

**Minutes of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences  
The College of William and Mary  
March 14, 2006  
Millington 150**

The meeting was called to order at 3:34 p.m. by Dean Carl Strikwerda.

**I. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the February 7, 2005 meeting were approved contingent upon the incorporation of the following revision to be made to Part V concerning the SACS Quality Enhancement Project: in references to the junior or senior year small group experience that is the subject of the QEP demonstration project the word "proposal" shall replace the word "requirement" wherever appropriate.

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/minutes/20060207.pdf>

**II. Nominations and Elections Committee Report, Steve Knudson**

Steve Knudson (Chemistry) reported on progress made with electronic voting. He mentioned that steps had been taken to address issues raised by a small number of people who said that they had been unable to use the e-mailed link to vote in the previous election. He urged faculty to bookmark the election URL for future use. He then presented the slate of candidates for the March committee elections:

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/nominationelection/20060314.pdf>

- A. Election to the Retention, Promotion, and Tenure Committee:  
(Area I, 3 year term, 2006-09, vote for one)  
Susan Donaldson (English), John Morreall (Religious Studies)  
(Area II, 3 year term, 2006-09, vote for one)  
Christopher Howard (Government), Carl Moody (Economics)
- B. Election to the Educational Policy Committee:  
(Area I, 3 year term, 2006-09, vote for one)  
Rob Leventhal (Modern Languages & Literatures), Steve Holliday (Theatre, Speech, and Dance)  
(Area II, 3 year term, 2006-09, vote for one)  
Grey Gundaker (Anthropology), Gail Bossenga (History)  
(Area III, 3 year term, 2006-09, vote for one)  
Christopher Carone (Physics), JC Poutsma (Chemistry)
- C. Election to the Committee on Academic Status:  
(Area III, 3 year term, 2006-09, vote for one)  
Carey Bagdassarian (Chemistry), Robert Pike (Chemistry)
- D. Election to the Procedural Review Committee (vote for one, one 4 year term, 2006-10, 2 years active + 2 years as alternate, vote for one):  
  
Christopher Abelt (Chemistry)  
Robert Noonan (Computer Science)

There were no nominations from the floor and nominations were closed. Knudson also noted that the planned election of an Area II representative to the Committee on Academic Status would be postponed because one of the candidates nominated was not from Area II.

### **III. Reports of Administrative Officers**

- A. Provost Geoff Feiss. The Provost reminded the Faculty that the SACS on-site visit team was due to arrive in six weeks and he explained that the visit would be structured primarily around pre-arranged appointments. He also reported on the reconvening of the General Assembly, which would have to resolve the issue of transportation before a final budget could be approved but noted that all versions of the proposed budget were generous with respect to higher education in general and William and Mary in particular. He also reported on the upcoming meeting of the University Priorities Committee—the first time a faculty committee would see budget requests from all academic and non-academic departments and be able to make recommendations to the Budget Committee. He then reported that the Faculty Assembly had approved the proposed Retirement Incentive Program, which represents the codification of a practice in place for 15 years. The Provost concluded his remarks with a report on the formation of a special committee to advise on matters related to the Community College Transfer Program, which is part of the restructuring agreement with the Commonwealth.
- B. Dean Carl Strikwerda. The Dean reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee had met with the President and that the President would continue meeting with departments with the goal of visiting all departments by the end of the next academic year. The Dean also reported on a meeting with the new Vice President for Development, Sean Pieri. He stated that he expected to fill vacancies in most of the 26 searches currently underway and noted that there were five fewer faculty resignations during the current academic year compared to the preceding year (2 as opposed to 7). He concluded his remarks with a report on development-related issues including a trip to New York and a recent meeting with the Endowment Association, which he has urged to create an academic committee similar to the existing committee on athletics.

### **IV. Graduate Studies Committee Report, Dean Laurie Sanderson**

Dean Sanderson summarized the main points of the Graduate Studies Committee Report for 2005:

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/gradstudies/Annual%20Report%20-%202005.pdf>

She stressed the importance of the graduate programs (400 students in 12 departments and programs) to the College's mission and noted that the graduate programs helped to determine the College's peer group institutions and stated that a large percentage of the indirect cost recovery from outside research grants came from departments and programs with graduate programs. She reported on critical issues such as the need to increase graduate stipends, the activities of the Arts & Sciences Graduate Advisory Board (a committee of alumni), changes to the annual Graduate Research Symposium (greater number of presentations, regional nature of the American Cultures Conference), and the activities of the Graduate Center (grant workshops, Raft Debate, ESL programs).

