

Minutes of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences
The College of William and Mary
May 3, 2005
University Center, Chesapeake A

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 April 5, 2005 meeting were approved as posted.

II. Nominations and Elections Committee

- A. Election to the Faculty Affairs Committee and Faculty Assembly, Area I
(one-year term to replace Beatrice Guenther)

XAlan Fuchs (Philosophy)

Silvia Tandeciarz (Modern Languages and Literatures)

- B. Election to the Faculty Affairs Committee, Area III
(one-year term to replace John Drew)

Robert Orwoll (Chemistry)

XHeather Macdonald (Geology)

III. Report of Administrative Officers

A. Provost Geoffrey Feiss described the damage done by the fire in Preston Hall a few hours earlier, and the College's response. The fire, which appears to have started under the roof, has destroyed Preston Hall. Giles Hall has sustained extensive damage from water and smoke. No one was injured. Many of the 140 student residents lost all their possessions. Students will be housed temporarily in Governor's Inn, where food service and a computer lab is being set up. The Provost asked all faculty to show understanding toward the students affected, e.g., by offering students who lost all study materials the option of receiving their current grade without taking a final examination. Grades of Incomplete should be given to affected students who request it.

Salary letters will be sent on May 10, listing new salaries effective December 1, 2005.

The Provost reported on three searches. The new Registrar will be appointed by the end of the week. This person will report directly to the Provost's Office. The College has begun advertising for Karen Cottrell's replacement, who will handle admissions and financial aid. With a narrow window of opportunity, the college put an ad in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*--a search committee will be formed soon. A search will begin in early Fall for the new dean/director of the Reves Center. This will be an internal search. An interim dean/director will serve during the summer.

The Committee on University Priorities will have its final meeting of the year on Thursday and will produce a report which will go to Faculty Assembly next week.

On November 1, 2005 the university must submit its six-year plan, as part of the Higher Education Restructuring Act of 2005 (formerly called Charter University initiative). This plan will be put together mostly from existing documents, and it must be approved by the state legislature.

In the question period, Provost Feiss was asked about a professor visiting from Japan who was stopped and questioned by Campus Police because he was taking photographs. The Provost said that he has talked to the Police Chief and to Vice President Martin and that this kind of event will not recur.

B. Dean Carl Strikwerda reported on the new "contact deans" system, effective July 1, in which chairs and directors can go to their assigned deans with problems. The Dean's Office is trying to solidify positions for next year's searches. They are waiting to hear from professors who may retire. The Dean will make the first set of requests for new positions by June 1, 2005. As they are authorized, chairs and directors will be notified. The second group of positions should be authorized by August 1, 2005.

IV. Amended Arts and Sciences By-Laws

LuAnn Homza presented the proposed changes to the By-Laws and asked for discussion and suggestions for emendations. See [http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/facultyaffairs/By-Laws%20\(2005\).pdf](http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/facultyaffairs/By-Laws%20(2005).pdf)

At the end of the discussion there was a vote on the whole package of changes. The following are the proposed changes which drew comments or proposed emendations:
In Article III, Sec. 2.3, the proposed change in the number of faculty constituting a quorum from eighty to fifty was rejected in a vote by the faculty.

A proposal arising at the meeting that voting in promotion decisions be limited to committee members who are at least at the rank to which the candidate would be promoted, was defeated.

An addition to Article V, Sec. 1.2, was approved as an amendment: In the revised text for V.1.2, just before the **bold** penultimate sentence, this sentence shall be added: "The Faculty Affairs Committee, in collaboration with the Dean of Arts and Sciences, sets dates for nominations and elections to all committees except the Nominations Committee."

It was proposed that in Article V, Sec. 2.1, the word "tenured" be inserted between "six" and "members." Passed unanimously.

A change was suggested to Article V, Sec. 6.1: Instead of the additional sentence on the proposal "A committee member shall also recuse himself/herself . . ." this sentence should be used: "A committee member shall reveal if he or she does not have an arms-length relationship with the candidate or if there is a potential conflict of interest; the committee shall then decide whether recusal is warranted." That change was approved unanimously.

A change was suggested to Article VII, Sec. 1: In the proposed first sentence, the words “three members from the Faculty Affairs Committee, one from each area” be replaced by the words “no fewer than three members from the Faculty Affairs Committee, at least one from each area.” Passed unanimously.

With all the amendments made, the faculty voted, approving the Amended By-Laws unanimously.

V. Motions from the Educational Policy Committee

1. A minimum grade of C is required for any course submitted for transfer credit. Passed unanimously.
2. The College will allow newly admitted students to transfer credit for distance-learning courses. Passed.
3. A study abroad course, approved by the Committee on Degrees, may be used to satisfy GER 4 and GER 5. Such a course must meet the criteria of the GER and must deal substantially with the country or region where the student is on the study abroad program. Passed.

VI. Educational Policy Annual Report posted at:

http://www.wm.edu/fas/faculty/documents/epc/Annual_Reports%20Report%20May%202005.pdf.

VII. Retiring Professors

Dean Strikwerda and colleagues presented short speeches honoring the following professors who are retiring:

Norman Barka, Archaeology
James Baron, Classics
Lawrence Beckhouse, Sociology
Miles Chappell, Art and Art History
Steve Haynie, Kinesiology
Gary Kreps, Sociology
Robert Maccubin, English
James McCord, History
Hans Tiefel, Religious Studies
Franco Triolo, Modern Languages
Edgar Williams, Music
Michael Williamson, Music

Dean Strikwerda adjourned the meeting at 5:15. A wine-and-cheese reception followed.

Respectfully submitted,

John Morreall

Professor of Religious Studies