

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Faculty of Arts and Sciences
May 4, 1993

The meeting was called to order by Dean Lutzer at 3:30 p.m. in Rogers 100. The minutes of April 6 and of the April 15 Curriculum Review meeting were approved as distributed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Dean made a series of announcements. First, he pointed out the importance of handing in senior grades on time: senior grades not handed in by noon on the Friday before graduation might cause a student not to receive his/her diploma on Sunday. Second, he cited the spectacular record of the 1993 graduating class in terms of national scholarships. In addition to the special Tercentenary Scholarship given to one of our students by the British Embassy, our undergraduates have won one Marshall and one Beinecke Scholarship, four Goldwater Fellowships, a Carnegie Internship, and three Fulbrights, with one more approved in the U.S. but awaiting approval in the proposed host country. Third, several of our faculty members have also won awards. Terry Meyers of the English department was the first recipient of the Swem Library Faculty Recognition Award. Four Arts and Sciences faculty members were chosen to receive Alumni Association Fellowships, awards to junior faculty based upon teaching excellence. They are Professors Marc Sher, Katherine Kulick, Ilya Spitkovsky, and Larry Evans. Professors Larry Becker and Bob Gross have each won NEH fellowships for 1993-4, and Bruce McConachie has received a Fulbright grant to allow him to spend a year in Poland.

The Dean then announced that Undergraduate Studies Dean Clyde Haulman is resigning in order to return to the faculty next year. Dean Lutzer described Haulman's leadership in the Curriculum Review as pivotally important and added that Haulman's help and advice in the deans' office will be missed. At this point, Professor Prosl offered the following resolution which was seconded and passed unanimously:

Resolved: The Faculty of Arts and Sciences expresses its gratitude to Professor Clyde Haulman for his many contributions during his term as Dean of Undergraduate Studies. Through his commitment to undergraduate students and to educational quality, and through his leadership in the Curriculum Review, he has served the College well.

The Dean then announced that after consultation with FAC, he asked Heather Macdonald to serve as acting Dean of Undergraduate Studies during 1993-4. She agreed and the Board of Visitors made the appointment in its April meeting. During 1993-4, there will be an internal search for a permanent Undergraduate Studies Dean. Lutzer said that he hoped many of the faculty would give serious consideration to applying for this position.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Professor Cam Walker presented the nominations from the Nominations and Elections Committee. There was a motion to close the nominations which was seconded and carried. The vote was taken, with the following results:

Degrees Committee: Marc Sher (Physics), Elaine Themo (Sociology)
Retention, Promotion, and Tenure - Three year terms: Elsa Nettels (English), Ronald St. Onge (Modern Languages) - One Year term - George Grayson (Government)
Board on Faculty Compensation: David Aday (Sociology), Henry Hart (English)
Faculty Hearing Committee: Philip Funigiello (History)
Board of Student Affairs: Paula Blank (English), Kathleen Bragdon (Anthropology), Tun-jen Cheng (Government), Beatrice Guenther (Modern Languages), LuAnn Homza (History)
Chair, Educational Policy Committee: Mark Fowler (Philosophy)

Professor George Rublein asked if it was legal for Heather Macdonald to continue to serve on the RPT Committee, given her appointment as acting Dean. Lutzer announced that during her term as Dean, she would need to resign from the RPT Committee.

FACULTY AFFAIRS

Professor Oakley reported that this committee had advised Dean Lutzer on the Acting Dean of Undergraduate Studies appointment and made nominations for committees. In addition, FAC had expressed its serious concern to President Sullivan about the Law School addition being the largest single item in the College's capital budget proposal to Richmond. In addition, FAC had received a memo from Professor Judy Ewell, chair of History, asking whether probationary faculty should be prohibited from chairing major committees. While FAC believes that, in most situations, non-tenured faculty should not chair major committees, FAC was not willing to categorically prohibit it. Further, FAC received a request from Dean Haulman to look at voting rules in Arts and Sciences. It is likely that FAC will ask another faculty committee, e.g., Nominations and Elections, to consider the matter, and Dean Haulman indicated that he is willing to accept such a course of action.

Professor Oakley presented the Junior FRA proposal and asked for faculty endorsement. An amendment was suggested which would have required junior faculty to apply for outside funding before becoming eligible to receive a junior FRA. Opponents argued that since this was not required of senior faculty members, it should not be required of junior faculty. The amendment was defeated. Then the FAC proposal was unanimously endorsed by the faculty meeting and will be attached to the archival copy of these minutes. It will be forwarded to the new Provost.

EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE

Professor Prosl presented the following addendum to the EPC report growing out of recent EPC actions which needed to be reported at the May meeting so that (if accepted) they could be included in the next edition of the College Catalog.

New Courses:

APSC 425, Introduction to Solid Surfaces and Interfaces, 3 credits.

ARABIC 310, Topics in Modern Arabic Literature (in translation), 3 credits.

ART 150, Freshman Seminar in Studio Art, 3 credits.

MUSIC 141, Worlds of Music, 4 credits.

RUSSIAN 150, Freshman Seminar in Russian Culture, 4 credits.

Change in Course Title:

APSC 425, from "Introduction to Thin Films" to "Solid Surfaces and Interfaces".

Change in Concentration and Minor Requirements:

In Anthropology, change from two to one the number of field school experiences (ANTH 225, 425, 426) which may be counted toward meeting concentration (minor) requirements.

Change in criteria for inclusion on the Dean's List:

To date, it has been the case that the Dean's List in any semester consisted of those students who ranked in the top 15% of the established student pool. The following data indicate the GPA required for a student to be included in the top 15% of the established student pool in each of the 11 semesters from Fall 1987 to Fall 1992 inclusive: 3.50, 3.56, 3.52, 3.55, 3.55, 3.60, 3.56, 3.60, 3.60, 3.60, 3.60. EPC recommends, and seeks faculty approval that the Dean's List in any semester will consist of those students who receive a 3.6 GPA for that semester, with the understanding that this policy is to be reviewed every 3 years. Under the proposed system, a student's inclusion on the Dean's list can be communicated by notations on the grade reports instead of by the separate letters which are required by the current system.

Discontinuation of the Writing 101 Exemption Exam:

The discontinuation was proposed by C. Kennedy with the unanimous support of the Writing Committee and the concurrence of the English Department. In support of this proposal, it was argued that:

- 1) Decreasing numbers of students take the exam;
- 2) The time required in test development, administration, and grading fails to justify the results which have never been considered to be especially reliable;
- 3) In the past, the faculty has had a need to pare down the number of students taking Writing 101 to meet the Department's ability to offer sections of the course. In the future, the faculty will want to encourage (require) entering students to enroll in Freshman Seminars many (most?) of which satisfy the Freshman Writing Requirement.

Professor Fuchs moved that the faculty retain the current Writing 101 examination exemption possibility. The motion was seconded but was defeated on a voice vote. Then the EPC report was accepted unanimously.

FACULTY RESEARCH

Professor George Harris presented the report and there were no questions.

Dean Lutzer congratulated the Faculty for their participation in the curriculum review and the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Moore

Barbara Moore,
Secretary Pro-tem