

MINUTES
Winthrop University Faculty Conference
April 21, 2006 2:00 pm
Recital Hall

I. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

Dr. Timothy Daugherty called the meeting to order at 2 P.M. Minutes from the March 3, 2006 Faculty Conference were approved as distributed.

II. Welcome & Introductory Remarks

Dr. Daugherty provided a brief summary of the April 7 Board of Trustees meeting. A four percent increase in the Room/Board rate for 2006-2007 was approved (tuition will be considered in June). The Board approved a resolution to name the planned campus center the “Anthony J. and Gale N. DiGiorgio Campus Center.” The terms of three trustees (Skip Tuttle, Mary Jean Martin, and Polly Ford) are expiring. Two of the three new members have been chosen by alumni (Frances Davenport and Jane Laroche); the third, an appointee of the governor, has not yet been identified. The final Board of Trustees meeting for this academic year will be June 9.

Dr. Daugherty thanked the offices of the President and Vice President for their positive response to an accelerated timetable for setting the dates for Faculty Conference and Academic Council meetings. He announced the following dates for next academic year (cautioning all to maintain flexibility in case dates later need to be adjusted):

<u>Faculty Conference</u>	<u>Academic Council</u>
August 18 th	September 8 th
September 29 th	October 6 th
November 17 th	November 3 rd
January 26 th	January 12 th
March 2 nd	February 16 th
April 20 th	April 6 th

III. Report from the President

President DiGiorgio provided what he termed a “rather expedited update” before returning to commitments related to Alumni Weekend.

The president referred to an email update from Walter Hardin for full details on “the good, the bad, and the ugly” with regard to campus facilities. He highlighted, for example that we will not be able to use the West Center before the spring semester of next year.

We are concluding our 120th academic year, with a strong record of success and a bright outlook for the future. Tremendous changes are taking place. The President once again recommended reading Thomas Friedman’s *The World is Flat*, and mentioned that his office has available a 37 minute DVD wherein the author introduces a synopsis of his concepts. He sees its importance for our “our collective work” at the university in terms of asking ourselves what we are doing to prepare students for life in the global economy and for global citizenship. The president commended the faculty for its willingness to engage in a focus on deep learning, as led by Vice President Moore. He believes our faculty is “ahead of the curve” in this regard. We need to continue to find creative ways to address students’ needs in a “flat world”. This does not mean

simply a massive infusion of people, but thinking creatively within our budgetary realities. The discussion of rewards also comes into play here. For example, the appointment of directors for the Leadership Studies Program and the Office of Nationally Competitive Awards involves creative compensation ideas that go beyond the usual release-time solution. The President made a point of thanking the faculty for their work during what he recognized as a challenging year.

It has been an extraordinarily productive year, one in which some touchstones have been put in place that will serve us for the foreseeable future. This is the first full year for the new General Education program – a significant transformation. Good conversations are ongoing with regard to roles and rewards. Implementation of the INBRE grant has included engaging students in collaborative research – a model from which all can benefit. The proposed Information Design program has involved collaboration of faculty from five departments and three colleges – a remarkable form of program development. The president noted that this has been one of Winthrop's best fund-raising years ever. Athletics, particularly the men's basketball team's appearance in the NCAA tournament, has boosted Winthrop's image and the public's awareness of our institution. This, of course, must be kept in perspective, but it adds to a very positive picture.

Regarding external issues, Dr. DiGiorgio urged the faculty to keep the reauthorization of the Federal Higher Education Act in view. "For profit" institutions have gained an unprecedented status – their lobby is strong. The Secretary of Education is forming a task force that is seeing higher education through a "different lens" and actively talking about the intersection of higher education accountability and higher education accreditation. There is talk of moving accreditation to the states and away from regional accrediting bodies, which would make it a more political process.

The president reviewed the dueling budget recommendations being considered by the state legislature, highlighting the potential effect of each on higher education in general and Winthrop in particular. The Governor has established a task force on higher education; the president briefly discussed the task force's membership and charge.

