

**MINUTES**  
**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**  
**FACULTY ASSEMBLY**  
**April 04, 2014**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Kinard Auditorium**

**I. Approval of minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Frank Pullano at 2:03 PM. There being no certainty that a quorum was present, a motion to do business in the absence of a quorum was approved. The minutes of January 31, 2014 were approved.

**II. Report from CAS Committees**

**a. Curriculum Committee**

The following proposals were reviewed and approved:

- Course change proposals (set 1 of 2):
  - Modify course: ENGL 330, Women and Literature. Clarify prerequisites.
  - Modify course: WMST 330, Women and Literature. Clarify prerequisites.
- Course change proposals (set 2 of 2):
  - Modify course: NUTR 371, Foodservice Systems. Change title to “*Food and Nutrition Management I*” to better reflect current accreditation standards.
  - Modify course: NUTR 471, Institutional Foodservice Procurement and Production. Change title to “*Food and Nutrition Management II*” to better reflect current accreditation standards.
- Program changes:
  - Modify program: MA in English. Reduce language requirement from 9 hours to 6 hours to be in line with peer and competitor institutions.
- Blanket Petition (no vote needed)
  - Sociology & Anthropology  
For the Criminology concentration and Criminal Justice minor, allow students in the current and all previous catalogs to substitute SOCL 332 (Sociology of Conflict and Conflict Management) for any of the following four classes (from which students are required to select 6 hours): SOCL 330, 335, 337, or 525.
- Single-Use:
  - 19 student petitions were approved.

**III. Unfinished Business**

**a. Ad-Hoc Committee for Handheld Technology**

The Policy for Appropriate Use of Handheld and Wireless Technology in the College of Arts and Sciences was discussed and approved with a friendly amendment to the last sentence of item 3, which now reads:

Because of the increasing prevalence of electronic textbooks, students may, with the instructor’s permission, use electronic readers or other electronic devices in place of standard (print) textbooks. These and similar electronic devices should only be used during instructional time for activities directly related to the course.

**b. Electronic Elections Committee**

Mr. Brian Hipp explained the different methods and answered questions from the members. The Borda method was adopted. The Dean offered further clarification on Tie methods. The College of Arts and Sciences d20 of Fate was adopted.

#### **IV. New Business**

Before beginning discussion of New Business, Chair Frank Pullano asked for a minute of silence in memory of Cynthia Furr and her daughter on the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their death. Dr. Pullano asked members to keep their interventions within a reasonable time limit given the depth and extension of matters under New Business.

##### **a. Committee elections**

Ballots were distributed. There were no nominations from the floor.

Dr. Pullano declared a change of order in proceedings: the Undergraduate Research grid was discussed first.

##### **b. Undergraduate Research grid**

Dr. Merry Sleight explained that the purpose of the grid is to tell faculty of the different types of research done by undergraduates across departments. The Dean added that this year's Personnel Advisory Committee had found the grid so useful that they thought it should be integrated in the College's tenure and promotion statements, part of the agenda for the next meeting in August as an appendix to the rules and rewards statements. The proposal to add it to the agenda was approved.

##### **c. Activity Insight demo/introduction**

Dr. Costner made a demonstration of Activity Insight, the new website system, which will not be used this year although faculty members are encouraged to start uploading scholarship and academic responsibility information. She also advised faculty to review this product and alert them if they find an error or omission. Faculty will be able to use their own CV format, and then cut and paste it in. She advised in favor of using the categories as much as possible. Faculty will receive training before this system is fully implemented. Dr. Costner then answered many questions about the site.

