

Winthrop University Faculty Conference

August 22, 2003

2:00 pm

Barnes Recital Hall

I. Approval of Minutes from April 25, 2003 Faculty Conference

At 2:00 p.m., Dr. Marilyn Smith, Chair of Faculty Conference, called the meeting to order. The minutes of the April 25 Faculty Conference were approved.

II. Welcome and Introductory Remarks

Dr. Smith introduced herself and noted that Dr. Kelly Richardson, Assistant Professor of English, will serve as Secretary of the Faculty Conference, while Dr. Eddie Lee, Associate Professor of History, will serve as Parliamentarian this year.

III. Report from the June 6, 2003 Board of Trustees Meeting

Dr. Smith next presented the report from the June Winthrop University Board of Trustees meeting. The Board met in Executive Session on June 5, 2003 to discuss the annual performance evaluation of the President. While the Board gave Dr. DiGiorgio the highest possible rating of "exceeds expectations," they also recognized areas of greatest strength and areas for continued improvement. In the Board session on June 6, the Board voted to recommend to the S.C. Agency Head Salary Commission that the President be given the highest possible increase, but recognized that due to the state budget situation, it was likely that President DiGiorgio would not receive any increase for the fourth year in a row. Dr. DiGiorgio's contract was extended for one year to June 2006.

At the June 6 meeting, the Board passed resolutions honoring Dr. Melford Wilson, who was stepping down as Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the departing Board members, Reginald Lloyd and Hugh Haddock. The Board also recognized the contributions to the Faculty-Staff Capital Campaign, represented by co-chairs Charles Alvis and Rosanne Wallace. Also, the Board voted to endorse a compact with the City of Rock Hill to work together regarding "various properties of interest" to both.

Dr. Smith next reported that the Board has spent a lot of time during the past year discussing increasing costs, the need for capital development, faculty salaries, and state budget cuts. After further deliberations at this meeting, the Board approved an 18.79% or \$526 per semester tuition and fee increase. This increase would provide a 2% salary increase (slightly above the Consumer Price Index), allow for the construction of the Lois Rhame West Center, and bring the operating budget to the July 2002 level.

The Board approved resolutions to confer Emeritus Faculty status for retiring faculty as well as to

endorse the revised general education program, the intellectual property rights policy, and the international exchange agreements. Also, the Board received reports from University Advancement, the Division of Athletics, and Student Life.

Dr. Smith announced that this year Dr. Mary Jean Martin will be Chair of the Board, with Karl Folkens serving as Vice-Chair, and Glenda Owens as Secretary. (All of these are Winthrop alumni.) It was announced later in the summer that Ms. Kathy Bigham will serve as the Governor's appointee to the Board. The student representative will be Richard Fowler.

Dr. Smith announced that in her report to the Board she addressed the changes to the Honors Program, progress on general education implementation, recent issues from the Faculty Concerns Committee, and graduate student stipends.

In his report to the Board, Dr. DiGiorgio mentioned our top performance funding rating, accreditation results, the National Survey of Student Engagement, faculty salary rankings within the state, the Courtyard, the new ACAD 101, the results from the Nature and Character Task Force, and University College.

IV. Report from the President

President DiGiorgio welcomed the faculty and reminded them of the full agenda for the year as outlined in his Opening Address and this year's *Vision of Distinction*. The Opening Address is available on the President's website, and copies of this year's *Vision of Distinction* will be forthcoming. Dr. DiGiorgio next made several announcements about the opening of the school year. He reminded the faculty of the students' arrival and stated that the estimated size of the freshman class is 1100 students—a number that has resulted in the Resident Halls being filled completely. He also announced Tuesday's Convocation ceremony and Friday's party for Faculty and Staff in McBryde Hall.

He next reported on several changes that had been made in parking to accommodate larger numbers of students. Myrtle Drive was paved, which created several new parking spaces. Also, 150 spaces have been created on the West Side of campus, the school has contracted with the American Legion to obtain property that will create an additional 200 spaces, and Freshman students are now required to park in certain "Freshman-Only" lots.

President DiGiorgio next announced the status of some building projects. The project to install a steam line is progressing, and the renovations to the third floor of Bancroft and fifth floor of Thurmond have almost been completed. A major overhaul of Joynes Hall has also been completed; Admissions is now on the first and second floor, while the third floor will be available for overnight guests. This residential area is now referred to as the "Inn at Winthrop." President DiGiorgio concluded by asking for any questions or comments and stating that he looked forward

to the upcoming year.

