

**Minutes of Winthrop University Faculty Conference
October 9, 2015
2 p.m. Whitton Auditorium, Carroll Hall**

I. Approval of minutes for August 21, 2015 Faculty Conference

The amended minutes were approved.

II. Report from the Chair of Faculty Conference, John Bird

- a. Dr. Bird welcomed faculty to the meeting and recognized Mr. Ray McKetty, Chair of the Council of Student Leaders.
- b. Dr. Bird reported that the Winthrop University Board of Trustees would meet next Friday, October 16.

III. Report from the President, Dr. Daniel Mahony

- a. President Mahony greeted the faculty and answered questions and concerns that were brought to his attention.
- b. President Mahony announced that he would meet with Academic Departments very soon and that most of these meetings would take place between October and December, 2015. With regard to these meetings Dr. Mahony stated that he would like departments to tell him what is great about their department, and what the President should brag about. Department meetings will last approximately 45 minutes and departments may bring questions and concerns to the meeting.
- c. Dr. Mahony stated that he met today (10-9-15) for the first time with the working groups involved with the strategic planning process of the university. There are seven working groups that have been formed to start generating ideas for the strategic planning process.

IV. Report from the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, Debra Boyd

- a. Dr. Boyd announced that there would be a change in commencement beginning in the fall semester. In December we will combine undergraduate and graduate commencements, and in the spring semester, we will separate the undergraduate and graduate commencement ceremonies.
- b. When Dr. Boyd opened the floor for questions, Mr. Tim Drueke, Assistant V.P. for Academic Affairs made a motion to proceed with the meeting in the absence of a quorum. The faculty approved the motion and voted (again) to approve the minutes and proceed with business.

V. Report from The Chair of Academic Council, Dave Pretty

- a. Dr. Pretty presented the following courses, approved by Academic Council, as new General Education courses for approval:

Global: HIST 549, GEOG 303

Historical: HIST 549

Humanities and Arts: VPAS 115

Technology: GEOG 320

All were unanimously approved.

- b. Dr. Pretty presented the courses that had been recertified as General Education courses which were:

Constitution: EDUC 312/ HIST 312

Historical: EDUC 312/ HIST 312

Humanities and Arts: EDUC 312/HIST 312

Global: EDUC 315, GEOG 306

Social Science: EDUC 315

(These did not require a vote.)

- c. Dr. Pretty presented (and explained) the General Education Technology Requirement criteria and encouraged programs to meet the requirement within the major when possible.
- d. Dr. Will Thacker made an editorial change.
- e. The faculty unanimously approved the Technology Requirement.
- f. Dr. Pretty presented the drafts for both the Honor Code and the Honor Pledge that had been created in a working group of Academic Council.
- g. Dr. Jennifer Solomon, Sociology, asked how these codes would be used.
- h. Dr. Adolphus Belk, Political Science, explained the rationale behind the Honor Code and the Honor Pledge. Dr. Belk explained that such codes are habit forming and the goal is to create a change in the Winthrop culture with regard to academic integrity.
- i. Dr. Pretty announced that Academic Council has appointed a new Academic Integrity subcommittee to finish the work started last year. Dr. Alice Burmeister will chair this subcommittee.

VI. Committee Reports

a. Faculty Committee on University Life, Stacey Davidson

Dr. Davidson introduced the members of the Committee on University Life and explained the responsibilities of the committee. This committee addresses complaints and concerns that do not have to do with money. Their goal is to find positive solutions to the concerns that are brought to their attention. Some of the issues that have been brought to their committee are: fairness with regard to travel, the construction of department and college tenure and promotion committees, health and safety issues with regard to animals, and general labor conditions.

b. Other committee reports, Report on Recruitment, V.P. Eduardo Prieto

Dr. Prieto gave a thoughtful and extensive report on Winthrop University's recruitment efforts. (See attached report)

c. Report on Marketing and Advertising, Ms. Ellen Wilder-Byrd, Assoc. V.P. For University Relations

Ms. Wilder-Byrd announced that the Marketing and Planning Group has launched an advertising campaign in all of the major markets of South Carolina and Charlotte. Additionally, her office is in the final stages of hiring a Marketing Director. Ms. Wilder-Byrd explained the initiative to “Own our Backyard” in promoting Winthrop University throughout the state, in Charlotte through outdoor advertising and other mediums including social media.

Dr. Jeff Perez, Office of University Relations augmented Ms. Wilder-Byrd’s report with further information about Winthrop University’s current and future advertising campaigns.

d. Curriculum Action System, Mr. Tim Drueke, Asst. V.P. for Academic Affairs reported on behalf of Ms. Gina Jones, Registrar.

Mr. Drueke explained how to look at pending curriculum in the different colleges across the university.

IX. Unfinished Business

X. New Business

XI. Announcements

a. Registrar Reminders, Gina Jones

Ms. Jones reported that advising would begin on October 21 and October 23 would be the last day to withdraw or S/U a full semester course.

b. Ginger Williams announced that the Winthrop Water Conference would take place on November 7 and that faculty, staff, and students could still register.

c. John Bird announced that the TLC conference would take place on February 6 and that people could still submit abstracts until November 16. The cost is \$45.

d. Dean Karen Kedrowski announced that on November 6 the Democratic Forum would take place on Winthrop’s campus and that other presidential candidates would also be on campus that day as well.

e. Dean Gloria Jones reminded the faculty that interim grades would be due on October 9.

f. Dr. Cheryl Fortner-Wood announced that the McNair application deadline would be Friday, October 16.

g. Dr. Jennifer Disney announced that there would be two 40th anniversary events on campus in the spring of 2016—SEWSA, March 31-April 2, and the Model UN conference in March.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Williams