

# **COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES**

## **FACULTY MEETING MINUTES**

**November 5, 1997**

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Call to Order at 3:30

The minutes from the October meeting were approved.

### **I. President's Report**

No report. The President is out of town.

### **II. Dean's Report.**

From this faculty meeting forward, routine announcements from the Dean are going to be placed on the web, as are standing committee reports.

#### **Announcements (unroutine)**

1. Thanks go to Marilyn Hoth, Jane Hunter, Matthew Levinger, and Ben Westervelt for help promoting our students for national scholarships. One out of our three Marshall applicants made the interview round.
2. FAT lunch tomorrow on learning disabilities.
3. Summer School options still available. Contact June Jones.

### **Voting Rights**

In 1990, the faculty governance documents limited voting rights to tenured and tenure-track faculty. In his remarks to Academic Council President Mooney stressed two points. First, voting rights entail responsibilities: attendance at faculty meetings, convocations, retreats, etc. Some faculty have not been living up to these obligations.

In addition to the issue of who should have voting rights, the issue of responsibilities is equally important.

Second, there are diverse viewpoints on extending voting rights. The President must endorse decisions on voting rights. The faculty should present a coherent rationale for changes.

### Lecturer and Senior Lecturers

In response to concerns raised in the last faculty meeting, the Academic Council is fine-tuning the decision to create Lecturer and Series Lecturer categories. There are two groups:

A. There are a small number of people teaching in positions who otherwise would have had tenure. This is not an expanding pool. Academic Council is considering a four-year limitation renewable contracts to visiting assistant professors.

B. Artists-in-residence. This position would not be applicable outside of arts; the lecturer category provides a way around the proposed four-year limit.

The Savage resolution, as amended, enfranchises these two groups.

Why have category B? In the arts, it is desirable to have some professional artists teaching studio classes; artists who are neither eligible for tenure nor subject to review under the faculty document on promotion and tenure. The second category of lectureship would allow for continuity of program in the arts.

## **III. Committee Reports**

### **Committee on Admissions, Awards, and Academic Standing**

Steve Hunt:

- Minutes are new on the web.
- College wide honors are under consideration.
- A uniform schedule for internal scholarships is being developed, to be published in the Pioneer Log.
- Formulas for financial aid are under review.

Diane Miesen:

First year admission statistics are reported, and are attached.

Q: Why is the percentage of matriculants declining?

We are in a more competitive group as student quality rises.

Q: Are students applying to many more places?

Not especially. But there are more early decisions.

Q: Why are there more applicants with fewer inquiries?

Better targeting.

Q: Are minority applicant figures available?

Yes. They will be made available.

### **Committee on the Curriculum**

Bill Randall:

-eight credits are now given for the BC Advanced Placement exam.

-Declaration of major: The Curriculum Committee makes the attached motion:

"1. Effective Fall, 1999, students are expected to declare a major when they qualify for junior standing;

and

2. Students who do not declare by this time will not be allowed to register in the subsequent term until they make a declaration of major."

This proposal shouldn't be too harsh. Declaration of major forms are distributed with registration packets. This year there are 67 juniors and 8 seniors who have not yet declared.

The AAAS Committee two years ago discussed and rejected the motion that the Curriculum Committee is now bringing before the faculty. The substitute proposal offered by AAAS has been judged to be unworkable by the Curriculum Committee.

- Grade distributions are being studied, and will be reported within a couple of weeks.
- An appeal from the Registrar: Please avoid inappropriate use of incomplete grades.
- Next year's review of the general education program is initially being viewed as a fix-up, not an overhaul. Request for input by Faculty -- what questions and procedures should be followed? Send e-mail to Bill Randall.

Q: What is meant by fix-up? Will radical suggestions be considered?  
A: Yes they will.

### **Committee on Educational Technology**

Jim Duncan gave the first report from new committee.

- The Faculty members on the committee are Mike Taylor and Eric Nilsen
- The educational software budget has been adequate, and is not yet competitive.
- An AT&T grant to fund a three-day workshop for faculty is being pursued.
- Brett Ingerman is hoping to meet with the Divisional chairs.

## **IV. Old Business**

### **A. Voting Rights**

The Rohrbaugh amendment on the floor became the subject of debate.

Information provided by David Savage: Lecturers are hired initially on a one-year contract. Then, they are offered two-year renewable contracts. There are seven senior lecturers; four are in the grandfathered category, three are in the Arts. In addition, there are two lecturers in the Arts.

By a show of Chair's hands, it was determined that there are 11-12 visiting assistant professors.

Four people spoke in opposition to the Amendment. David Savage argued that the principles underlying his initial motion are longevity of service and centrality to the core curriculum, and the amendment was inconsistent with these principles. Other arguments included that the amendment endorses a second tier of citizens; it creates an expectation that we are continuing to build lecturer positions. The amendments limits the extension of voting rights to only lecturers, and provides no equity for Visiting Assistant Professors.

Jean Ward suggested, but did not move, that she would prefer broader extensions of franchise on case by case basis, through Faculty Council and the Dean with the criteria being longevity and centrality.

Five people spoke in favor of the amendment. The point was made that new tenure track faculty start voting right away; the two year renewable contracts for lecturers after the first year indicate an expectation of long term service. The amendment does not limit the expansion of the franchise since the issue of assistant professors can be addressed in a later vote. It is possible to proceed incrementally.

The question was called, and debate was closed after a voice vote.

By a secret ballot vote with 33 in favor and 24 opposed, the amendment carried.

Debate now turned to the Savage Motion as amended.

The question was called. Debate resumed after a vote of 22 in favor, 28 opposed.

Three people spoke against the motion on the following grounds: that it failed to provide clear principles for voting rights, that it endorsed the lecturer positions and thus set a bad precedent, and that the faculty was too closely divided on the issue.

Two people spoke in favor, arguing that no precedent was set, and that we were obligated to enfranchise our senior lecturers.

Jean Ward argued that the Motion was not inclusive enough, and proposed a substitute motion:

## VOTING RIGHTS:

For the purposes of Faculty business and elections, voting rights shall reside with tenured and tenure-track faculty in departments and programs of the CAS. Non-

tenure-track faculty may be invited to accept faculty voting rights when the Faculty Council and Dean of the College agree annually, on a case-by-case basis, that the faculty member being considered for voting rights holds half-time to full-time teaching responsibilities that are central to the mission and curriculum of the CAS. As early as possible in each fall semester and no later than the first faculty meeting in October, the Faculty Council and Dean of the College will provide the full faculty with a report of non-tenure-track faculty who have accepted invitation to faculty voting rights for the year.

#### COMMITTEE SERVICE:

With the exception of CAS faculty standing committees, non-tenure-track faculty with voting rights may be appointed, elected and invited to serve on CAS faculty committees. Candidacy for faculty positions on CAS standing committees is restricted to tenured and tenure-track CAS faculty.

The motion was seconded.

One person spoke against the substitute motion arguing that without the faculty providing clear guidelines, the process might become too political; that the Savage Motion could be viewed as incremental (addressing inclusivity concerns); and that the Savage motion was in fact a good compromise position.

Four people spoke in favor of the Ward motion, arguing that the issue was too fine-grained to be decided via a rule-based system, and that we should trust our faculty council representatives.

The question was called, and the debate was closed after a voice vote.

After a vote of 31 in favor, and 11 opposed, the substitute motion (The Ward Motion) successfully replaced the Savage Motion, and became the motion on the floor.

A motion for adjournment was made, and passed, at 5:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Eban Goodstein

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