Agenda

I. Approval of minutes for April 22, 2011 Faculty Conference (minutes attached)

II. Report from the Chair

Cliff Calloway

III. Report from the President

Anthony DiGiorgio

IV. Report from the Vice President for Academic Affairs

Debra Boyd

V. Introduction of New Administrators and Faculty

VPAA and Deans

VI. Reports

a. Introduction of Standing Committee Chairs (2011-2012)

Cliff Calloway

b. Faculty Committee on University Life (attached)

Matt Manwarren

VII. Unfinished Business

VIII. New Business

IX. Announcements

a. University Relations

Brien Lewis

b. From the Registrar

Gina Jones

c. TALONS/Banner

Lisa Cowart/Amanda Maghsoud

d. Other Announcements

X. Adjournment

Faculty Conference Membership (326) 35% = 114 20% = 65
I. A brief presentation was made by Carrie Morphis, Winthrop’s new Victims Services Coordinator, to highlight services her office can provide.

II. Faculty Conference voted to do business in the absence of a quorum.

III. Minutes of March 11, 2011 Faculty Conference were approved as distributed.

IV. Report from the Chair, Marsha Bollinger
Dr. Bollinger reviewed the Faculty Leadership Committee report on the April Board of Trustees meeting. Dr. Bollinger reported that the statement of Academic Freedom that was endorsed by Faculty Conference at the March meeting was not accepted by Dr. DiGiorgio.

V. Report from the Vice President of Academic Affairs, Tom Moore
Dr. Moore asked if there were questions regarding the SACS visit. He thanked the SACS and AAAS team as well as faculty for their hard work with wrapping these up. He closed by encouraging the faculty to attend both commencements.

VI. Reports

**Academic Council**, Dave Pretty
There were no items on which to vote. Dr. Pretty went through items for information only. Dr. Pretty also thanked the chair of the Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum (Dr. Marilyn Smith) and the chair of the General Education Committee (Dr. John Bird) for their hard work this year.

**Personnel Committee**, Siobhan Brownson
The faculty voted for next year's open committee positions. Candidates for Faculty Conference Chair presented their statements.

**Rules Committee**, Mark Mitchell
Dr. Mitchell presented Article IX, Section 4 of bylaws. After some friendly amendments, Faculty Conference voted to approve the following language:
Faculty Conference Bylaws, Article IX – Section 4:

The President of the University, upon the recommendation of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, shall appoint three voting members of the Academic Council, each from a different major academic division of the University. The Faculty Conference shall elect three voting members at large. Each major academic division of the University shall elect members according to the following formula: one member for the first 25 full-time-equivalent faculty members or fraction thereof in that division and one additional member for each additional 50 full-time-equivalent faculty members or fraction thereof. Members of Faculty Conference who are college or university level administrative officers and whose administrative assignment is greater than 50% of their workload shall be ineligible to serve on the Academic Council, either by election or appointment, except as secretary. Department chairs are eligible to serve on Academic Council. The term of the chair shall be one year. The Council of Student Leaders shall select one voting member, who shall serve a one-year term. The terms of the voting members of the Academic Council shall be three years and shall be staggered as determined by regulations adopted by the Faculty Conference. If a member ceases to serve, his or her successor shall be appointed or elected for the unexpired term only. A voting member may not serve in succession more than two complete consecutive terms. No person shall be eligible to serve as a voting member unless he or she has served two years as a student at Winthrop University or as a faculty member at Winthrop University immediately preceding his or her service.

Roles and Rewards Committee, Beth Costner

Dr. Costner began by thanking members of the committee. After some discussion, Faculty Conference voted to endorse the Roles document (hand count, 76 in favor, 23 opposed) and the Recommendations document (voice vote) as distributed by the Roles and Rewards Committee in April 2011.

No questions were asked about the written reports provided with the agenda from the Faculty Committee on University Priorities, the Faculty Committee on University Life, the Petitions Committee, and the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee.

TALONS report, Tim Drueke

Mr. Drueke reported that, in a move to use less paper, faculty will soon access pay information online.

VII. Unfinished business

There was no unfinished business
VIII.  New Business

The following motion was introduced and passed by vote.

Be it resolved that the Faculty Conference directs the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee to develop and propose a new definition of Academic Freedom for consideration by Faculty Conference. This new definition will capture the spirit of the Faculty Conference resolution passed on March 11, 2011, while satisfying the concerns of the administration. The Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee will present its revised, proposed definition to Faculty Conference by the second meeting of Fall 2011.

IX.  Announcements

The Registrar, Gina Jones, announced grading deadlines.

It was announced that Graduate Faculty would meet directly after Faculty Conference.

X.  The meeting was adjourned at 3:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Lewis
Faculty Committee on University Life
Report to the Faculty Conference, August 19, 2011

On behalf of the Faculty Committee on University Life, I wish to welcome each of you to the new academic year. Our committee is eager to resume with its charge, which is stated below as found in the Faculty Manual.

This committee shall be responsible for examining issues submitted by faculty members that affect the conduct of university life, and shall address these issues by communicating directly with appropriate administrators and members of the University faculty and staff to understand the issue more fully and to facilitate a resolution to the concern as needed. The committee shall report its findings and the status of the issues to Faculty Conference, to the Committee on University Priorities, and to the President, at least once each semester.

The committee shall consist of nine members: two members elected from each of the degree-granting colleges and one member elected from the Library faculty. At least one member elected from each of the degree-granting colleges and the member elected from the Library faculty shall be tenured. The Chair of the committee shall attend open meetings of the appropriate committee of the Board of Trustees.

The members of the committee include the following.

Matthew Manwarren (t), chair, CVPA representative, 2012
Bob Gorman (t), Library representative, 2013
Christian Grattan ((t), Arts and Sciences representative, 2013
Tracy Griggs, College of Arts and Sciences representative, 2014
Carol Marchel (t), College of Education representative, 2012
Lou Pantuosco (t), College of Business Administration representative, 2012
Elke Schneider (t), College of Education representative, 2014
Courtney Starrett, CVPA representative, 2013
Laura Ullrich, College of Business Administration representative, 2014

The following is a list of issues our committee discussed during the 2011-12 academic year.

1) Duties of the newly formed committee.
2) Clarification of new library plans by President DiGiorgio; concerns about the current library facility.
3) Concerns over the new drop policy for students.
4) Safety concerns during inclement weather.
5) Parking concerns in the Johnson lot.
6) Compensation for faculty who teach summer field experiences.
7) Compensation for faculty who teach independent study courses.
8) Concerns over the need for more assistance in the Office of Environmental Health and Safety.
Our committee is interested in hearing about issues that we face each day in the work place. Sometime in late September or early October, we plan to have a brown bag lunch forum to allow faculty to speak to the concerns that are on their minds. Please be on the lookout for upcoming messages from me about the time, date, and place of this forum. I hope you will attend and plan to be a part of a lively discussion.

In the meantime, if you have concerns that you would to express to our committee, we want to hear from you. Please email me at manwarrenm@winthrop.edu.

Respectfully yours,
Matthew Manwarren, Chair