The President concluded by reiterating his thanks for all that the faculty does to promote our common work.

IV. Report from the Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Moore introduced the new Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness – Dr. Daniel Weinstein, whose work will combine the missions of the former offices of Institutional Research and Assessment. The Economic Impact Survey is an indicator of Winthrop's contribution to the regional economy; Dr. Moore urged participation. Searches are underway for Director of the new Leadership Studies Program, Director of the Office of Nationally Competitive Awards, and Director of the International Center. The MLA program's first Hornsby Lecture was a success, and congratulations were offered to Dr. Dave Rankin. Dr. Moore echoed the president's comments regarding the successful academic year, citing in particular the ongoing implementation of the new general education program. Thanks were offered to those who participated in the Dee Fink workshops on April 7; he will be here in August for the academic leadership retreat to continue the discussion on deep learning. Dr. Moore indicated that he sees the physical disruptions (per building projects) on campus as a metaphor for what has been

happening academically – the turmoil with new courses and training is leading to a new “look” for our mission. The future looks better than ever – 5 years from now Winthrop will be talked about differently and even more positively than ever before. At commencement and related ceremonies, he is grateful to celebrate what we do at Winthrop.

V. Committee Reports

A. Academic Council

Dr. Frank Pullano announced the following persons are newly elected members of Academic Council: Beth Costner (CAS) replacing John Bird, Latisha Dennis (CAS) replacing Barbara Heinemann, Bob Gorman (Library) replacing Patricia Ballard, Mark Hamilton (CVPA) replacing Shaun Cassidy, Donna Nelson (Appointed) replacing Dave Pretty, Steve Frankforter (COB) replacing Bill Seyfried, and Susan Green (Faculty Conference) replacing Frank Pullano. The Chair of Academic Council for the 2006 – 2007 Academic Year will be Dr. Tom Polaski.

Dr. Pullano announced that Academic Council accepted reports from the Honors Committee and the Academic Conduct Committee. He notified FC of modifications in each of the following Departments/Programs (referring to the detailed report distributed via email); no Faculty Conference action was required and no concerns were raised.

<u>Program Change</u>	<u>Course Change</u>
English	African American Studies
Gerontology	Biology
Human Nutrition	Chemistry, Physics and
Modern Languages	Geology
Political Science	English
	History
	Human Nutrition
	Modern Languages
	Political Science
	Sociology and Anthropology
	Center for Pedagogy
	Curriculum and Instruction
	Music

Dr. Pullano then moved the following additions/retentions and the entire motion was approved:

- Add *GEOG 305: Introduction to Geographical Information Systems* to the list of courses meeting the Technology requirement.
- Add *MUSA 141-149: Special Topics in Music* to the list of courses meeting the Humanities and Arts requirement.
- Add *ENGL 208: Foundations of World Literature* to the lists of courses meeting the Global Experience and Humanities and Arts requirements.
- Add *ENGL 312: African American Literature* to the list of courses meeting the Humanities and Arts requirement.
- Add *VCOM 261: Computer Imaging in Design* to the lists of courses meeting the Technology and Logic/Language/Semiotics requirements.

- Add *VCOM 222: Introduction to Illustration*, *VCOM 251: Introduction to Graphic Design*, *VCOM 258: Introduction to Typography*, *VCOM 354: Graphic Design I*, and *VCOM 463: Sequential and Multimedia Design* to the list of courses meeting the Humanities and Arts requirement.
- Retain the modified course *HIST 337/AAMS 337: History of Sub-Saharan Africa* on the lists of courses meeting the Humanities and Arts and Historical Perspectives requirements (title change).
- Retain the modified course *PLSC 338/AAMS 338: Government and Politics of Africa* on the lists of courses meeting the Social Science and Global Perspectives requirements (prerequisite change).
- Retain the modified course *PLSC 551: African-American Political Thought* on the lists of courses meeting the Humanities and Arts and Intensive Writing requirements (prerequisite change).

