

**Minutes of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences
The College of William and Mary
March 6, 2007
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 February meeting were approved as posted.

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/minutes/20070206.pdf>

II. Nominations and Elections Committee Report, Bent Owens

Owens (Geology) presented the slate of candidates for the three March elections:

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/nominationelection/20070306.pdf>

A. Election to the Retention, Promotion, and Tenure Committee:

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

Will Hausman (Economics)

Larry Ventis (Psychology)

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

David Armstrong (Physics)

Rex Kincaid (Math)

B. Election to the Educational Policy Committee:

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

Maureen Fitzgerald (Religious Studies)

Patricia Wesp (Theatre, Speech, and Dance)

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

John Nelzek (Psychology)

Gul Ozyegin (Sociology)

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

Chris Carone (Physics)

Rob Hinkle (Math)

C. Election of the Faculty Affairs Committee Chair

1-year term, 2007-2008, vote to decline or accept

Margaret Saha (Biology)

There were no nominations from the floor; nominations were closed.

III. Reports of Administrative Officers

Provost Geoff Feiss. Provost Feiss announced that he would be leaving the meeting early in order to attend a press conference at which the President's Committee on the Role of Religion in a Private University was to report on a late-night meeting at which a compromise on the Wren Chapel cross controversy—unanimously accepted by the Committee, the President, and the BOV—had been worked out (he specified that he was not at liberty to offer more details). He then reported that the Virginia GA had approved a budget including a 4% faculty salary increase and offering the College an additional \$185,000 provided that it did not raise undergraduate in-state tuition by more than 6%; he said that the concept of

a political incentive for lower tuition increases (the additional sum is roughly equal to a 1% increase) was interesting and the that College would study the its possible ramifications before accepting. He said that the budget was quite favorable to undergraduate financial aid, VIMS, the Law School and the new Admissions center, and included \$5.35 million for the School of Education construction project on the former Sentara Hospital site. He noted, however, that the College did not receive as much as it had hoped for the completion of the Integrated Science Center—in particular, in the area of equipping the building—but stated that the College had a strategy that would get it through the problem in time for the first phase of occupation.

The Provost then reported that the College had heard back from the Virginia Attorney General's office on the Faculty Retirement Transition Program: the AG proposed several changes in wording, which Assistant Coordinator of Legal Affairs Kiersten Boyce will review. The Provost added that the changes were not substantive and would not have to be resubmitted to the BOV for approval.

Dean Carl Strikwerda. Dean Strikwerda reported that his office was half-way through its hiring of new faculty members and was currently reviewing 20 third-year pre-tenure files—a record number; and he noted that RPT was working on the full professor promotion cases. He also reported that the SSRL replacements for 2007-08 had been approved and that there had been a meeting with the Faculty University Priorities Committee to discuss budget priorities. He then offered an update on the program review process: the first cluster of departments and programs comprised of Classical Studies, Philosophy, and Religious Studies is now undergoing review and a second cluster comprised of Modern Languages and Global Studies will be reviewed in 2007-08. He reminded the faculty that that a team of five persons would conduct set of reviews. The Dean concluded his remarks by announcing that the April faculty meeting would be conducted in an open Q&A/town hall meeting format devoted any important issues of interest to the faculty.

IV. Committee on Graduate Studies Report, Dean Laurie Sanderson

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/gradstudies/Annual%20Report%20-%20January-December%202006.pdf>

Dean Sanderson presented highlights of the annual report for 2006. She opened by reiterating the different ways in which graduate programs were important to the A&S and the College: enhancement of undergraduate education, impact on our SCHEV peer group classification, research overhead recovery (85% of recovered funds come from departments/programs with graduate programs—a major funding source for SSRLs), faculty recruitment and retention, and development. She went on to summarize some of the Committee's main priorities. The highest priority was improving graduate stipends—the current stipend was more than \$2,500 below the mean offered by our SCHEV peer group—something she considered a major impediment to our ability to compete for top graduate students. She then reported on the work of the Graduate Studies Advisory Board, an alumni body that had put together a graduate recruitment fellowship pilot program and was looking at mechanisms for alumni outreach. Dean Sanderson then discussed changes made to the Graduate Research Symposium, which was held jointly with the American Cultures Conference in 2006 and was now opening its doors to a limited number of participants from other institutions. She announced that the 2007 edition of the Symposium, to be held March 30-31, would feature a number of special guest speakers, including Nobel Laureate William Phillips speaking on “Quantum Information.” She concluded her remarks by summarizing the activities of the Graduate Center. She noted that two editions of the Raft Debate would be held in 2007-08 (following the cancellation of this year's edition) and also reported that the 2007 Summer English Program would be administered by the Law School.

V. Faculty Research Committee Report, Bill Cooke

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/facultyresearchcommittee/Annual%20Report%20-%20March%202006.pdf>

Cooke (Physics) said that the majority of the Committee's time was devoted to the approval of departmental definitions of “research active” faculty (the definitions submitted by 17 out of 22 A&S departments had been approved so far). He then reported that Committee had decided to fund 40 out of 45 summer research grant proposals submitted for 2007—all grant proposals rated as “excellent.” He said that since more money was available this year, a number of the funded proposals had been submitted by senior faculty members. Without offering guarantees for next year, Cooke said that senior faculty should not be told that it was not worth applying.

VI. Faculty Assembly Report, Terry Meyers

Filling in for David Armstrong (Physics), Meyers (English) reported on the last FA meeting, at which Alan Meese (Law School) reported on the BOV meeting devoted to the Wren Chapel cross controversy and the creation of the Committee on

Religion in a Public University. Another issue taken up was that of giving the faculty a greater voice on development matters. Meyers then reported on the ongoing revisions to the Faculty handbook, noting that Colleen Kennedy regularly consulted with Bill Van Alstyne (Law School) for insights on the changes from an AAUP viewpoint.

VII. Faculty Affairs Committee Report, Terry Meyers

Meyers reported on the three FAC meeting held since the FAS meeting in February. At one meeting, it invited David Kranbuehl (Chemistry) to discuss a proposal for a committee to gather and disseminate data so that faculty could be more informed about issues related to budgets and funding priorities. The goal of the committee would be to synthesize data available from the Office of Institutional Research and the office of Vice President Sam Jones, and create more transparent budget databases/reports for faculty use. FAC endorsed the proposal and sent it to Katherine Kulick (Modern Languages) for possible consideration by the FA. Meyers also reported that FAC had reviewed with the Dean an analysis of faculty retention and resignations and discussed with him impending capital projects, including the renovation of Tucker Hall and the Integrated Science Center, and pointed out the urgent need for a new arts complex. Meyers said that the Committee had also met with Dean Sue Peterson for a review of progress in making Banner useful for the tracking of undergraduate research and he added that it had had a lively discussion of the role of undergraduate research. Among other matters, the Committee also endorsed Dean Strikwerda's idea of an open forum at the April meeting where all matters would be on the table and faculty could ask any questions they wish. Meyers concluded his remarks by reporting that the Dean and the FAC were to meet with President Nichol on March 20 to discuss a range of matters.

Dean Strikwerda adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Addendum: Election Results

On March 13, 2007, Brent Owens, 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, Area II

✓ Will Hausman

Retention, Promotion, and Tenure, Area III

✓ David Armstrong

Educational Policy, Area I

✓ Maureen Fitzgerald

Educational Policy, Area II

✓ Gul Ozyegin

Educational Policy, Area III

✓ Chris Carone

Faculty Affairs Chair

✓ Margaret Saha

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Leruth

Associate Professor of Modern Languages and Literatures