

**Minutes
General Faculty Meeting
Monday, March 1, 2004
Burruss Auditorium
12 noon**

Meeting called to order by Tom Currin, 12:06 p.m.

1. Minutes of General Faculty Meeting of November 20, 2003: motion to accept passed.

2. Recommendations to the Faculty made at:
Student Status Committee 4 December 2003
Student Status Committee 13 January 2004
Student Status Committee 10 February 2004
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee 13 January 2004
Graduate Programs Committee 13 January 2004
Graduate Programs Committee 12 February 2004
Faculty Senate 18 November 2003
Faculty Senate 9 December 2003
Faculty Senate 20 January 2004
Faculty Senate 10 February 2004
Faculty Senate 17 February 2004
Student Life 9 October 2003
Student Life 30 October 2003

Motion to accept all passed.

3. Petitioned Candidates for Graduation, Spring 2004: the faculty not having received a copy of the list and unable to locate it on the web site, a motion to table this item was passed.

4. Moderator's Comments: Tom Currin

4.1 There is ongoing discussion in the Senate concerning the P&P for Promotion and Tenure.

4.1.1 The faculty are strongly advised to pay attention to the Faculty Secretary, Bob Dreyer's emails. The minutes capture the evolving changes quite accurately and the document changes from meeting to meeting.

4.1.2 Any faculty member with a concern is encouraged to attend the Senate meeting. The document is a "faculty" document, not a "Senate" document, and faculty input is desired and welcomed.

4.1.3 Any faculty member with a concern or input who is unable to attend the Senate meeting is encouraged to contact their senator, Tom Currin, Bob Dreyer, or any senator.

4.2 Nominations for Moderator and Secretary of the Faculty will be called for at the March 25th general faculty meeting.

4.2.1 Tom Currin will not run for an additional term.

4.2.2 The election will be held at the April 22 general faculty meeting. Nominations from the floor at that meeting are not precluded by the call for nominations to be made at the March meeting.

5. President's Comments: VP Pat McCord

5.1 There will be a budget discussion with BOR representatives tomorrow downtown. Not every campus will have such a meeting; it must be requested in advance. The meeting is informal.

5.2 Points to be stressed by SPSU:

5.2.1 We made some progress last year in getting recognition for our unique role and challenges. We got classified with the research universities for tuition increase purposes. The BOR recommended we request to be classified with the research universities for tech fee purposes. Last year our Tech Fee request was capped at \$38. We will be requesting it be raised to \$75 (equal to what the research universities got last year). This would result in additional revenues of \$340,000.

5.2.2 With or without the acquisition of the Life campus, SPSU needs more space and will be going forward with the request for the new Math/Science building.

5.2.3 We need to reduce our use of adjunct faculty, currently accounting for 42% of our headcount and teaching 37% of our courses.

5.2.4 We will be requesting an athletic fee increase of \$26 (a rise from \$68 to \$94). This would fund the addition of men's and women's soccer (\$184,000), allow for existing athletic scholarships to be adjusted upward to reflect recent increases in tuition (\$46,000), and \$9,000 for men's tennis (inflation correction to current budget).

5.2.5 There will also be questions about the Enhancing Access Initiatives budget which was zeroed out in the Chancellor's first budget draft. EAI funds our Floyd Center and Gwinnett Center programs in Business Information Technology. If the Chancellor's budget is in fact going to zero out the EAI funds, we will seek a share of the BOR strategic allocation monies. (Strategic allocation monies are generated by withholding 20% of every institution's formula funding.)

5.2.6 There will be an on-campus presentation--either late this week or right after break--to share feedback from the downtown meeting.

6. Vice President's Comments: Dean Alan Gabrielli

6.1 The Department of Education requested USG feedback on the recently released draft K-12 education standards.

6.1.1 USG sought input through the Academic Advisory Committees for the relevant disciplines. Some ACCs have met, some have not.

6.1.2 SPSU requested feedback from the campus representatives to the relevant ACCs. The information submitted is posted at:

<http://www.spsu.edu/arts/DOE.html>

Contact information for the various campus ACC representatives is also available there.

6.1.3 Bill Burnett, the campus representative for Biology, expressed the biologists' concerns with both the content of the biology standards and the fundamental misunderstanding of the

nature of science they represent. He pointed out that Geology, not represented on our campus, has received far less attention but suffered parallel difficulties. The biology committee is trying to exert influence both through USG channels and through the press to encourage significant revisions in the standards.

6.1.4 Julie Newell, the campus representative for History, indicated that the history standards raise significant concerns about content (high school standards that include no US history before 1877, no "world" history before 1500, and "world" history that is really "western" history, for instance) but pointed out that the standards are also very poorly written and edited (thus setting a poor example). They also include outcomes that are unrelated to the content in the unit and have other numerous and serious pedagogical shortcomings.

7. Announcements

7.1 There will be a Graduate Open House the third week of March.

7.2 The Moderator voiced his thanks for the rapid and helpful response of the Student Center staff in providing a new "home" for this faculty meeting when it had to be moved and then rescheduled.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas R. Currin
Moderator and President, Faculty Senate

David E. Hornbeck
Interim Vice President, Academic Affairs