##### **d. Resolution in response to proposed Gen Ed changes**

Dr. Pullano was replaced by Dr. Deana Morrow as Chair of the Assembly so he could participate in discussion as a member of the Gen Ed Task Force. Dr. Peter Judge gave an overview of the discussion at the Chair's meeting, saying that much of it had taken place under the impression that this proposal had already been voted on by the Academic Council and sent to the Faculty Conference; they now realize that is not the case. He also made clear that the resolution had the unanimous support of all Chairs. He added that they had discussed some of the possible consequences of the proposal and, although they were all in agreement with the streamlining intent, they had concerns about the composition of the committee, which could be more inclusive, and the instructions to not include the Core in the discussion. The Chairs proposed that the Core be also discussed and many of them felt that some of the Core courses are barriers. The Chairs suggested we take time to make the right changes and requested that more members be included in the committee to broaden the discussion, including perhaps students as well; that the Core be considered; and that there be some guidance on how things ought to be included, including course designations. Colleges and departments should also have more time to reflect on how these changes will affect programs. They therefore proposed to postpone the vote until the October meeting next Fall.

Dr. Koster spoke in opposition to the Chairs' motion. She pointed out that she understands these concerns but waiting would impact on recruitment; she reminded the assembly that the federal government announced financial aid rule changes that require less heavy GNED programs; and stressed that reviews of the GNED program may have to be done more regularly than has been the case and in different iterations. She argued for more flexibility in reviewing the program. The representative of the Rules Committee commented on procedural aspects, saying that the Dean's Council is not an entity that can bring proposals to the Academic Council and that Dr. Judge should be appointed as a representative of the group in this regard. Dr. Disney felt that, due to Spring break and other scheduling matters, many departments had not had time to meet to examine the suggestions that came out in March, but added that she was flexible about some of these changes. As member of the committee, Dr. John Bird said he agreed it is important to reflect on curricular matters and he appreciates point 1 of the resolution, but that changes to GNED should not be delayed because of the Core. Waiting would impact students negatively. He suggested voting on some of the more consensual items and

appointing another committee to address other areas, such as the Core. Dean Gloria Jones clarified several aspects of GNED course delivery and argued that HMXP and CRTW are foundational courses and should not be replaceable by courses taken outside Winthrop. Discussion continued on timing questions and inclusion or exclusion of Core course discussion in this iteration of the proposal. Dr. Kristin Kiblinger pointed out that students are hostile to the Core courses, which therefore should be discussed, and that some Humanities courses may teach skills taught in HMXP and CRTW. Dr. Pullano added that the committee's task was not to propose fundamental changes but "fix leaky faucets" and that the committee is not unwilling to negotiate the core but that is not what they were asked to do. Dr. Costner argued for clearer definitions of the Core courses and guidance, and therefore time to consider them. Dr. Disney invited faculty to go to the Academic Council meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup> to clarify questions such as why the committee was not charged with rethinking the Core. Dr. Koster said the committee can take these concerns to the Academic Council, and Dr. Pretty declared this to be important enough to be taken to Academic Council and Faculty Conference. Dr. Lipscomb voiced his concern with what he felt is a constant chipping away at Humanities. Evelyne Weeks remarked that, from her long experience with GNED and Core, the problem is with the inflexibility of the GNED program rather than the Core, and argued for making changes to GNED without waiting for changes to the Core. Dr. Peter Judge declared that he had changed his mind on many issues as a result of this conversation. Dr. Belk pointed out that these changes will not bring about more funding. After much further discussion elaborating on similar points, the assembly voted against the proposal to postpone the vote on the proposed general education changes until the 2014-2015 academic year.

## **V. Announcements**

Seven projects presented by 14 WU Psychology students were honored at the Southeastern Psychology Association meeting. Congratulations were also extended to two Psi Chi Regional Research Awards, one CEPA Research Award, two Psi Chi Regional Honorable Mentions, and one CEPA Runner Up. Congratulations were extended to mentors Donna Nelson, Merry Sleigh, and Tara Collins; Alex Muller, Senior English major, for receiving a \$4,000 Sigma Tau Delta Senior Scholarship; Jeanne Stroud, runner-up for best paper award; Dr. Sarah Spring, advisor to WU chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the English Int'l honor society; three Winthrop students honored for their undergraduate research at the Mathematical Association of America – Southeast meeting in March: Olivia Manley, (CHEM), Lynnique Johnson (MATH), Michelle McDuffie (Western Carolina, participated in summer Math experience at WU); Zachary Abernathy, Research Mentor; Alaina Wynes, ENVS and PSYC, who received a scholarship from the SC Wildlife Foundation; Matthew Neal, MATH ('13) and current MAT5 student, who received a prestigious Knowles Fellowship from the Knowles Science Teaching Foundation; Geraldine Trammel Hurley Fellowship Awardees Chelsea Bergmann, Marie Tumaniec, and Brierly Wills; MCOM alumni Anna Douglas and Jonathan McFadden for earning first place in Sport Reporting from the South Carolina Press Association.

