank Hugh Wilder for his distinguished service for the past three years. As Speaker of the Faculty, Hugh Wilder has worked so efficiently, so unobtrusively, and with so many different people that no one could detail the countless unremembered acts of service he has performed: advising faculty members about how to bring a motion to the Senate, encouraging committee chairs to tackle difficult projects, presenting faculty concerns to administrators. He has conducted all Senate and Faculty meetings with good cheer and with an even hand. During his term of service, the College has added a new president, a new provost, a new tradition of Fall Convocation, and an ambitious new mission in its Fourth-Century Initiative. Hugh Wilder has been a force for good in each of these new developments at the College of Charleston, and we are indeed grateful for his selfless service.

The faculty gave Mr. Wilder a standing ovation. The Provost then presented him with a commemorative plaque.

With no other announcements, Mr. Wilder asked Bob Mignone, the Speaker-elect, to close the meeting. The faculty then adjourned until the Fall.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Eichelberger  
Faculty Secretary