

**Minutes of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences
The College of William and Mary
May 2, 2006
Tidewater A, University Center**

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. by Dean Ed Pratt.

I. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the April 4, 2006 meeting were approved as posted.

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/minutes/20060406.pdf>

II. Presentation by Henry Broaddus, Dean of Admissions, on “The Selection Process,” accompanied by Earl Granger, Associate Provost for Enrollment

Dean Broaddus reported that the College set a new record for application volume in the past year with over 10,700 applications, compared to the usual average of 10,500. He also indicated that it was the most diverse pool of applicants ever. Roughly 3,300 of the applicants were accepted. Out of those, 1,350 formally declared their intent to enroll. He observed that competition for admission was most intense among out-of-state applicants, who make up $\frac{2}{3}$ of the total applicant pool but just $\frac{1}{3}$ of the total number of students admitted. Broaddus described the selections process as “subjective but not arbitrary” and said that potential biases were offset by ensuring that each file was read by two readers, one of which is always a regional dean familiar with the culture of the high school of virtually any applicant. Any application that is not clearly a yes or no is discussed in committee—i.e., $\frac{1}{3}$ of all applications. Broaddus then commented on two unique aspects of the W&M application process: the supplement he described as an applicant’s “show and tell by proxy” and the optional applicant interview with a rising senior—a procedure rare among public institutions that also constitutes a good recruiting tool. In response to questions from the faculty, Broaddus remarked the results of the new essay section of the SAT were not yet factored into the total score of an applicant due to the fact that this was the first year in which the section was added; and he also stated that there were very few applicants in the pool who were not at all competitive.

III. Reports of Administrative Officers

A. Provost Geoff Feiss was unable to attend the meeting.

B. Dean Pratt filled in for Dean Carl Strikwerda, who was out of town. Dean Pratt reported on recruiting efforts: 23 out of the 28 faculty searches in 2005-06 have been completed successfully; the 5 remaining searches will be reopened in 2006-07. He then reported on changes in the program review process to begin in the fall of 2006: program reviews will now be conducted in disciplinary clusters (beginning with Classical Studies, Philosophy, and Religion) and will be simplified (the Dean’s office will provide the data and each department or program will be expected to draft a 15-page document). Dean Pratt then reported on ongoing work on the redesign of A&S Web pages, undertaken in order to make the search for information easier. He invited faculty to look at a sample page that was already online and noted—in response to a faculty question—that IT would be doing the bulk of the work as departments and programs made the transition to the new templates. He then reported on the implementation of the Community College Transfer Initiative, which is to include “university seminars” for transfer students; pilot seminars will be offered in spring 2007 and the seminars will become a requirement in 2008-09 (departments offering the seminars will be compensated). He reported that the new RPT guidelines were due to go out and that the new SSRL program was set to be implemented in fall 2007; the next step in the implementation process would be departmental definitions/lists of research-active faculty and tentative leave schedules, due in to the Dean’s office by September 15, 2006.

Dean Pratt concluded his remarks by recognizing FAS faculty members who had received awards and fellowships in 2005-06: Tomoko Hamada Connolly (Anthropology); Norman Fashing, Margaret Saha,

Cindy Van Dover, and Stewart Ware (Biology); William Hutton and John Oakley (Classical Studies); Nikos Chrisochoides (Computer Science); Arnab Basu and William Hausman (Economics); Adam Potkay, Nancy Schoenberger, and Talbot Taylor (English); Melvin Ely, Kris Lane, and Kimberly Phillips (History); John Charles (Kinesiology); David Lutzer (Mathematics); Francie Cate-Arries, Driss Cherkaoui, Regina Root, and Timothy Van Compernelle (Modern Languages and Literatures); Timothy Costelloe and James Harris, Jr. (Philosophy); Hans von Baeyer (Physics); Joseph Galano, Pamela Hunt, and John Nelzick (Psychology); Gul Ozyegin and Timmons Roberts (Sociology); and Joan Gavalier (Theatre, Speech and Dance).

