

**MINUTES  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
FACULTY ASSMBLY  
Sept. 4, 2015**

**2 p.m.**

**Kinard Auditorium**

**I. Approval of Minutes:**

Dr. Wendy Sellers called the meeting to order and called for a motion to approve the minutes of Aug. 18, 2015, meeting. The minutes were approved with no additions or corrections.

**II. Curriculum Committee Report:**

Dr. Sellers said course changes from the Department of Psychology was omitted from last month's meeting. They were reviewed and approved:

- i. Modify course: PSYC 471, Undergraduate Research in Psychology.
- ii. Modify course: PSYC 472, Undergraduate Research in Psychology.
  - Allow for repeated credit
  - Up to 3 credit hours of PSYC 471/472 may count towards major
  - Up to 6 credit hours of PSYC 471/472 may count toward BA

A Blanket Petition from the Medieval Studies Minor required no action but a correction was made to reflect that it applied to RELG 350H/HONOR 232H. In the current catalog and all previous catalogs, allow RELG 350H/HONR 232H "Apocryphal Gospels" to count toward program requirements.

**III. Old Business.** None.

**IV. New Business.** None.

**V. Announcements.**

Dr. Gregory Oakes announced that the new Director of Adult Programs, Dr. Pat Guilbaud, would be speaking at the Graduate Faculty Committee immediately following the Faculty Assembly meeting. He also announced that some pages had been added to the College of Arts and Sciences on careers and the value of liberal education, including statistical information. Several links are available, including one of note to the American Association of Colleges and Universities. He invited faculty to follow the blog at <https://winthropliberaled.wordpress.com/> He said the word "liberal" was discussed as a term and it is used in liberal arts education.

## **VI. Dean's Comments.**

Dr. Karen Kedrowski addressed the faculty on the nature of goings-on in higher education in general and at Winthrop in particular. Her remarks included examples of enrollment woes and increases (at some schools), budgetary problems, decreased state support and increased accountability and compliance issues. She gave specific examples of many of these problems and noted that 48 of 50 states have seen decreased state support for higher education, including in South Carolina, which has seen the third largest decreases. Declining enrollments have particularly been felt in the humanities, which has led to some shutting down of majors, decreases in majors, and operating deficits. There have been concerns about employability in the humanities as well as effects of the recession. She noted the percentage of enrollment changes in many programs in the College of Arts and Sciences. Modern Languages and Mathematics (BA) have seen decreases of more than 30 percent, while Philosophy and Religious Studies, Mathematics \*BS) and Biology have seen large increases. Winthrop has avoided some of the worst effects, including layoffs and buyouts, program closures and building closures. It has not avoided "even" enrollment overall, morale problems and having some faculty lines left open. She said summer revenue will gradually be removed from budget allocations. She went over many budgetary items, and noted that enrollment, recruitment and retention are now all up. She said there will be a line item for competitive compensation. Good news included success of scholars, noteworthy achievements and success stories of students. See the pdf. file, "Dean's Comments Sept. 4," for more information.

## **VII. Adjournment.**

**3:11 p.m.**