Congratulations were given to Dr. Jennifer Disney, incoming co-editor of *New Political Science*; Dr. Joe Rusinko, Associate Professor of Mathematics, on receiving the MAA-SE Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Beginning College or University Mathematics Faculty Member; Fall 2014 Sabbatical Awardees Dr. Jeannie Haubert, Dr. Pedro Munoz, and Dr. Donald Friedman; and Dr. Jason Silverman, Palmer Professor of History, for a successful inaugural Palmer Lecture.

Thanks were extended to all CAS faculty who served on the numerous personnel, search, and variety of other committees this year.

## **VI. Dean's Remarks**

The Dean began by mentioning the upcoming summer events, including the major-specific tours. The question of the increased tuition for summer courses was raised and the Dean remarked that it is still a discount in relation to normal semesters. Regarding the "after mid-semester courses," she remarked that they were initially thought of for freshmen but were actually very useful for seniors who were falling behind. She thanked all faculty who taught these very successful courses online, 65 in total.

She also thanked all who responded to the professional development funds survey (about 40%). The results from the survey show that the highest priority goes to travel to professional conferences to present research/scholarship in field of expertise, followed by travel to conferences to present research on teaching and learning, and finally travel with students who are presenting their scholarship/research. The lowest priority goes sequentially to webinars or other professional development using remote technology, travel for students to attend conferences but not present, and travel to conduct preliminary interviews. As to funding multiple trips, 67% are in favor while 33% are against; as to funding adjuncts, 24% are in favor in any case, 38% are in favor in some cases (adjunct faculty who have been working here for a long time and/or are very engaged with the institution), and 38% are against. As to preliminary interviews via SKYPE (rather than travel), 86% are in favor and 15% are against. On this topic, a prevalent question was why we would use resources to send people to a conference to do a “pre-interview” that can be done electronically, while a prevalent comment was that our lack of presence at a national meeting will be seen (correctly) by our candidate pool as a lack of interest in hiring the most able candidates. As to what should be the institution’s first priority for additional, recurring funds, 70% chose increasing faculty salaries, 8% chose increasing the travel budget, 2% chose increasing departmental operating budgets, and 20% said all are equally important.

At this time, Dr. Pullano raised the question of summer tuition increase and Dr. Sarow remarked that summer tuition had not been raised for a long time and the situation is not sustainable. Dr. Pullano suggested the number of students per class be lowered to be fair on teachers. The Dean answered she would be happy to take that forward.

The question of travel authorization deadlines was raised and some changes announced. An email will be sent about this soon. The Dean insisted that faculty should put in a request if there is a remote chance that they might travel.

The Dean informed the assembly that the faculty review process was revised in accordance with the feedback provided at the last meeting and posted on the CAS web site, and that the first part (post tenure reviews) is mostly complete. She thanked the faculty who served in these post-tenure review committees.

The Dean highlighted the following upcoming events: Charlotte Region Graduate Alumni Reception in the Ballantyne Resort on April 24, 2014; Scholars Day (including honoring undergraduate research) on April 26, 2014; CAS Graduating Student Picnic in Dinkins Lawn on May 5, 2014; and CAS Faculty/Staff/Families Picnic at The Shack on May 9, 2014.

Finally, she thanked all CAS faculty, staff, and students who participated in President Comstock’s Inauguration festivities, and expressed her gratitude and congratulations to retirees Pravda Stoeva-Popova (BIOL), Bill Click (MCOM), Linda Ashley (SCWK), Ameda Manetta (SCWK), Sue Lyman (SCWK), Rory Cornish (HIST), and three more who wished to remain unnamed.

## **VII. Adjournment 4:22 PM**

Respectfully submitted,

Clara Paulino