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/other/Awards%20&%20Fellowships%202006.pdf>

IV. Nominations and Elections Committee Report, Steve Knudson

Steve Knudson (Chemistry) presented the slate of candidates for the May election to the Faculty Affairs Committee:

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/nominationelection/20060506.pdf>

- A. Election to the Faculty Affairs Committee
(2-year term, 2006-08, vote for one):
Francie Cate-Arries (Modern Languages and Literatures)
Tamara Sonn (Religious Studies)

There were no nominations from the floor and nominations were closed.

V. Faculty Assembly Report, Alan Fuchs

Fuchs (Philosophy) reported on two recent meetings: a) a special meeting at which the Faculty Retirement Transition Program was approved (subsequently approved by the BOV, it now goes before the Governor); and b) the regular April meeting. The main item of business at the regular meeting was new guidelines for the outside reviewer letters requested and used in tenure and promotion cases. The Assembly approved the following changes, to be sent to the Provost: all T&P candidates will be allowed to see a list of potential reviewers; they will be given timely access to the full content of the reviewers' letters in redacted versions from which any references to the identity of the authors will have been removed; the appropriate committees and College administrators will use the original, unredacted versions of the letters; the cover letters sent to potential reviewers will explain these policies clearly, including the eventual discovery of their identities in legal proceedings. The Assembly also considered ideas for changing the selection process procedures for the Summer Research Grant program.

VI. Faculty Affairs Committee, Terry Meyers

Meyers (English) reported that the FAC had continued its weekly advisory meetings with the Dean. He stated that the FAC was in the process of finalizing its appointments to A&S and College-wide committees and was considering reviving the A&S Affirmative Action Committee in light of the important work of the President's Committee on Diversity, which includes strong A&S representation. He also stated that the FAC was deferring appointments to the International Studies Curriculum and Academic Policy Committee until the finalization of pending changes involving the Reves Center and International Studies programs. The FAC and Dean also discussed departmental guidelines for the implementation of the new SSRL program, issues pertaining to tenure and promotion, and the creation of ad hoc groups to advise the Dean on questions of allocation and renovation of rooms and spaces as such questions arise (the committees would be made up of representatives from the departments and programs concerned by the changes).

VII. Educational Policy Committee Annual Report, Ray McCoy

McCoy (Kinesiology) offered highlights of the EPC report, the full version of which is available online.

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/epc/reports/EPC%20Report%202005-06.pdf>

McCoy reported that EPC had approved 49 new courses, 91 course changes, 13 curricular changes, 16 GER additions, 3 GER removals, and 1 GER status change. The EPC also approved a change in the 10-semester rule that would exempt AP, IB, and dual enrollment credits; a new formula will be used to count summer session credits. McCoy also reported that EPC voted to reduce the time incoming freshman and transfers are given to take the DIL (Digital Information Literacy) exam from 6 to 3 weeks. He indicated that future items of business included the results of the ongoing assessment of GER 5, 7, and the freshman seminar, and the criteria used to determine 3 vs. 4-credit courses.

VIII. Recognition of Retiring Faculty

The following retiring faculty members, presented by department and program chairs, were recognized for the scholarly accomplishments and meritorious service to the College:

Sam Baker (Economics), Lewis Cohen (Art and Art History), Mark Fowler (Philosophy), Stan Hoegerman (Biology), Martha Houle (Modern Languages and Literatures), Margaret Schaefer (Mathematics), William Starnes (Applied Science), Hans von Baeyer (Physics), and Neill Watson (Psychology).

A wine and cheese reception followed.

Dean Pratt adjourned the meeting at 5:08 p.m.

Addendum: Election Results

On May 9, 2006, Steve Knudson, Chair of the Committee on Nominations and Elections, formally notified the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of the following election results:

Faculty Affairs Committee (2-year replacement)

✓ Francie Cate-Arries

Comprehensive election results are available on the Nominations and Elections Web site:

<http://www.wm.edu/nande>

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Leruth

Associate Professor of Modern Languages and Literatures

The Secretary wishes to thank Professor Robert Leventhal of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures for assisting him in the compilation of the present minutes.