Dr. Pullano moved to add the revised document on GNED 102 (as approved by Academic Council and distributed to the faculty via email) to the official documentation for the course. The motion was approved.

Dr. Pullano moved to accept the distributed guidelines proposed by the Oral and Writing-Intensive Committee for students seeking exemption from a compensatory writing experience by submission of a portfolio of non-fiction work outside of the classroom since high school. The motion was approved.

Dr. Pullano moved to create a new designator, PEAC (Peace, Justice and Conflict Resolution Studies), and to add a minor in Peace, Justice and Conflict Resolution studies. The motion was approved. Dr. Pullano's motions to add a minor in Marketing and to add a minor in Religion were also approved.

The final motion of the year from Academic Council sought to create a new designator, INFD (Information Design), and to create a Bachelor of Science degree program in Information Design as described in the distributed report. A member of the conference raised a question regarding the meaning of adoption, given that the INFD proposal remains in flux. The motion sought approval, recognizing that some elements remain subject to revision and/or further development. Progress will be reported back to faculty conference at an appropriate time. The motion was adopted by Faculty Conference.

B. Rules Committee

The Teacher Education Committee updated its bylaws to reflect the current student government structure. The Rules Committee reviewed the updated TEC Bylaws and the committee found no conflict with the FC Bylaws. No concerns were raised by Faculty Conference.

C. Undergraduate Petitions

Dr. Daugherty announced that the Undergraduate Petitions Committee had chosen to forward its report through him to the faculty via email earlier in the week. Dr. Clarence Coleman, chair of the committee, was available for questions but none were raised.

D. Status of Remaining Committees

Dr. Daugherty quoted the Faculty Conference Bylaws: *“Each committee of the Faculty Conference...shall report on its activities at least once each academic year to the Faculty Conference...”* Having just heard from Academic Council, Rules, and Undergraduate Petitions, the conference was provided the following update regarding the standing committees and invited to ask questions (none were raised).

- Academic Freedom and Tenure (annual report distributed)
- Admissions Advisory (no required report per report to FC earlier in the year)
- Budget Priorities Committee (annual report distributed)
- Faculty Concerns Committee (no required report per report to FC earlier in the year)
- Faculty Personnel (no required report per bylaws)
- Library (annual report distributed)

VI. Unfinished Business -- none.

VII. New Business**A. Two-Minute Drill**

Dr. Keith Benson talked about “taking calculated risks in the classroom.” Helping students set goals and take responsibility for meeting them makes it possible for the professor to convert from “sage on the stage” to “guide on the side.”

B. University Copyright Policy

Dr. Daugherty announced that the committee’s work was continuing (in fact, the committee had met earlier that same day) and that a report would be forthcoming next year. Faculty members were again urged to send copyright questions to Dean Herring.

VIII. Announcements

Dr. Daugherty thanked the Faculty Conference’s parliamentarian, Dr. Sue Spencer, and secretary, Dr. Peter Judge, for their work during this academic year. He also thanked Joyce Stafford (Administrative Assistant, VPAA’s office), Chris O’Neil (Facilities Manager, Music), and Lisa Harris (ITC Director, COE). Dr. Daugherty was also grateful to Dr. Pullano for coordination and collaboration in bringing the work of academic council to faculty conference. He expressed his appreciation for the spirit of cooperation he received from Dr. DiGiorgio and Dr. Moore. The five faculty members who provided “two-minute drills” for Faculty Conference this year were also thanked: Alice Burmeister (VPAA), Sue Spencer (COE), Adolphus Belk (A&S), Antje Mays (Library), and Keith Benson (COB). Faculty members were reminded about grade deadlines and commencement ceremonies, and special attention was called to faculty members who are retiring.

Adjournment was at 3 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter J. Judge, Secretary