

Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences
November 3, 1992

The meeting was called to order by Dean Lutzer at 3:30 pm in Rogers 100. The minutes of the October 6, 1992 meeting (which were circulated with the agenda for this meeting) were approved.

The Dean reminded those present that only members of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences are allowed to vote in the faculty meeting. He then introduced Scott Quantro, a student from the College's Community Outreach Program, who spoke about volunteer activities on campus and in the community.

There were no reports from administrative officers.

Dean Lutzer read a letter which he said would be mailed to all Arts and Sciences faculty members. He announced that in 1992-3, Arts and Sciences had authorization to search for fifteen net new positions associated with freshman seminars and undergraduate research. He outlined the history of those two programs, assuring the faculty that he had the concurrence of EPC, FAC, and the Dean's Advisory Council before submitting the freshman seminar and undergraduate research budget initiatives in the summer of 1991. He asked FAC to begin the process of assessing the faculty's academic priorities so that he could have that guidance when preparing the next round of budget initiatives next May.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Faculty Affairs Committee:

Mr. Oakley reported that the FAC had been meeting weekly. Committee discussions have included possibilities for a Junior Faculty Research Program, and proposed rules for the debate of the Curriculum Review report. In addition, President Sullivan has requested three nominees from each area in Arts & Sciences to serve on the Provost search committee. FAC decided that the Arts and Sciences nominations list should not include any member of FAC, of the Executive Committee of the Assembly, or of the Assembly's Committee on Committees, and should not include two members from any single department. After considering suggestions from many faculty members, FAC proposed the following faculty members: from Area I -- Marlene Jack, Lawrence Becker, and Susan Donaldson; from Area II -- Kathleen Slevin, Berhanu Abegaz, and David Dessler; and from Area III -- Eric Bradley, Heather Macdonald, and Charles Johnson.

Mr. Palmer said it was an excellent group. However, he recalled that last year, the Faculty went on record as calling for election of its nominees for the Presidential search committee. He asked FAC to address the general problem of Arts and Sciences nominations to university-wide search committees and to propose a nomination procedure to the Faculty. Mr. McCord seconded Palmer's remarks and said that we should have elections for search

committees from Arts & Sciences. Mr Oakley pointed out that elections might not lead to appropriately balanced representation on committees. After some discussion, FAC agreed to consider this issue and make a timely report to the Faculty. Mr. Rublein expressed his confidence that the report would be prepared well in advance of the next Provost search.

Mr. Park asked if there is a representative of any PhD department on the search committee. Mr. Rublein said that Charles Johnson has PhD students through Applied Science. Later, Mr. Scholnick pointed out that another one of the nominees, Susan Donaldson, has PhD students in American Studies.

FAC had circulated a motion concerning special rules for the Curriculum Review debate with the agenda for this meeting. After considerable discussion, the committee withdrew the motion in order to make further study and resubmit at a later time. Of particular concern was the possibility, pointed out by Mr. Baxter, that the proposed rules could be used to obstruct and postpone the debate. Faculty members urged FAC to consult closely with the Curriculum Review Steering Committee in formulating the next set of proposed rules for debate, and that (as Mr. Fuchs suggested) the rules for debate include such points as whether the curriculum proposal will be debated and voted upon section by section, with a final acceptance or rejection vote at the end of the process.

Faculty Assembly:

Mr. Welsh reported that the Faculty Assembly met three times this fall. They had two sessions with talks from Sam Jones on the budget. Two committees were formed -- a Committee on the Faculty Handbook, and the Advisory Committee on University Advancement. To assure greater faculty continuity on UPAC, the Assembly proposed that the Assembly President remain on UPAC for one year beyond the expiration of his or her term. The Assembly has also been asked to nominate three faculty members to direct the next accreditation self study. Those names have been sent to the Provost. The Assembly discussed the Provost search procedures, and agreed to submit twenty-one names from which the President would select seven faculty representatives on the search committee.

The Faculty Liaison Committee met with the Board of Visitors and discussed the problem of faculty salaries at the College which have fallen from the 68th to the 38th percentile of the College's salary peer group. They hoped to reverse this. There is also some concern about the new health insurance program being instituted by the state. Mr. Welsh asked faculty members to contact any member of the Assembly about problems associated with the new system.

Finally, Mr. Welsh urged everyone present to support the educational bonds issue on the November ballot.

Graduate Studies Committee:

Mr. Scholnick commented on the graduate studies report circulated with the agenda for this meeting, and passed out a listing of new courses which had been inadvertently omitted. The new course list included several courses for an atmospheric sciences track in Applied Science. Dean Scholnick's report showed that there were 1,226 applicants for graduate admission in Arts and Sciences this year, of which 372 (roughly 30%) were accepted and 199 matriculated. Of these, twenty-three were minority students. Last year, we awarded nineteen PhDs and Mr. Scholnick predicted that PhD output would soon reach thirty per year. Scholnick concluded his comments by pointing to our success in master's level graduate education.

