

MINUTES OF USC LANCASTER FACULTY MEETING ON FEBRUARY 6, 2009

The minutes of the Nov 5, 2008 faculty meeting were approved; the minutes from Dec. 3 were edited after receiving email notification; the two special meeting minutes (Jan 16 & Jan 23) were both approved.

Reports of Officers

Dean Catalano: no written report; he was unable to attend due to family reasons.

Dean Cox: See Appendix I. Dean Cox was also unable to attend, as he was at a conference.

Student Affairs (Collins): See Appendix II.

Counseling Center (Evans): Ms. Evans thanked faculty for sending students to counselors and gave us statistics on the number of students (78) that have sought individual visits since the beginning of spring semester (up to Feb. 3rd) for counseling, advising, and disability services. She encouraged faculty to continue to refer students to the counseling center.

Law Enforcement (Rutledge): Dr. Rutledge mentioned there have been some visitor parking space problems. He asked that faculty please use faculty parking and not visitor parking. Tickets will be disbursed to faculty who park in visitor parking. There is a 2 hour limit on visitor parking before violations are given. There was discussion about a previous practice of voiding faculty and staff parking tickets and discussion about student misuse of faculty parking.

- Question about Dean Collin's report (see Appendix II) and the conflicts that occurred on campus. The question was addressed by Dr. Rutledge.

System Committee Reports

Columbia Senate: Members did not go due to weather related closing of campus on Feb. 4th.

Regional Campuses Faculty Senate: Meets Feb. 20th, so no new information since previous meetings.

Provost's Advisory Council: Did not meet before this meeting. See December meeting's minutes for most up to date information.

Local committee Reports

Honor's Day Committee – See Appendix III, submitted by Ms. Kim Covington. Ms. Covington mentioned that Honor's Day will be Friday, February 27th, 2009. There will be a few changes due to budget, including decreasing food provided in morning, limiting attendance to 11th and 12th graders, and other changes may occur as well. Budgets at schools are also affecting the number of attendees since local schools are reducing the number of trips. One thing that is increasing this year will be funding on scholarships and prizes. She is requesting questions for the Honor's Bowl from faculty and requesting that they be submitted to Peter Barry. She also asks that if anyone has suggestions for new quizzes to let the committee know.

- A question about the extra funding for scholarships came up; however, Ms. Covington was not aware of where the funding was coming from [**Secretary's note**: none of the budgeting individuals were present to help elucidate this topic].

New Business

Mr. Thurman brought up a topic on Dean Cox's report (see Appendix I) about **BBC&E Division Chair**. As Mr. Thurman is stepping down due to health reasons, Ms. Roberts has served several terms as chair, and the other tenured candidates within the division have administrative duties, the division was seeking approval to elect an interim chair not within the division. The division did originally suggest a non-tenured individual; however, Dean Cox suggested that someone with tenure not in BBC&E may be more applicable due to tenure requirements. The division nominated Dr. Peter Barry; however, under USCL by-laws the person who is chair must be from the same division. A motion was made to temporarily suspend the by-law and allow Dr. Peter Barry, a tenured faculty member outside of BBC&E, to temporarily chair BBC&E (~2.5 yr period). The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements:

1. Ms. Priest announced a US History documentary from a Native American perspective, "We Shall Remain", which is to air on PBS in April on April 13th, 20th, 27th, and May 3rd and 11th.
2. Dr. Collins mentioned that the Friends of the Medford Library would host an event featuring Miss Kitty Wilson-Evans for Black History Month, on Sunday, February 8th at the Carole Ray Dowling Center.
3. Mr. Burgin mentioned that the library will have two new exhibits, *Portraits of Kessie* by Kaye Cloniger, and *Naturalists in South Carolina: Audubon in Context*.
4. During the meeting, Mr. Thurman mentioned the wonderful job our webmaster, Lori Harris, is doing updating the website during weather related closings.