### **V. Arts and Sciences Space Planning Committee, Dean Joel Schwartz**

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/other/FinalSpaceCommReportFeb1406.pdf>

Dean Schwartz began with a description of the Committee's work, which included reports from all A&S departments and programs, collaboration with administrative units, and consultation with facilities use experts. He stressed that it was important that A&S speak with one voice regarding its plans to make the best use of space to open up on campus by the School of Education's move to the old hospital and the School of Business' move to its new building. He reported that the use of "learning spaces" was the main theme of the Committee's report and remarked that there was presently a mismatch between how we teach and how current learning space is configured. He then introduced the four main summary conclusions of the report, which the Faculty would be asked to endorse separately:

1. We recommend that the College institutionalize its commitment to excellence in teaching by assigning *the highest priority* to the creation of quality classrooms, teaching labs, and other learning spaces. It is important to both commit appropriate resources to this task and to clarify who is responsible for accomplishing it.
2. It is also to create flexible spaces, some of which remain controlled by the Dean of the Faculty, which will serve the anticipated growth in faculty/faculty and faculty/student research collaborations.
3. The Committee describes two feasible space allocation plans. The central elements of our preferred plan are: Economics, Government, and Public Policy will move to a renovated Tyler Hall; Anthropology will move to Morton Hall; Classical Studies will move to the first floor of Washington Hall; and the second floor of Blow will house a coordinated set of interdisciplinary programs, including the Charles Center, American Studies, Women's Studies, Black Studies, and The Sharpe Program. The central elements of our alternative plan are: Anthropology will move to Tyler with Sociology; and Economics, Government, and Public Policy will stay in Morton. In other respects the two plans are the same.
4. The Committee has interpreted its mission to be restricted to a consideration of space needs that can be met by relocations made possible by the moves of Education and Business. Needs that can be met only by new from-the-ground building projects, for instance, especially where plans for these projects are already underway, will not be addressed in this report. The fact that we are bracketing these projects does not imply that the committee regards them as having a low priority. Indeed, the committee believes that the sequential build-out of the Integrated Science Center and construction of the Fine and Performing Arts building are among the highest priorities for Arts and Sciences.

Discussion of the motion to endorse Conclusion 1 centered what it meant to designate the creation of quality learning spaces as the "highest" priority. Schwartz explained that this was the highest priority only with regard to space planning, not College-wide. He also noted that it constituted the highest space planning priority only with respect to the availability of new space in Jones, Tyler, and part of Blow. The motion to endorse Conclusion 1 passed (voice vote).

In presenting Conclusion 2, Schwartz and Strikwerda explained that the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences needed to retain control over some office and learning space so that it would be available for term-specific teaching and research collaborations. The motion to endorse Conclusion 2 passed (voice vote).

Conclusion 3 generated extensive and lively discussion. Tomoko Hamada (Anthropology) maintained that her department's needs, and particularly those of its Ph.D. program, would best be met if it could stay in Washington, where a major renovation of the first floor had been completed 15 years earlier and where the renovation of the attic, undertaken at the request of her department, was scheduled to begin in the summer. She concluded her remarks by stating that if her department had to leave Washington, it would prefer to go to Tyler as specified in the second plan so as to be closer to departments with which it had closer intellectual relations. Ronald St. Onge (Modern Languages) said that he shared Anthropology's concerns but urged the faculty not to question what was to be done with the rest of Washington, where his department, the College's second largest, was slated to remain. J. Timmons Roberts (Sociology) noted the interdisciplinary synergy between his department, Economics, Government, and Public Policy, and argued that it would be good to keep them together in either Morton or in Blow. Michael Blakey (Anthropology) questioned the logistical and economic feasibility of moving Anthropology labs out of Washington into a refitted Morton, and he asked why his department hadn't been consulted more about their needs and requirements. Schwartz responded that a facilities expert had been consulted and had concluded that Morton would be appropriate, especially if one considered a number of alternatives for converting existing classrooms into labs. He noted that Anthropology would be fully consulted during the implementation phase of the move and renovations. Eric Jensen (Public Policy & Economics) spoke in favor of the first preferred plan noting that Public Policy, Economics, and Government formed a cohesive unit and ought to stay together, but were too big to stay in Morton without taking away classroom space. Schwartz responded that both square footage and department and program size were among the factors taken into consideration.

