The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. by Dean Carl Strikwerda.

I. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the May 4, 2004 meeting were approved as posted.

II. Elections to the Committee on Nominations and Elections

(Four 3-year terms, 2004-2007)

Area I
- Dorothy Chansky (Theatre, Speech, and Dance)
- Jack Martin (English)
- George Greenia (Modern Languages and Literatures)
- John Donahue (Classical Studies)

Area II
- John McGlennon (Government)
- Deirdre Royster (Sociology)

Area III
- Brent Owens (Geology)
- Mark Forsyth (Biology)

III. Remarks by Dean Strikwerda

Dean Strikwerda thanked the faculty for the warm welcome and useful information they have given him. In learning his way around the university, he said, he wants to respect the traditions of W&M. He mentioned several important issues facing the university: the application to make W&M a charter university, the search for a new President, the Campaign for William & Mary, the initiative to have every freshman have a laptop computer, and space planning. The Dean’s own list of issues for Arts and Sciences includes better planning (he is creating a new position of planning analyst), development, alumni relations, working with foundations to get grants, merit evaluations, promotion and tenure procedures, the rebuilding of Millington and Rogers Halls, raising faculty salaries, and improving undergraduate research. Asked whether the Laptop Initiative for freshmen would be based on PCs only, he said it would probably be based on PCs, but there would be support for Macintosh computers.

IV. Reports of Administrative Officers

Dennis Manos, Vice Provost for Research and Graduate/Professional Studies, gave a detailed presentation on the state of sponsored research at the university. He noted that the university’s peer institutions are now schools such as Brown, Duke, and Vanderbilt which have medical and engineering schools. The indirect charges on research grants (43 cents for each dollar of research support) help W&M fund its internal research programs—FRAs, summer grants, and minor research grants (now handled by the Charles Center). The FRA program this year is funded at $884,000, up $200,000 from last year. By 2007 Mr. Manos wants FRA funding to be one million dollars, and he wants to get some private funding for FRAs.
The university currently receives $50 million in external research funding, and the goal of the Governor is to double that figure to $100 million by 2010. Mr. Manos then showed pie charts of dollars and percentages of university research funding brought in by W&M schools and departments. He noted that W&M faculty are remarkably successful in getting grants. About 2 out of 3 of our proposals are accepted, while the national averages are between 1 in 5 and 1 in 10. There were fewer proposals submitted from W&M last year, but the amount of funding doubled. VIMS brought in 42% of our research funding last year, the School of Education 13%, Applied Sciences 12.2%, and the Physics Department 10%. There have been big changes in some funding agencies. NASA, for example, has collapsed as a research partner. Federal funding makes up 80.6% of our sponsored research, state and local government funding 8.5%, and private funding 10.9%. Dr. Manos encouraged faculty to apply for research grants, using the Community of Science Network and the Grants Office.

Asked whether W&M is establishing an institute of research, Dr. Manos said that is being planned, but it will be off-campus and will support short-term projects rather than doctoral-level research. To a question about the Governor’s goal of doubling our research budget, he said that the Governor thinks that Virginia deserves to receive double what it now receives from the federal government. Asked whether the emphasis on research will play down the importance of teaching, he said absolutely not. While the amount of teaching done by some faculty may be reduced, the quality of teaching is still a top priority.

V. Introduction of New Faculty by Dean

Dean Strikwerda called on department chairs to introduce their new colleagues. They were as follows:

Computer Science: Xiaodong Zhang, Instructor; Moses Liskov, Assistant Professor.

Economics: Beth Freeborn, Instructor. Eric Furstenberg, Assistant Professor. Martin Schmidt, Associate Professor.

Government: Michael Tierney, Assistant Professor.

Lyon G. Tyler Department of History: Kveta Benes, Assistant Professor. Gail Bossenga, Associate Professor. Andrew Fisher, Assistant Professor. Hiroshi Kitamura, Assistant Professor.

Kinesiology: Brennan Harris, Assistant Professor. Robin Looft-Wilsom, Assistant Professor.

Mathematics: Eva Czabarka, Assistant Professor. Timothy Killingback, Assistant Professor.

Modern Languages and Literatures: Magali Compan, Assistant Professor. Robert Leventhal, Assistant Professor.

Music: Marcus Bittencourt, Assistant Professor. Christopher Scales, Assistant Professor.

Philosophy: Noah Lemos, Professor.

Physics: Joshua Erlich, Assistant Professor (Spring 2005).

Psychology: Jennifer Stevens, Assistant Professor. Todd Thrash, Assistant Professor. Peter Vishton, Assistant Professor.

Religious Studies: Richard Mann, Assistant Professor

Theatre, Speech, and Dance: Michael Mehler, Assistant Professor. Christopher Owens, Assistant Professor.
VI. Reports of Committees

A. Presidential Search Committee. Clay Clemens and David Lutzer described the search process so far and asked faculty to participate in an upcoming forum to discuss criteria for choosing the new President. The Board of Visitors created the Search Committee with Susan McGill, Rector, as Chair. Of the 24 members, 7 are faculty. Three are from Arts and Sciences: Liz Barnes, Clay Clemens, and David Lutzer. The Board chose the search firm of Isaacson Miller, which has a good track record of finding presidents of major universities. So far the Search Committee has published ads for the position and has scheduled four open fora for staff, students, Faculty Assembly, and the entire faculty, on Tuesday, September 14. The Search Committee will meet in October to draft a Challenge Statement presenting what the College wants in a President and the College’s view of itself and its mission. Prof. Lutzer encouraged faculty to submit names of potential candidates to Profs. Barnes, Clemens, or Lutzer. Candidates will be interviewed off-campus in January, and the new President will probably be chosen by the Board in the middle of the Spring semester. Professors Clemens and Lutzer discussed possible degrees of openness in the search process, with various faculty arguing for differing degrees of openness. The big issue here is that job searches which reveal the names of applicants tend to reduce the number of outstanding applicants.

B. Faculty Affairs Committee. Lu Ann Homza described the function of the FAC and listed its tasks for this year: examining the relationship between faculty and the Barnes and Noble bookstore, especially as regards the ordering of textbooks; studying the evaluation processes in merit evaluations, and promotion and tenure procedures; drafting a policy for the evaluation of chairs and program directors; and studying departmental policies for the hiring and retention of adjunct professors.

C. Faculty Assembly. Chris Abelt outlined the work planned for the Faculty Assembly this year: examining post-tenure review; studying the second part of the Faculty Survey posted on the web by Katherine Kulik; participating in the Presidential Search; launching the new faculty Committee on University Priorities, which replaces BPAC; changing the constitution to allow Prof. Bob Archibald to serve several roles simultaneously; studying phased retirement; and studying the Laptop Initiative.

In the absence of Old Business and New Business, Dean Strikwerda adjourned the meeting at 5:20. A wine-and-cheese reception followed to welcome new faculty.

Respectfully submitted,

John Morreall
Professor of Religion