Attending:

N. Augusté, N. Bohonak, D. Brown, C. Bundrick, A. Burg, B. Burgin, F. Burke, S. Campbell, C. Catledge, R. Collins, W. Collins, K. Covington, N. Davaut, D. Evans, A. Golonka, L. Harris, D. Hassell, K. Holland, K. Jackson, B. Obi Johnson, L. Martek, A. Miller, P. Parker, T. Polenski, C. Priest, K. Richardson, David Roberts, J. Rutledge, T. Scarlett, A. Scott, W. D. Thurman, S. Williams, T. Wolochwianski.

Faculty Secretary: Submitted as PDF on February 16, 2009 by Annette M. Golonka



M. Ron Cox, Jr., Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Academic & Student Affairs

REPORT TO THE FACULTY
06 February, A.D. 2009

My apologies for my absence from today's meeting, but I am attending a Conference/Workshop at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC.

Course Syllabi – There are still a few faculty from whom we have not yet received course syllabi for the Spring 2009 semester. (If it is posted on Blackboard, our office does not have automatic access to it.) Please check with Pam Ellis to make sure that we have received yours. This is a SACS requirement.

Fall/Spring Schedules – Thank you for being so prompt in submitting your proposed teaching schedules for Fall 2009 and Spring 2010. The Division Chairs are working diligently to cobble together a workable schedule for the entire academic year, and I applaud their efforts. When the drafts are submitted, please review them carefully not only to ensure that your courses are listed correctly, but also to check for any potential conflicts with classes needed by students majoring in your particular discipline.

BBC&E Division Chair – The faculty of the BBC&E Division have requested that Dr. Peter Barry be appointed as their division chair to complete the unexpired term of Professor Wayne Thurman (through 30 June 2011). Dr. Barry has tentatively agreed to serve, beginning this summer, provided that it is permissible.

The USCL Faculty by-laws state that a division chair must come from an academic discipline within that division. **I am asking that the Faculty allow a dispensation of this rule in order to allow Dr. Barry to serve in this capacity.** (He and Professor Thurman have agreed to share duties for the remainder of the spring semester.) Thank you for your consideration.

Please be forewarned that with the anticipated enrollment growth (if the Dean has not yet mentioned it, **applications for fall 2009 are up 92%** from last fall – no that's not a misprint), and since we are prohibited from conducting any searches for new faculty, our only options appear to be:

- 1) Increase the limits on class sizes
- 2) Hire additional adjunct faculty to cover sections in high-demand areas
- 3) Invite instructors (and all faculty who are not covered by the "redefined teaching load" to offer an overload section (again, in high-demand areas)
- 4) Offer sections of courses at less popular times

We will employ a combination of these tactics to try to meet student need without overburdening the faculty. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Palmetto Programs – Dates for the 2009 training sessions have been tentatively set by Columbia. USCL has four professors who will be doing the training this year. If you are interested in teaching through Palmetto Programs and have not done the training, please let your Division Chair know that you would like to be considered for the 2010 training sessions. (Participating in the training requires a faculty member to offer at least one course through Palmetto Programs in the following academic year.)

While in DC (as you all were enjoying a day's respite due to bad weather), I was working on USCL-related items and received an e-mail from Dr. Sally Boyd regarding the proposed Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership degree. The proposal has cleared the first step at CHE, the Columbia Faculty Senate, and the USC Board of Trustees. It is on the CHE agenda for April 2, and assuming that approval is forthcoming, the final step is SACS. The Palmetto Programs Implementation Committee is scheduled to meet on Friday, 27 February to discuss creation of an advisor's guide for BOL and an assessment plan for the degree program. (I have informed Dr. Boyd that this is Honor's Day at USCL and that I will try to attend the meeting via telephone that afternoon.)

While on the subject of new programs, Dr. Chris Plyler shared with me the following e-mail from Dr. Marsha Dowell, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at USC Spartanburg:

I have spoken with Dr Love.....while the program proposal was going through the internal processes on this campus, and moving along nicely, the budget reductions began. Coupled with the current comments about the state of the two year campuses, it was thought unwise to proceed with due diligence.

As we examine our budgets based on the current economic conditions, we are re-visiting our strategies to proceed.

