

Winthrop University Faculty Conference
16 August 2013
2:00 pm Plowden Auditorium, Withers Building
Quorum Reached

The meeting was commenced by Dr. Bird at 2:00.

I. Approval of minutes for April 19, 2013 Faculty Conference

The minutes were approved.

II. Report from the Chair, John Bird

a. Remarks and Introduction of Secretary (Casey Cothran, English) and Parliamentarian (Tara Collins, Psychology)

b. Recognition of Faculty Members Promoted and/or Tenured

1. The 18 faculty members granted tenure are: in the College of Arts and Sciences, Matthew Hayes, psychology; Robert Prickett, English; Joseph Rusinko, mathematics; and Scott Werts, geology; in the College of Business Administration, Melissa Carsten and Malayka Klimchak, management; Barbara Pierce, accounting; and Laura Ullrich, economics; in the Richard W. Riley College of Education, Judy Britt, elementary education; Kelly Costner, middle level education; Jennifer Jordan, counseling; Debra Leach, special education; Kavin Ming, reading; Tenisha Powell, early childhood education; and Susan Reichelt, family and consumer science; and in the College of Visual and Performing Arts, David Wohl, theatre; Stephanie Milling, dance; and Jason Tselentis, design.

2. There were 18 faculty members promoted to professor or associate professor. Promoted to the rank of professor are: in the College of Arts and Sciences, Leigh Armistead, psychology; in the Richard W. Riley College of Education, Shelley Hamill, PE/health; and in the College of Visual and Performing Arts, Tom Stanley, Marge Moody and Shaun Cassidy, fine arts; and Katherine Kinsey, music.

3. Promoted to the rank of associate professor from assistant professor are: in the College of Arts and Sciences, Matthew Hayes, psychology; Robert Prickett, English; Joseph Rusinko, mathematics; and Scott Werts, geology; in the College of Business Administration, Melissa Carsten and Malayka Klimchak, management; and in the Richard W. Riley College of Education, Judy Britt, elementary education; Kelly Costner, middle level education; Debra Leach, special education; Kavin Ming, reading; Tenisha Powell, early childhood education; and Janet Wojcik, exercise science.

III. Report from June 7, 2013 Board of Trustees Meeting, Cliff Calloway

Dr. Calloway attended the summer Board of Trustees Meeting. A full report is available on the faculty website. Highlights: As there is a new district in SC, there is a new board member

to represent that district; Dalton Floyd stepped down as Chair, and the board held an election for new officers; accolades were given to President Emeritus DiGiorgio; the board welcomed and celebrated the arrival of President Comstock; ten faculty members were awarded emeritus status.

III. Report from the President, Jayne Comstock

President Comstock noted that she has recently spoken to different groups in Columbia and on campus. She provided a brief introduction to her philosophy: she has a deep interest in working with students and their families, and she sees herself as "a faculty member with a lot of release time for service." The president noted that she hopes to be back in the classroom in some way after this opening year. President Comstock also emphasized the importance of service: it is a part of who she is and she hopes her example inspires others. Faculty must be aware of the sacred honor of their position; the citizens of SC trust faculty to be positive examples to the people who come into our classrooms to learn from us. The president urged faculty to set good examples of how to treat others and of how to approach professional opportunities. This week in particular, President Comstock's goal is to shake the hands of parents, to assure them Winthrop will take good care of their children. She also cares about faculty governance, and due to her past experience in faculty leadership positions, she believes in the ideals of shared governance. Staff should have a voice as well, an opportunity to share their expertise and make contributions. The president proposed the idea of a Staff Assembly as a way to show our support of the ideals of shared governance. President Comstock also noted that she is troubled by the way that messages stop at the President's office; she would like for faculty to have opportunities to take issues to the Board of Trustees. She hopes that a clause can be added to the Faculty Handbook by the first Board of Trustees meeting in October that would provide a way for faculty to speak to the Board. She hopes this option would be rarely used, but she thinks it is appropriate for faculty to have a voice on those occasions when they and the president disagree on an issue. The president then opened the floor to questions. None were posed. The president asked if faculty would like for her to stay for future meetings.

Beth Costner: We would like you to stay, but we have the right to ask you to leave.

President Comstock noted that the faculty has the right to ask all of the administrators to leave.

Beth Costner: It would be nice if you could attend meetings; we share a lot and you could get to know us.

President Comstock thanked the faculty for the honor of serving as president and noted that she is looking forward to the next few months. There will be opportunities for all to be a part of important conversations that will help us to build the future of our institution.

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

a. Provost Boyd welcomed new members to faculty conference and noted that President Comstock is a new faculty member.

b. Provost Boyd introduced Dean Weikle, who introduced four new members of the College of Business Administration: Dr. Stephanie Lawson, assistant professor of Marketing; Dr. Glyn Winterbothen, assistant professor of Accounting; Dr. Andrew Besmer, assistant professor of Computer Science; Dr. Adriana Cordis, assistant professor of Accounting.

c. Provost Boyd introduced Dean Rakestraw, who introduced eight new members of the College of Education: Dr. Daniel Drane, Chair of Physical Education, Sport, and Human Performance; Dr. Sherell Fuller, assistant professor of Curriculum and Pedagogy and the new director of the Teaching Fellows Program; Dr. Linda Hutchinson (the former director of Macfeat [1995-2001]), assistant professor of Curriculum and Pedagogy; Dr. Seth Jenny, assistant professor of Physical Education, Sport, and Human Performance; Ms. Jonie Marr, lecturer and wellness coach for ZestQuest; Ms. Liz McNelly, lead preschool teacher at Macfeat; Dr. Scot Rademaker, assistant professor of curriculum and pedagogy; Ms. Carrie Sanders, instructor of Counseling, Leadership, and Educational Studies.

