

Minutes of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences
The College of William and Mary

September 3, 2002,
Millington 150

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. by Dean Geoffrey Feiss.

I. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the May 7, 2002 meeting were approved as posted.

II. Elections

Nominations and Elections Committee

Area II (two members for three-year terms)

- X Leisa Meyer (History/Women's Studies)
Michael Deschenes (Kinesiology)
- X William Fisher (Anthropology)
Harvey Langholtz (Psychology)

Area III (one member for three-year term)

- George Rublein (Mathematics)
- X Gina Hoatson (Physics)

III. Report of Administrative Officers

Provost Gillian Cell discussed the recent request from Governor Warner for three contingency plans for cutting the university's 2002-2003 budget by an additional 7%, 11%, and 15%. Such cuts would involve reductions in the E & G budget of \$2.8 million, about \$4.5 million, and \$6.174 million respectively. Provost Cell noted that the E&G budget is about half of the university's total budget, that about half of the E&G budget comes from the state, and that 75-80% of the university's E&G budget is faculty and staff salaries. The three plans are due in the Governor's office by September 20, 2002. They will have the status of "Governor's working papers," and as such will be confidential. The Provost has asked all WM budget managers for prioritized plans for reducing their budgets by 7%, due September 6. She said that this round of budget cutting will follow last year's pattern: the President will send frequent emails with information about the process, and later in September there will be community meetings to discuss the issues. The Budget and Planning Advisory Committee will work extensively on planning the cuts.

After her presentation, the Provost took several questions. One was whether the university could solicit from donors contributions that could offset the budget cuts. The difficulty there, Provost Cell replied, is that donors typically give money for special items such as capital projects and not for standard operating expenses. Another question was about the possibility of admitting more students to bring in extra tuition money. That is being considered, she answered. To the question of when the plan for cutting the budget will be finalized, Provost Cell said that the Governor wants to complete the process quickly, perhaps in October. Reliable sources in Richmond, she said, think that the cut will be higher than 7%.

Turning to good news, Provost Cell noted that the incoming Class of 2006 had higher academic qualifications than last year's class. The proportion of in-state to out-of-state state students

remains about 65%/35%. Through a FIPSE grant, the College of William and Mary has established the National Institute for American History and Democracy. Run by Prof. James Whittenburg and Carolyn Whittenburg, the Institute offers two programs: a four-week summer pre-collegiate program, and a semester-long collegiate program open to students from other universities and to W&M students. The pre-collegiate program ran for the first time in July 2002. It attracted 150 applications, from which 51 students were accepted, all of whom came. The program was very intensive, involving three weeks of daily field trips to places like Jamestown, and extensive reading and writing assignments. The student evaluations of the program gave it very high marks. The collegiate program has just begun.

IV. Introduction of New Faculty

Dean Feiss asked each department/program chair to introduce new faculty members with information on their backgrounds and areas of expertise.

V. Report of the Faculty Affairs Committee

Prof. Rex Kincaid gave a brief presentation on Arts and Sciences faculty involvement in the budget planning process. Three groups are involved officially:

CoPaR the Committee on Planning and Resources

BPAC the Budget Planning Advisory Committee

BAG the Budget Advisory Group.

For questions about any of these groups, faculty may go to askfac@wm.edu.

In the absence of Old Business or New Business, the Dean adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m. Immediately following was a wine-and-cheese reception for new Arts and Sciences faculty members.

Respectfully submitted,

John Morreall
Professor of Religion