We will keep you up to date on our decisions.....

Dr. Plyler has responded and assured Dr. Dowell that the proposal to close USCL and other regional campuses "has no legs" and urged her to continue to do everything reasonable to make the program happen. I'll keep you updated on the non-developments as they continue not to occur.

Good of the Order: Each year, Francis Marion University (affectionately known in many parts of the Pee Dee as "Funky Monkey U") sends us a "Transfer Student Report" showing the performance of USCL students who have transferred to that institution.

On the current list, one dozen students are listed as having transferred to FMU and earned credit there. I am very pleased to report that the GPA's of those students range from 2.146 (Biology) to 3.096 (tie between two students – general business and foreign language/Spanish). This simply reaffirms what we all already knew – you do an excellent job of preparing our students for the courses they encounter after transfer. In the vernacular of the youth....Our faculty are "tight!" (This, I am told, is the ultimate compliment. Please know that I also think you all are "groovy.")



Walter P. Collins, III, Ph.D.
Acting Assistant Dean of Students

Report to Faculty February 6, 2009

- **Athletics**—The first Baseball game is next Friday, Feb. 13 at noon. Please come out and support the team! The Athletic Advisory Committee met on January 8 to discuss the coach/student/professor communication process. It was determined at that meeting to suspend the communication forms used in Fall 2008 and to implement the use of e-mail messages to communicate the progress of student-athletes with coaches. Mr. Walters also shared with the committee that student-athletes will have study hall during the Spring 2009 semester from 6:30 to 8:30 on Sunday to Thursday nights. Finally, a student-athlete illegal drug use policy has been established and is currently under review with the Legal department in Columbia. The policy will be implemented once it has been vetted by Legal.
- **Study Abroad**—Currently about 13 students are registered for the Greece trip. Students can still register, but must pay in full at registration plus a \$175. late fee. Participants are tentatively scheduled to depart CLT in mid-May.
- **Student Life/Activities**—PAL applicants are being interviewed and the selection process will take place Monday. New PALs will register for RCAM 205—Introduction to Leadership in the second 8 weeks. Events are scheduled for Black History Month:
 - Friends of Medford Library Honor Ms. Kitty Wilson-Evans
Sunday, Feb. 8, 3-6 for portrait viewing with program/performance at 4
 - Soul Food Lunch, Feb. 18 at noon to 2:30 Bradley Multi-purposeCareer Day is March 4 in the Bradley Multi-purpose Room. A student Habitat for Humanity group is being chartered. Be reminded that any campus activities/events can be publicized in the weekly *Campus News*. Send news items to Ms. Laura Humphrey (<humphrlb@gwm.sc.edu>) by Friday the week before you'd like them to appear.
- **Security**—We have had a few minor confrontations between students and a couple of health related incidents on campus during the first week of February. **Be reminded that if an emergency occurs—health related, fights, suspicious behavior—simply dial 9-911 from a campus phone and identify the building on campus where you're located.** Don't try to find Dr. Rutledge or any other campus security personnel as they may be in class or off-campus at the time.
- **UNIV 101**—University 101 begins the Spring 2009 semester with approximately 80 students in 7 sections.

HONORS DAY COMMITTEE REPORT

Honors Day will be held Friday, February 27, 2009. Due to budget constraints, there will be a few changes: no t-shirts this year, no doughnuts and juice at registration, and only 11th and 12th graders attending from the schools. The deadline to register for the schools is next Friday, February 13. We've already heard from a couple of schools that they may not be able to attend this year because of restrictions on field trips and buses.

We're hoping to increase the dollar amount of the scholarships awarded this year. Thelathia Bailey has already secured funding from Founders for either a digital camera package or laptop package to be awarded to a school in a drawing.

Please submit questions to be used in Honors Bowl to Peter Barry. If you'd like to offer a new quiz or host a new event, let me know. Fernanda Burke and Bettie Johnson, with assistance from the Chemistry Club, are sponsoring a new event, a Chemistry Magic Show.

--Submitted by Kim Covington, Honors Day Chairperson