

Faculty Conference
November 9 2001, 2pm
Plowden Auditorium
Minutes

- I. The meeting began at 2.10 pm with 88 in attendance. A unanimous decision was made to conduct business in the absence of a quorum. The minutes of September 28 Faculty Conference, distributed electronically, were approved.
- II Jim Johnston reported from the November 2 Board of Trustees meeting, summarized as follows:
- Resolutions honoring bill Culp and Rodney Brown were passed
 - Implementation of Future Steps 2002 approved, meaning an additional pay raise of approx 1% starting Jan 2002
 - Future Steps extended from 4 to 5 years
 - Revisions of Strategic Plan adopted
 - Resolution in support of Old Town Renaissance Master Plan passed

Report from Academic Affairs Committee:

- Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction approved
- Update on General Education
- Recommendations that significant time be spent on Faculty salary issues at next Board meeting

Report from University Relations Committee including reports from:

- Student Life, admissions, Intercollegiate Athletics, women's soccer, annual fundraising, and the Capital Campaign, which has raised approx \$22 million towards the goal of \$26 million.

Report from the Finance Committee (please see report from Gale Teaster, below)

The board had a work session discussing issues related to support for higher education and long-range capital funding.

III Report from The President

Dr DiGiorgio discussed the economic and State budget outlook, informing faculty that the recession would be permanent for next year's base budget – across SC, not just Winthrop. He explained that tourism had been badly hit due to the current climate following terrorist attacks. Winthrop had 'weathered the storm' reasonably well to date having been able to find approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of the budget reduction from money sequestered from growth, but he indicated that additional cuts may be necessary at the start of the new year (2002).

He commented on the article in 'The Herald' newspaper that described the composition of the Board of Trustees currently and the suggested changes, to include representatives from each congressional district.

He commended faculty for their initiatives related to the forums held regarding the September 11 incidents.

He informed faculty of plans to construct new university housing across the railroad tracks at the back of campus.

IV Report from The Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr Wilson discussed Joe Prus' report in which Winthrop programs are acknowledged as being of a high standard across the board and celebrate diversity ("Winthrop does best").

He especially thanked the GNED task force for their work on course development, describing them as being "very dedicated".

V Committee Reports

- (a) Budget Priorities Gale Teaster gave an update from the meeting of the Board of Trustees Finance Committee. Items discussed include:
- Reports from JP McKee and Amanda Magshoud on Finance & Business, with regard to State budget issues.
 - Walter Hardin, on Sims renovations
 - James Hammond, on IT, fiber optic cables, wireless access for Dacus Library and computer kiosks being added around campus
- (b) Academic Council Julian Smith reported on three items:
- A presentation from the General Education task force on the new GNED proposal (to be discussed at the meeting later)
 - Approval of a motion from CUI to modify the minor in International Area Studies
 - Cultural Event policy
 - He announced that the next meeting of Academic Council is Friday Jan 25, 2002
- (c) General Education Marilyn Sarow gave an extensive review of the new General Education proposal. Faculty discussion took most of the rest of the meeting
- (d) Faculty Concerns Janice Chism reported on the recent meeting with the Administration and listed 10 items of concern, which included use of Winthrop Farm, teaching load inequities, The Bookworm and Bancroft health issues.
- (e) Rules Committee Pat Ballard expressed appreciation to Dick Morris in Computer Science and Quantitative methods who, as well as Kent Foster, helped prepare a software program on the Kerley method of tallying election results and indicated that the Rules committee would have two recommendations for Faculty Conference in this regard early in Spring 2002.

VI Old Business There was no old business

VII New Business There was no new business

VIII Announcements

Jim Johnston announced that the next Faculty Conference would be held on February 15, 2002, in the Recital Hall

IX Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 4.15pm

Respectfully submitted,
Marge Moody