

**Faculty Conference**  
**March 19, 1999**

**I. Minutes**

Minutes from the February 12, 1999, Faculty Conference were approved.

**II. Opening Remarks – Dr. Tom Moore**

Dr. Moore reported that to his knowledge, the only steps taken by the Board of Trustees towards selling the Cherry Road property was voting to seek authorization from the Budget and Control Board to accept offers: "At the board meetings where I've been in attendance, that is the action that has taken place." Dr. Moore said that faculty input indicates a strong wish for the acreage to remain undeveloped green space.

**III. Report from the President – Dr. Anthony J. DiGiorgio**

Dr. DiGiorgio was not in attendance. In his place, Dr. Moore reported that the bill providing discounted tuition for graduate students from neighboring North Carolina counties has passed the House of Representatives and must now pass the state Senate.

The budgets under consideration in the state legislature contain at least one million dollars for equipment for the new science building and renovated Sims. Although CHE ranked renovations to Peabody as the top academic priority for state institutions, the House Ways and Means Committee did not put Peabody on the list of recommended projects. The campaign for budget allocations, however, is not yet complete, Dr. Moore added; "The battle isn't done. We're not sure what's going to happen."

**IV. Report from the Vice-President of Academic Affairs – Dr. Melford Wilson**

Dr. Wilson was not in attendance.

**V. Committee Reports**

Because Dr. Moore's name was on a ballot in faculty elections conducted later in the meeting, Academic Council Chairperson Marsha Bollinger chaired the rest of the Faculty Conference.

A. Dr. Bollinger reported on the March 5 Academic Council meeting.

Routine curricular changes appeared before the council from the departments of Accounting, Finance, Computer Science, Management and Marketing, Health and Physical Education, English, and History. These changes did not require any Council action.

The Council approved the following program changes from the College of Business Administration: 1) the addition of a new Finance minor for non-business majors 2) changes in some requirements for the Computer Science major. Council also approved program changes for the Physical Education BS degree in the Department of Health and Physical Education in the College of Education: 1) revising the teacher Licensure Option 2) dropping the Leisure Services Option 3) adding a Fitness/Wellness Option. Faculty voted to approve Council recommendations.

Faculty voted to approve the council recommendation to change the number of credit hours needed in residence at Winthrop from a minimum of 30 to a minimum of 31. All statements in the 1999-2000 Undergraduate Catalog will also be changed.

In an e-mail poll, the Academic Council endorsed the proposed Policy Guidelines of Certificate Programs. Council received a report from a subcommittee studying academic eligibility issues. Council has nothing to report at this time on this subject.

B. Dr. William Rogers of the General Education Committee spoke on behalf of Chairperson Marilyn Sarow, who was absent.

Dr. Rogers said that the four forums earlier this year indicated to the General Education Task Force that most faculty prefer an integrated approach to general education, with a strong writing and oral communication orientation. Dr. Rogers also identified three models from other schools the Task Force is examining for features that Winthrop might adopt. One is the Traditional Model, which is similar to Winthrop in general concept. The second is the Thematic Model, in which students participate in interdisciplinary discussions oriented around a particular theme. The third is the Enhancing-the-Major Model. The Task Force is still studying these models, Dr. Rogers said.

Faculty were invited to submit models of their own. Final versions would be presented to the Academic Council's April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, after which there will be another series of forums. All responses will be assembled by the final Faculty Conference in April. Over the summer, the task Force will work toward concluding its examination and then bring its conclusions to the Faculty Conference in the fall.

C. Dr. Steve Million, Chairperson of the Budget Priorities Committee, reported that committee members were surprised that its proposal for strategies to increase enrollment was not funded. "We think faculty needs to have a voice in how money is appropriated at the University, and it needs to have a voice that doesn't simply end once a proposal has been made," he said. The proposal, created in concert with central administrators, focused on targeted areas, where "it is desirable to increase enrollments without increasing costs to the university and we sought to do that."

The committee plans to uncover the reason the proposal was not funded and report it at the April Faculty Conference. "We want to reserve any further discussion until we know definitively what has happened," Dr. Million said.

D. Faculty elections were held.

## **VI. Old Business**

There was no old business.

## **VI. New Business**

There was no new business.

## **VII. Announcements**

Health screening times were announced.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 3:00.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathryn Bufkin

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*Page Last Updated: February 8, 2000*