

**Minutes of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences
The College of William and Mary
December 5, 2006
Millington 150**

Dean Carl Strikwerda called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

I. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the November 7, 2006 meeting were approved as posted.

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/minutes/20061107.pdf>

II. Nominations and Elections Committee Report, Bent Owens

Owens (Geology) presented the slate of candidates for the two December committee elections:

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/nominationelection/20061205.pdf>

A. Election to the Faculty Affairs Committee:

Area I, 2-year term, 2007-2009, vote for one:

Anne Rasmussen (Music)

John Moreall (Religious Studies)

Area II, 3-year term, 2007-2010, vote for one:

David Dessler (Government)

Berhanu Abegaz (Economics)

Area III, 3-year term, 2007-2010, vote for one:

Gene Tracy (Physics)

Stephen Knudson (Chemistry)

B. Election to the Educational Policy Committee:

Semester replacement, spring 2007, Area III, vote for one:

Bob Pike (Chemistry)

Evgenia Smirni (Computer Science)

III. Reports of Administrative Officers

Provost Geoff Feiss. Provost Feiss reported that the state budget was due out in less than two weeks and that there were not yet any signals about its provisions. He said that the College was still pressuring the Attorney General on approval of its Faculty Retirement Transition Program. He then reported that in the spring the College would have to justify the composition of its peer group, which he termed an important and time-consuming negotiation with SCHEV. He explained that SCHEV generated its own list based on a statistical model that included such items as the size of the student body and the number and type of degrees but not such important qualitative items as the institutions with which we compete in the area of faculty recruiting. The College's role is to come up with its own list based on factors it considered important and to persuade SCHEV to accept that list.

Dean Carl Strikwerda. Dean Strikwerda reported on the completion of 13 tenure and promotion cases, 5 newly funded professorships, several internal searches, and the search for a distinguished associate professor position. He also discussed the upcoming inaugural William & Mary Semester in Washington. He then announced that the search for a replacement for A&S Planning Analyst Kelly Lockeman had been completed. The person hired is Carol MacVaugh, a CPA with Banner experience. The Dean then invited faculty to

consider submitting budget requests to the Faculty University Priorities Committee. He said that M and O money and graduate stipends were to be two of the committee's priorities. He addressed faculty concerns about disruptive behavior in the classroom during "Blowout." He reiterated that faculty members have control over their classroom and should call campus police if disruptive, uninvited people refuse to leave when asked. He concluded his remarks by reporting that an architect had been picked for the Small Hall building project and by inviting the faculty to attend the Ewell Hall Deans' annual holiday party.

III. Educational Policy Committee Report, Ray McCoy

McCoy (Kinesiology) reported the committee's approval of 5 new courses, 11 course changes, and small curricular changes in 5 departments. He also reported that 5 GER course additions had been approved. He then stated that the GER 5, 7, and Freshman Seminar assessment working group reports had been completed and forwarded to EPC, and said that the assessments of GER 3 and 6 were ongoing. He then reported that the maximum number of allowable summer session credits had been increased from 7 to 8. He also reported that the creation of non-credit courses for hard-to-track undergraduate research was under discussion, as was the evaluation of the DIL. Dean Pratt answered a question about the failure rate in the DIL: 10%.

IV. Committee on Academic Status Report, James Armstrong

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/academicstatus/Annual%20Report%202005-2006.pdf>

J. Armstrong (Music) reported that there was a drop in the number of students on academic probation in 2005-2006 who met standards or continued probation compared to the previous year and that there was a fairly large increase in the number of non-probation/continuance petitions made to the committee. The number of requests made to the Medical Review Committee, however, remained constant.

V. Faculty Assembly Report, David Armstrong

D. Armstrong (Physics) gave an update on the ongoing revisions of the Faculty Handbook, the first round of which has been completed. He reviewed the composition of the ad hoc writing committee as well as the approval process for the revisions. He reminded the faculty that the Provost's goal was to see the revisions completed by the end of the year and invited all interested faculty members to consult and comment on the changes posted on the FA website. In response to a comment from Terry Meyers (English), Armstrong said that Colleen Kennedy (English, faculty rep to BOV, ad hoc committee chair) would highlight the substantive changes among those posted. Meyers also said that he wanted an AAUP member to review the changes.

V. Faculty Affairs Committee Report, Terry Meyers

Meyers reported on the FAC's meeting with Dean Sue Peterson as well as a subsequent committee meeting concerning undergraduate student research, with special attention to the need to the document that research in a database on Banner. He said that one issue discussed was the need to come up with a precise definition of undergraduate student research including elements such as faculty mentorship and paper/poster presentation that could be captured in specific fields in the database. Meyers then reported that FAC had advised the Dean on an outside-the-department appointment to a personnel committee in a department with only one full professor. He also reported that the FAC reaffirmed its support for the policy that allows the Dean to make such appointment. He also said that the FAC had discussed and later wrote a letter to the President about the danger posed to students by "Blowout."

Meyers then presented the new language for Section A of Part B of the Bylaws of the newly created Study Abroad Committee pertaining to membership on the committee. The new language provides for the Director of Global Studies' ex officio, non-voting membership on the committee and charges the Dean to consider the departments and programs that are the greatest contributors to study abroad when determining appointments to the committee. He thanked Bill Fisher (Anthropology) and Ron St. Onge (Modern Languages) for their help in coming up with the new language. The proposed new language was approved as drafted:

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/other/Study%20Abroad%20Comm.%20Bylaws%202006.pdf>

Addendum: Election Results

On December 12, 2006, Brent Owens, Chair of the Committee on Nominations and Elections, formally notified the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of the following election results:

Faculty Affairs, Area I

✓ Anne Rasmussen

Faculty Affairs, Area II

✓ David Dessler

Faculty Affairs, Area III

✓ Gene Tracy

Educational Policy, Area III, spring 2007 replacement

✓ Evgenia Smirni

There was no new business raised at the meeting.

Dean Strikwerda adjourned the meeting at 4:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Leruth

Associate Professor of Modern Languages and Literatures