Education Policy Committee:

No report.

Admissions Committee

Mr. Lashinger, chair of the Admissions Policy Committee, reported on recent activities of the committee. The committee agreed to accept ACT scores in lieu of SAT scores for admission; for 1992-3, thirty-three applicants used this method. The committee discussed and accepted the recently proposed SCHEV policy on junior college transfer credits. Mr. Ward later raised a question about entering students who earn community college credit while still in high school. Dean Haulman pointed out that our policy was to accept such credit toward a William and Mary degree, provided it was not also counted as part of the minimum required for high school graduation.

A lively discussion ensued about the College's policy on athletic admissions, i.e., admissions of students who might not otherwise be offered a place in the freshman class, except for special athletic abilities. Mr. Baxter moved (and Mr. Welsh seconded) that the Faculty of Arts and Sciences ask the Admissions Policy Committee to review existing athletic admissions procedures in the light of college level success of individual athletic admits, paying particular attention to the cases of students who were admitted after special review by the Admissions Policy Committee even though they did not quite meet the athletic admissions criteria. The report should include statistics showing admissions data and academic success data, broken down by in-state and out-of-state admissions, and should distinguish the cases of special admits (as defined above) from the regular athletic admits. The central question is: "Should the athletic admissions criteria be made more rigorous to make sure that these students have a good chance to perform well academically as well as athletically?" During the discussion of Mr. Baxter's motion, it was agreed to expand the motion to cover all students admitted outside of the

normal admissions competition; in theory, the enlarged category might include musical or scientific admits as well as athletic admissions. Mr. Ito expressed a concern that we continue to emphasize recruitment of a balanced student body, including athletes. Mr. Baxter's motion was passed by a voice vote. The Dean agreed to communicate specifics of this request to Mr. Lashinger and Admissions Dean Carey by letter. The Admissions Policy Committee agreed to report at a later date. After the Baxter motion had passed, Mr. Ward expressed a wish that faculty children could be given some kind of preferential admission treatment at the College, even if it resulted in Mr. Ward teaching an overload.

Mr. Schifrin repeated his questions from the October faculty meeting concerning part-time students. Mr. Lashinger responded that 146 such students were admitted in the fall of 1992, and that 107 actually registered. Mr. Schifrin remained concerned that these part-time students were allowed to register before the end of the fall add/drop period, thereby making it harder for full-time students (and particularly freshmen) to get into the courses they wanted. The Dean agreed to write to Admissions Dean Carey requesting details about part-time students, including information on the level of the courses in which they enrolled and whether or not these courses were full.

Honors and Interdisciplinary Studies Committee

Mr. Schwartz reported that the summer of 1993 would be the first summer during which Monroe scholars will be receiving summer scholarships for individual study.

Without any objection, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Moore

Barbara Moore
Secretary pro-tem

Committee on Honors and Interdisciplinary Studies
Report to the Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Prepared For November, 1992 Meeting

The Committee on Honors and Interdisciplinary Studies (CHIS) has held two meetings so far this academic year. The Committee has nine faculty members and four student members.

1. Most of the Committee's efforts have focused on establishing the approval process for Summer, 1993 Monroe Scholar projects. In all, there will be fifty-six junior Monroes and up to ten sophomore Monroes who will be doing funded projects in the summer of 1993. Sophomores will be funded on a competitive basis, with preference to be given to students who anticipate funding from another source in the summer after their junior year, or who have a special opportunity (such as an internship in a U.S. senator's office) that may not be available in the summer after the junior year.

Each Monroe Scholar is guaranteed \$2,000 to support a summer project that will lead to "an intellectually broadening experience that is not easily available within the constraints of the regular academic year." Each student must submit a proposal that identifies: the project's goals; how the project, as outlined, is the best way to achieve these goals; a final "product"--a scholarly paper, lab report, essay, creative project (etc.) that summarizes and reflects on what has been learned. Juniors were required to submit their proposals by September 30, 1992; sophomores have until January 22, 1993 to turn them in.

Proposals from juniors were sorted by subject matter and distributed to the faculty members of CHIS for review. Each faculty member will work with approximately six students, helping them refine their ideas and providing them with advice about resources they should consult. Each student must secure the approval of his or her CHIS adviser.

2. CHIS is constituting a committee to evaluate the undergraduate degree program in Environmental Science. CHIS membership will include Heather MacDonald (chair) and Hans Tiefel. Additional members will be drawn from VIMS and Public Policy, and from the Departments of Biology, Chemistry, Geology, and Physics.