

**Minutes of the Faculty Assembly
Regular Meeting
26 January 2002**

Name	Department	Present	Absent
Robert Archibald	Economics	X	
Jonathan Aries	Modern Languages		X
David Armstrong	Physics	X	
Lan Cao	Law	X	
Bob Diaz	Marine Science		X
Dorothy Finnegan	Education	X	
Alan Fuchs	Philosophy	X	
Keith Griffioen	Physics	X	
William Hausman	Economics	X	
Colleen Kennedy	English	X	
Katherine Kulick	Modern Languages	X	
John Lee	Law	X	
Bill O'Connell	Business	X	
John Olney	Marine Science		X
Roger Reis	Education	X	
Margaret Saha	Biology	X	
Laurie Sanderson	Biology	X	
Bill Stewart	Business	X	
Larry Ventis	Psychology	X	
Alan Ward	Government	X	

Alternates in attendance were: Bill Hawthorne and Dennis Taylor

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. The minutes of the meeting of 22 October 2001 were approved as distributed.

Administrative Reports: President Timothy Sullivan, Provost Gillian Cell, and Vice President for Budget Sam Jones reported on the state budget crisis. President Sullivan began with the good news--that the College was likely to receive bond funds for the renovation of several campus buildings--then explained that, due to a combination of economic recession and the last decade's fiscal decisions in Richmond, the College was facing a loss of almost \$10 million in its base funding over the next three years. He stressed that although the College would work to protect its employees and the character of the place, there would be no way to exempt the academic programs from these cuts. The Governor called for a plan for reductions by February 7th; President Sullivan emphasized that, until the state budget was finalized at the end of this year's General Assembly session, the *proposed* reductions would be exactly that--proposed. In closing, he urged to keep in mind that the staff was likely to be hardest hit, and that although these cuts will be deep, the College has faced and survived worse crises than this one.

Provost Cell noted that the February 7th due date had come as a surprise to most state agencies, and she outlined the ways that BPAC would try to meet the impending deadline. She emphasized that we would not cut across the board, but according to principles formulated at BPAC; she announced a College-wide faculty meeting to review the situation; and she reiterated the President's assertion that what we submitted to Richmond on the 7th would be only a plan, not a list of definite cuts. Finally, she announced that at the Suggestion of Assembly VP Robert Archibald, she has drafted a "primer" of the College's budget to go out to all faculty, showing that faculty and staff salaries comprised 80% of the budget we would have to cut.

Vice President Jones explained that the estimated revenue shortfall for Virginia for 2000-2002 is \$1.25 billion; for 2002-2004, \$2 billion; these numbers do not include approximately \$250 million in required state spending (for unemployment, e.g.). He then went on to presented the budgets proposed respectively by Governor Gilmore at the end of his term and then by Governor Warner at the beginning of his to address these shortfalls. Following a detailed explanation of Warner's amendments to Gilmore's proposals, he summarized the damage to the College: no salary increases, a 14.6% reduction in state support, a proposed 5% increase in tuition (as well as a 5% cap) which would revert to the state. The final figure, he estimated, assuming the tuition raise (and reversion) and including cuts to the equipment trust fund and eminent scholar budget, would be a loss of \$4.85 million by 2004.

In response to questions from the Assembly, the administrator replied that a different relationship with the state was unlikely; that the revenue projections were probably conservative; that our private peer institutions were doing fine, though our public peers were experiencing similar shortfalls. There was some discussion of the consequences of loss of faculty positions and cuts to programs.

Standing Committee Reports: Given the hour and the general depression in the room, there was only one committee report. The Executive Committee reported its approval of faculty members recommended for two committees: David Leslie (Education) and Bob Archibald (Economics) to serve on the ERP Oversight Committee; and Keith

Whitescarver (Education), Bill Hawthorne (Business), Keith Griffioen (Physics), Bill Fisher (Anthropology), and David Jaeger (Economics) to serve on the new Parking Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Colleen Kennedy, President
(for John Olney, Secretary)