d. Provost Boyd introduced Dean Wohl, who introduced five new members of the College of Visual and Performing Arts: Dr. Jeffrey McEvoy, assistant professor of Music; Dr. Tracy Patterson, assist professor of Music; Dr. Bill Furman, assistant professor of Interior Design; Ms. Valerie Ifill, assistant professor of Dance; Mr. Daniel Gordon, Chair of the Department of Theater and Dance.

e. Provost Boyd introduced Dean Herring, who introduced one new member of the Library: Michaela Volkmar, Reference and Access Services librarian.

f. Provost Boyd introduced Dean Jones, who introduced three new members of University College: Dr. Donald Rakestraw, professor of American Studies; Dr. Leigh Anne Poole, the new director of the International Center and an assistant professor in University College; Ms. Leah Kendall, the new director of ACAD and an instructor in University College.

g. Provost Boyd introduced newly elected Dean Karen Kedrowski, who introduced ten new members of the College of Arts and Sciences: Dr. Zachary Abernathy, assistant professor of Mathematics; Dr. Meir Max Barak, assistant professor of Biology; Ms. Simone Camel, an instructor of Human Nutrition; Dr. Monique Constance-Huggins, assistant professor of Social Work; Dr. Adam Glover, assistant professor of Spanish; Ms. Aimee Meder, instructor of Mass Communications; Dr. Duane Neff, assistant professor of Social Work; Ms. Stephanie Nielsen, instructor of Human Nutrition and director of the Dietician Program; Dr. Scott Shinabarger, Chair of the Department of World Languages and Cultures; Dr. Matthew Herd, assistant professor of Biology. Dean Kedrowski noted faculty who have taken on new roles this semester: Dr. Beth Costner, Associate Dean for Teacher Education Programs; Dr. Sarah Stallings is stepping down from the position of Assistant Dean to become Chair of the Department of Human Nutrition; Dr. Jennifer Disney is the new Chair of the Department of Political Science; Dr. Tom Polaski is the new Chair of Mathematics; Dr. Peter Judge is on sabbatical but will take up the position of Chair of the Department of Religious Studies and Philosophy when he returns; Amanda Hackney, Assistant to the Dean, College of Arts and Sciences.

h. Provost Boyd gave a brief overview of this year's freshman class. There is a large international population. The top states represented by the student population are SC, FL, MD, OH, plus 19 other states. 90% of freshmen have merit or state scholarships; 81 have the Palmetto Fellow Scholarship. The most popular majors: biology, business administration, psychology, and education. Winthrop has a notable transfer student population, whose average age is 23.

i. Provost Boyd spoke: Please be concerned about the student experience. All of us together make the experience effective and memorable. Please be engaged, and please create relationships with students! Thank you for all that you do. Please be willing to let me come and experience your classroom for myself.

j. Jennifer Solomon asked: What is a Provost? Provost Boyd responded: A provost is an individual who is in charge of academic programs, but who also has the opportunity to work closely with the president. She is like the president's deputy, making sure things work the way they should. Specifically, Provost Boyd hopes to make sure academic programs are the primary mission of Winthrop University.

V. Committee Reports

a. Introduction of Standing Committee Chairs (2013-2014), John Bird

b. Committee Reports

Dr. Mike Lipscomb of University Priorities invited all faculty and staff to contact him in order to share any special ideas or concerns with the President and the Board of Trustees. The committee is making an effort to democratize the process and to get feedback from the faculty. Look for an email mid-September to prompt you to take advantage of this opportunity to communicate. The faculty committee on University Priorities focuses on larger strategic concerns and plans for Winthrop's future. They also work with the committee on University Life, who focus on day-to-day issues.

VI. Unfinished Business

There was none.

VII. New Business

There was none.

VIII. Announcements

a. Registrar Reminders, Gina Jones

Look for emails from Gina Jones on a regular basis, and please read them. Deadlines and important announcements are within. Please contact jonesgg@winthrop.edu with questions about academic policies or grading.

b. Campus Sustainability Committee, Marsha Bollinger

Please turn off lights, close doors and windows, conserve energy, turn off the computer. These new initiatives tie in with the themes of the common book and are important.

c. Other Announcements

Dr. Jo Koster noted: One of academic council's foci is education. Look for upcoming emails about 200 level courses that are due for recertification. Please pay attention to these emails and respond in a timely fashion so that the 2014 curriculum can be planned.

Dr. Leslie Bickford said: ONCA thanks those professors who have written letters or who have sent students to the office. Be on the lookout for new, special, printed cards to hand out to students (to remind them to make an appointment with the ONCA office). Please use these cards when you receive them.

Dr. Frank Pullano announced that mid-semester grading will be called for during the week of Monday, September 30 through Sunday, October 6. Please submit midterm grades! They are crucially important. Please organize your calendar so that there will be some type of student assessment before these dates.

Mr. Daniel Gordon reminded members: There are a number of exciting productions this year. Please encourage students to come to these productions. Also, let the Department of Theater and Dance know if you would like to tie your lessons to their productions; the department is producing study guides that can accompany productions and performances.

Dean Wohl noted: Please enjoy Winthrop's cultural events. There are films on campus, music recitals, gallery openings... Please take advantage of all that is offered; you can go to the webpage to see the schedule.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Casey A. Cothran

Next meeting Oct 4, 2013 -- 2:00 Whitton Auditorium, Carroll Hall

Faculty Conference Membership (329) 35% = 115 20% = 66