

**Minutes**  
**Faculty of Arts and Sciences**  
**Tuesday, May 5, 2009**  
**3:30 p.m.**  
**Millington 150**

*Dean Carl Strikwerda called the meeting to order at 3:36 pm.*

**I. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting on April 7, 2009, were approved as posted:

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/fas/minutes/20090407.pdf>

**II. Report of Administrative Officers**

Dean Carl Strikwerda reported that after a \$152,000 base cut last year the faculty is facing a \$312,000 reduction in the coming year, which at this point is a one-time cut, but the possibility of it becoming a base cut is not to be excluded. This uncertainty makes it difficult to commit to new faculty hires at this point, but the dean will be working with the administration and the new provost to authorize as many searches as possible. Top priority will be given to searches that were cancelled or unfilled this year. The dean also noted that the Strategic Planning process was continuing and that there were two searches underway or planned to fill positions in the deanery: for Dean of Educational Policy and for Assistant to the Dean. The dean expressed his appreciation to the job done by the current incumbents of those posts, Kim Phillips and Betty Sandy respectively.

Provost Geoffrey Feiss, speaking at his last A&S meeting, reported that an important activity over the summer would be the development of a draft implementation plan for Strategic planning goals. That draft will come back to the Planning Steering Committee and deans before implementation, so around August and September there will be an opportunity to revisit any issues requiring further deliberation.

The faculty gave Provost Feiss a minute-long ovation in appreciation of his service to the college.

**III. Nominations and Elections, A&S Committee Elections**

Reporting for the committee Larry Ventis (Psychology) presented the slate of nominees for openings on the Faculty Hearing Committee and the Retention, Promotion and Tenure Committee. Prof. Ventis explained that election for the Faculty Hearing Committee was a run-off of a tie vote on the previous ballot.

With no further nominations from the floor, nominations were closed, and Prof. Ventis announced that on-line voting would commence later that evening.

Posted list of nominees:

<http://web.wm.edu/as/committees/nominations/reports/20090505.pdf>

#### **IV. Report from the Educational Policy Committee**

J.C. Poutsma (Chemistry) presented highlights from the committee's posted report.

Posted report:

[http://web.wm.edu/as/committees/educationalpolicy/reports/Annual\\_Report\\_2008-2009.pdf](http://web.wm.edu/as/committees/educationalpolicy/reports/Annual_Report_2008-2009.pdf)

#### **V. Report of the Faculty Affairs Committee**

Anne Rasmussen (Music) reported that the committee was currently engaged in recruiting appointees and nominees for a number of committee posts. On the docket for upcoming meetings were the following topics: reconsidering the faculty's committee structure and bylaws, assessment, the definition of undergraduate research, transitions in the dean's office. Prof. Rasmussen solicited input on these issues from the faculty, either in person to any committee member or via the committee's e-mail address [askfac@wm.edu](mailto:askfac@wm.edu). Finally, Prof. Rasmussen noted that next year's committee would include Sophia Serghi (Music) and Rex Kincaid (Mathematics) as new members, and Berhanu Abegaz (Economics/Africana Studies) will be serving as chair.

#### **VI. Report from the Faculty Assembly**

Barbette Spaeth (Classical Studies) reported that the committee had recently held internal elections: Gene Tracy (Physics/Applied Science) was elected president, Kate Slevin (Sociology) vice president and Michael DiPaola (Education) secretary. The committee had had recent hosted presentations from Mary Molineux (Swem Library) on the new Professional and Professional Faculty Assembly, Sean Pieri (Vice President, Development) on the recent alumni survey (from which Prof. Spaeth reported the interesting findings that 4% of our alumni think that William & Mary is a private institution and 50% think we are adequately funded by the state), and Katherine Kulick (Modern Languages) on the faculty survey planned for the fall. Other topics recently discussed by the committee include the following: FA's role in the Strategic Planning process, the possibility of instituting a faculty club, and the possible formation of a campus-wide study-abroad committee, a proposal which the committee returned to the FA Subcommittee on Academic Affairs for further consideration.

#### **VII. Educational Policy Report - Discussion and Vote on the Proposed Name**

## Change of Kinesiology

J.C. Poutsma (Chemistry) presented a motion of the Educational Policy Committee to change the name of the Department of Kinesiology to the Department of Kinesiology and Health Sciences, and invited Ken Kambis (Kinesiology) to speak to the rationale for the change. Prof. Kambis stated that the change reflects an evolution in the research focus of the department's faculty over the last several years, and that the change would be beneficial to students in applying for jobs and graduate study and to faculty in applying for grants.

The proposal as posted prior to the meeting:

[http://web.wm.edu/as/committees/educationalpolicy/reports/Kinesiology\\_Name\\_Change\\_4\\_20\\_09.pdf](http://web.wm.edu/as/committees/educationalpolicy/reports/Kinesiology_Name_Change_4_20_09.pdf)

In response to questions, Prof. Poutsma and Dean Strikwerda clarified that concomitant curricular changes had already been approved by EPC, but the name change needed the approval of faculty and SCHEV.