V. Report from the Vice President for Academic Affairs

After welcoming the faculty, Dr. Tom Moore began by stating that this year's group of incoming students is one of the largest and most talented groups we have had. Also, he commented on the talented group of new faculty joining the Winthrop community. He next spoke about the transition from being a Dean to a Vice President for Academic Affairs. In his new position, he has had more interaction at the institutional level with budgets, staffing, programs, and policy and has found that work educational, engaging and rewarding.

Vice President Moore also reported on new initiatives and events for this upcoming year. First, he discussed University College and invited input for how to bring it into existence effectively. The launch of the new ACAD 101 course as well as the continuation of the Gen Ed process will take place this year, especially with the partial implementation of Gen Ed and the training and curriculum work that will accompany that implementation. He next noted that six to eight accreditation processes are in various stages this year. Finally, he discussed Winthrop's future work with the American Democracy Project. Sponsored by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, and the New York Times, this project's purpose is to bring a focus within state colleges and universities on moral development and civic engagement as preparation for meaningful participation in the American democracy. As part of this project, one of the first things Winthrop will do is an institutional audit in terms of what we do with service learning and civic engagement activities. Dr. Moore is the contact person, and he invited input on this new project.

Vice President Moore concluded his remarks by reminding faculty of the tremendous impact that they have on students. He also stated that his job is to be involved with institutional decisions, to articulate the academic affairs perspective in these discussions, and to articulate to faculty the institutional contexts in which those decisions are made. He concluded by expressing his belief that we as a faculty are committed to ideals that transcend any conflicts we may have.

VI. Introduction of New Administrators and Faculty

After commending the new faculty, Dr. Moore introduced each of the Deans, who introduced new faculty from their respective divisions.

VII. Introduction of 2003-2004 Committee Chairs and Committee Reports

Dr. Josephine Koster, Chair of Academic Council, provided an overview of the work to be done with Gen Ed this year. Using an analogy of building a house, she compared last year's work with drawing up the blueprints and this year's work as actually building the house. To accomplish this task, she announced that deans and department chairs will be circulating a list of desired dates of the review process. The goal is to have a catalog completed by May; consequently, the new

program needs to have gone through the entire governance process by April. This means that it needs to be approved by Faculty Conference by March, Academic Council by February, Curriculum and Instruction by January, and the Colleges by December. She thanked everyone in advance for their cooperation with this immense task and invited input and questions. Academic Council will also be working on the faculty recognition and rewards system, summer school salaries, and graduate programs, as outlined in the *Vision of Distinction*.

Dr. Sue Peck, Chair of the General Education Committee, introduced the committee members and reminded faculty of the course submission process. Dr. Smith followed up these remarks by explaining the process that will be observed. The courses that the Gen Ed committee approves will go to Academic Council on September 5, and by September 8, a list of approved courses will be available online. She also shared information about a template that was created to help faculty in this process of program revision.

Dr. Lou Pantuosco, Chair of Faculty Concerns, invited faculty to share concerns as they come up during the year.

Susan Silverman, Chair of Budget Priorities, could not attend today's Faculty Conference.

Dr. John Robbins, Chair of the Rules Committee, asked the committee members to contact him with their schedules in order to organize meetings.

Mr. Brien Lewis, Chair of the Nature and Character of the University Task Force, stated that the group will be meeting throughout September to produce a final report which will include a revised statement based on the feedback received from the campus in the spring. In late September or early October, people will have opportunities to provide feedback. The committee will report to the President in January and the Board of Trustees in February. He concluded by thanking the faculty for their input.

VIII. Old Business

There was no old business.

IX. New Business

There was no new business.

X. Announcements

Dr. Martha Spears, Chair of Research Council, announced that \$125,000 is available for faculty research.

There was an announcement that there would be a Graduate Faculty Assembly immediately following the Faculty Conference meeting.

Dr. Jennifer Disney expressed her thanks to the Winthrop community for the support she has recently received.

Tim Druke, Registrar, announced SIS/Wingspan Training will be held on September 4, 5, 8, 9, and 10.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Kelly L. Richardson
Faculty Conference Secretary