

**Minutes of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences
The College of William and Mary**

**March 2, 2004
Small 113**

The meeting was called to order at 3:38 p.m. by Dean Barbara Watkinson.

I. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the February 3, 2004 meeting were approved as posted.

II. Nominations and Elections Committee

A. Election to the Retention, Promotion, and Tenure Committee
(3-year term, area II (2004-2007))

Carl Carlson (Physics)
Robert Noonan (Computer Science)

One 1-year replacement for Heather Macdonald
 Robert Pike (Chemistry)
Hugo Woerdeman (Mathematics)

B. Election to the Educational Policy Committee
(3-year term, area I, II, and III (2004-2007))

Area I
Carla Buck (Modern Languages and Literatures)
 Deborah Morse (English)

Area II
 Raymond McCoy (Kinesiology)
David Jaeger (Economics)

Area III
 Sharon Broadwater (Biology)
Robert Hinkle (Chemistry)

C. Academic Status Committee
(3-year term, not area-specific (2004-2007))

James Armstrong (Music)
Michael Kelley (Applied Sciences)
 Catherine Levesque (Art & Art History)
Carlisle Moody (Economics)

Linda Reilly (Classical Studies)
Laurie Wolf (Theater, Speech, and Dance)

III. Report of Administrative Officers

A. Provost Geoffrey Feiss

Provost Feiss discussed the current state budget process. He said that raising faculty salaries is the highest priority for the administration and the Board of Visitors. The five-year plan approved by the Board of Visitors proposes to begin solving the problem of the university's inadequate funding. Provost Feiss urged faculty to write to their state representatives, explaining that without pay raises, faculty will leave the university.

Provost Feiss has continued his discussions with the Faculty Assembly about replacing the Budget Priorities Action Committee with a Faculty Priorities Committee. Faculty with ideas about this change should bring them to members of the Faculty Assembly.

The Faculty Assembly's Faculty Compensation Board has sent the Provost proposed guidelines for phased faculty retirement.

Provost Feiss is working with the Faculty Affairs Committee of the Faculty Assembly to develop a university-wide Fair Use Policy for copyrighted material.

Provost Feiss has received two recommendations from the Search Committee for the Dean of Arts & Sciences, and he hopes to have news about the new dean by the end of spring break. He thanked Gene Tracy and the search committee for their exceptionally careful work.

B. Dean Search Committee

Prof. Tracy thanked the search committee, faculty who came to forums with the candidates, and faculty who sent their comments to the search committee.

IV. Presentation by Tina Coleman on Electronic Elections

Clyde Haulman from the Faculty Affairs Committee introduced Tina Coleman from Information Technology, who gave an illustrated presentation on how FAS might hold elections online using the Survey format of Blackboard. The Nominations and Elections Committee would continue to propose slates of candidates, which would be presented to the faculty electronically, and from there the nomination and election process would resemble the current process, except that faculty would not have to attend faculty meetings to vote.

V. Reports of Committees

A. Committee on Graduate Studies. Available at:
<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/gradstudies.php> (See "Annual Report—March 2004" and "Annual Report—Stats 2004.")

B. Faculty Research Committee. Available at:
<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/facultyresearchcommittee/Annual%20Report%20-%20March%202004.pdf>

C. Educational Policy Committee.

1. The EPC proposed that GER requirements be waived for students in the new College Scholars program. Tamara Sonn, co-director with Talbot Taylor of the program, explained that this waiver

would enhance the College's ability to attract the best students as it competes with other universities' merit scholarships, which offer more money. She also said that College Scholars would have one-on-one guidance from faculty advisors in their selection of courses. Associate Provost Karen Cottrell gave a presentation arguing for the proposal. Several faculty voiced objections to the proposal, arguing that the GER requirements are the heart of a WM education, and that all students should be held to those requirements. The proposal was presented as a motion—that GER requirements be waived for College Scholars for a trial period of two years. In a voice vote, the motion was defeated.

2. The EPC presented a motion to require freshmen to take a freshman seminar in their freshman year. After a brief discussion, in which several asked what penalties would ensue for students who did not meet the requirement, the motion passed unanimously.

3. The EPC presented a motion to require students to declare a major at the end of their social sophomore year, rather than upon completion of 54 credits. Transfer students with 54 credits need not declare upon matriculation; they can have one full semester at the College before declaring. The primary reason given for the motion was to allow students, especially those coming to WM with many AP credits, to make a mature decision. The motion passed.

4. The EPC presented a motion to limit the number of hours for which a student may preregister to 16. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Proposed Revisions to the criteria for GER 2 (available at http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/epc/reports/GER_2_Proposed_Revisions.pdf). Tabled.

In the absence of Old Business and New Business, Dean Watkinson adjourned the meeting at 5:36

Respectfully submitted,

John Morreall
Professor of Religion