Connie Pilkington (Psychology) asked for a clarification of what the Faculty was voting on. Dean Strikwerda responded that the it was being asked to speak in one voice and to give the Provost and the College Advisory Committee on Space compelling reasons to accept its proposals for the use of the space to open up, but added that the degree of freedom A&S would have in implementing the plan would ultimately depend on the authority it is given. Keith Griffioen (Physics) asked if the meeting was the most appropriate place to decide which departments went to given buildings and suggested that this matter might best be left to department chairs to hash out amongst themselves.

George Grayson (Government) proposed an amendment striking the last three lines from Conclusion 3. There were further comments regarding the most appropriate setting for discussions of regroupings of units that would share space. Ron Rapoport (Government) suggested that some people were perhaps acting as if this meeting were the first time this issue had been raised when in fact there had been ample time for units to work together on common proposals before the publication of the report. Dean Strikwerda suggested that the debate should focus on Grayson's amendment. Clyde Haulman (Economics) spoke in favor of it arguing that it would better if only one plan went forward. Grayson accepted a friendly amendment from Dean Schwartz to strike the first line of Conclusion 3 in his motion. Grayson's amendment failed 24 to 26 in a hand vote.

Discussion returned to the issue of the original motion to endorse Conclusion 3. Dean Strikwerda observed that the Faculty could eventually decide to table the discussion of Conclusion 3. Mike Tierney (Government) said that the principles of good governance would not allow us empower a handful of department heads to make decisions concerning the common good. Heather Macdonald (Geology) suggested that more time could be taken to think through some of the specifics and that perhaps three plans could subsequently be debated. Clay Clemens (Government) asked if previous moves had been decided in a similar fashion, based on general space needs without specific cost estimates. Tony Anemone (Modern Languages) argued that it would not be right to simply let the chairs of effected departments and programs to work out the details amongst themselves because their decisions would in turn effect departments not mentioned as moving and he also stressed that the time for alternative proposals had passed.

The motion to endorse Conclusion 3 passed 34 to 13 in a hand vote.

Dean Schwartz reiterated the intent of Conclusion 4. Eric Bradley (Applied Science & Biology) pointed out that the failure to complete the construction of the Integrated Science Center as planned would change everything and render the Committee's recommendations obsolete. Katherine Preston (Music) said that the same could be said of the planned new arts facilities. The motion to endorse Conclusion 4 passed by voice vote.

## **VI. Faculty Assembly Report, Alan Fuchs**

Fuchs (Philosophy) reported that the Faculty Assembly had heard from the Provost, whom he thanked for moving forward with the revised SSRL proposal. He said that the FA had also heard from President Nichol on the President's idea of the great public university.

## **VII. Faculty Affairs Committee Report, Terry Meyers**

Meyers (English) reported that the FAC continued its weekly meetings with the Dean. It also met with Joel Schwartz to discuss the recommendations of the Committee on Space Planning. It advised Sam Sadler on the desirability of keeping Blow Out activities at a remove from academic buildings and began to work with the Dean on a revision of memoranda concerning tenure and promotion. It also spoke to the Registrar regarding the feature of Banner allowing all faculty members to access information about all students at the College. Meyers noted that the highlight of the past month's FAC meetings was its February 28 meeting with President Nichol. He said that FAC members emerged from the meeting with a strong sense of confidence in the President. He said that the FAC emphasized the importance of maintaining a strong undergraduate program and suggested that growth in faculty positions could be a way to achieve this goal, particularly in light of the staffing needs that would be created by the new SSRL program. Meyers indicated that the FAC told the President that a structural link between his office and the faculty, such as the inclusion of a faculty member in his command structure, would be of great interest to A&S. The meeting with the President concluded with a discussion of the

pressing need for large private donations that could help A&S by funding research and professional travel, rotating term professorships, and projects for building renovations and new construction.

Dean Strikwerda adjourned the meeting at 5:23 p.m.

**Addendum: Election Results**

On March 21, 2006, Steve Knudson, Chair of the Committee on Nominations and Elections, formally notified the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of the following election results:

Retention, Promotion, and Tenure Committee—Area I

✓ Susan Donaldson

Retention, Promotion, and Tenure Committee—Area II

✓ Christopher Howard

Educational Policy Committee—Area I

✓ Steve Holliday

Educational Policy Committee—Area II

✓ Gail Bossenga

Educational Policy Committee—Area III

✓ JC Poutsma

Committee on Academic Status—Area III

✓ Carey Bagdassarian

Procedural Review Committee

✓ Christopher Abelt

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Leruth

Associate Professor of Modern Languages and Literatures