Paul Heideman (Biology) speaking for what he said was a majority of the faculty in his department, expressed opposition to the motion. His objections included the following: that there were more life-science researchers at the college outside the department of Kinesiology than within it; that it was ill-advised for one department to adopt the title of a field that was intrinsically interdisciplinary; that as an alternative the creation of an interdisciplinary life-sciences program could be considered, and that the proposal had gone forward with insufficient campus-wide consultation. Other members of the Biology department also spoke both in opposition and in favor of the motion, as did members of other departments.

Bill Cooke (Physics) moved that the motion be tabled until the faculty could engage in the broader curricular review envisioned in Strategic Planning goals. Opponents of this motion argued that the curricular review could take years and would unnecessarily postpone the benefits of the change for students and researchers. A voice vote was held and the motion to table was **DEFEATED**.

On the main motion a vote was held by a show of hands. Forty-six were in favor and twenty-five opposed; the motion **PASSED**.

## VIII. Educational Policy Report - Discussion and Vote on the Community Studies Minor

A second motion from the Educational Policy Committee was the creation of a new interdisciplinary minor in Community Studies.

The proposal as posted prior to the meeting:

[http://web.wm.edu/as/committees/educationalpolicy/reports/Community\\_Studies](http://web.wm.edu/as/committees/educationalpolicy/reports/Community_Studies)

[Minor Catalog Entry.pdf](#)

Joel Schwartz (Dean of Honors and Interdisciplinary Studies) spoke in support of the motion, stating that it was an expansion of the idea of the Sharpe Program and was designed to support community-based research in any field. In response to questions, Dean Schwartz assured the faculty that any additional faculty commitments specific to the minor could be handled by the two current Sharpe professors and that otherwise no additional resources or expenses would be required.

The motion was **PASSED** by unanimous voice vote.

**IX. Discussion and Vote on Proposal to Establish a Joint Degree Program with St. Andrew's University of St. Andrew's Scotland**

Dean Strikwerda called for and received a motion to bring to the floor a proposal to create a joint degree program with St. Andrew's University.

The proposal as posted prior to the meeting:

[http://web.wm.edu/as/dean/fas/documents/st\\_andrews.pdf](http://web.wm.edu/as/dean/fas/documents/st_andrews.pdf)

Laurie Koloski (Director of the Reves Center) spoke in favor of the proposal as one of its authors, explaining the genesis of the idea, the similarities of the two institutions, the selection of the W&M programs (Economics, History and International Relations) in which the joint degree would initially be offered, and how the joint-degree program would operate. Also fortuitously present at the meeting was Stephen McGee, Vice-Principal for External Relations at St. Andrew's, who also spoke to the benefits of the proposal and answered questions from a St. Andrew's perspective.

In discussion numerous concerns were raised, including the following: whether it was fair and proper to charge Virginia students in the program out-of-state tuition even when they are studying at William & Mary; how the costs of studying at St. Andrew's compared to those at W&M; whether the early declaration of concentration required by the program was consistent with W&M philosophy; whether the expectations for incoming students were comparable at the two institutions, and (from J.C. Poutsma speaking on behalf of the Educational Policy Committee) whether breadth requirements at St. Andrew's could be reconciled with W&M's GER's.

In response to these concerns supporters of the proposal noted that students would not be required to stay in the program if they found the additional cost burdensome or if they decided to change concentrations.

To address the concerns over GER's vs. St. Andrew's breadth requirements, Sarah Stafford (Economics) proposed as an amendment the following addition to the proposal:

*In consultation with the FAC, the Dean shall appoint an ad hoc St.*

*Andrew's Review Committee, composed of three faculty members, representing all three areas, who have not been involved in the Joint Degree proposal and two faculty members from the Joint Degree Program Committee. The ad hoc committee will report to the Dean and FAC in August with a completed general education curriculum for the three departments and programs in the Joint Degree Program and a mechanism whereby other departments or programs will have curricula approved for inclusion in the Joint Degree Program. With the approval of FAC, the ad hoc committee's report will be provided to the Faculty of Arts & Sciences at its September meeting.*

In support of this amendment Provost Feiss noted that time was of the essence for the main proposal since the joint degree program, if approved by the faculty, would subsequently need approval of the BOV and SCHEV

A voice vote was held on the subsidiary motion and the Stafford Amendment **PASSED** unanimously.

A voice vote was then held on the main motion, as amended, and it **PASSED** unanimously as well.

#### **X. Recognition of Retiring Faculty**

The following chairs and department/program representatives paid tribute to the following members of our faculty who are retiring. *Macti virtute omnes!*

Eric Jensen (Economics/Public Policy) on **David Finifter**  
Terry Meyers (Philosophy) on **James Harris**  
Terry Meyers (English) on **Tom Heacox**  
Paul Heideman (Biology) on **Stewart Ware**  
Gary Rice (Chemistry) on **David Kranbuehl**  
Ron St. Onge (Modern Languages) on **Don Monson**  
Phil Daileader (History) on **Ismail Abdalla and Dale Hoak**

*The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 pm.*

Respectfully Submitted,

William Hutton, Secretary  
Associate Professor of Classical Studies  
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