
ABSENT: John Mortimer, Tom Secrest, Patti Edwards, Scott Harris, Rich Koesterer, James Solazzo

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Micheline Brown from Academic Affairs corrected several errors in the Minutes. They were: On page 4 of the minutes, item 12, after CBAD 440 in the third line, insert CBAD 437. Further down under Option: Business Administration 332*, 440----, delete hyphens and insert 437 before 440. Item 15, at number (4), Students who take PHIL 101 should be changed to PHIL 110.

On page 8 of the minutes, item 26, a course restriction was omitted. A course restriction of students will take course as part of approved CCU travel/study program will be inserted.

Paul Peterson requested that the minutes, under Graduate Council, be amended to say “There was much concern expressed about the College of Education eliminating the Graduate Record Exam.” Peterson then made a motion to amend the minutes as stated, seconded by Philip Schneider. The motion to amend passed.

A motion was made by Philip Schneider, seconded by John Navin to accept the February 1, 2006 minutes as amended. The motion to accept the minutes as amended passed.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT: Senate Chair, David Evans, reported President Ingle has asked him to address the issue of textbook cost. Evans said the issue, appearing on the American Association of State Colleges and Universities discussion list, reports on a survey commissioned by the General Assembly of Virginia last year. It was found that 42% of students were unable to afford their text books one semester and 24% reported spending more than $500.00 last fall.

President Ingle wants an ad hoc committee of faculty to evaluate this issue in attempts of being pro-active. Our General Assembly is also discussing this, and he would like us to put something forward rather than have something come down.

If any faculty is interested in serving on this committee, please let Evans know.

PROVOST AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: Provost Barr said most are aware and have participated in the activities over the years, and especially last year, in trying to improve retention. Barr said the Student Retention Assessment Committee (SRAC) asked for many of these changes to try to improve retention. Barr said SAT scores of first time freshman have continued to improve but we have made few gains in retention. Improved retention is extremely important because of the social and economic costs. Despite our many efforts, we have clearly not solved the problem. There is not one single item that we are committed to do in fall 2006 that was not on the list of recommendation by the SRAC last summer. The current research, Barr said, is that those colleges or universities that are most successful in retaining and graduating students are those where the culture is one of student learning. Our students should know when they arrive on campus that this is a culture of student learning. Barr said we want our students to be a part of the community, have fun, but also realize they have responsibility to be successful learners. The efforts are most successful when the programs are inter-related, campus wide, and involve close working relationships between academics and student affairs. What we propose in fall 2006, Barr said, is have centralized advising, which is
supposed to be a place where a student can go anytime and there will be someone there that can assist that student. It is a place where the student can turn for any kind of question they might have. There will be eight academic advisors, and we will have them housed in one location in the Prince Building, and they will get involved with the student even before they start classes. Basically, what we’re recommending is that every single freshman be advised by these advisers and enroll in and pass the Freshman Experience course. In addition, we want to say to the parents, we are concerned with your sons and daughters staying in school and graduating, and we would like for you to participate in that process. We want you to know we are going to be diligent about taking attendance, and if students don’t show up for a period of time, we will send either an adviser or mentor to see what is happening before it is too late for the student to return to the classroom. Provost Barr said what we are saying to the student is, look you are putting a lot of money into your education, your parents are putting a lot of money into your education, we are putting a lot of effort in order for you to be successful, but you also have to accept some responsibility, and you can help build that culture of student learning as much as we can. To be successful, it requires the participation of all of us, Barr said.

Evans moved, Schneider seconded, and the Senate approved that the Senate would resolve itself into a committee of the whole for the purpose of an informal discussion with the Provost.

Subsequently, after much discussion, Evans ended the deliberations as a committee of the whole.

COMMITEE REPORTS: Michael Ruse, Faculty Welfare Development Chair reported that 109 people responded to the FWD survey regarding tuition benefits for dependents, and forthcoming will be results.

PENDING BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Heather Remley, Secretary of SGA, announced the Coastal Carolina University Dance Marathon to benefit the Children’s Miracle Network will be held on March 25, 2006 from 10AM-10PM.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: None

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by Steve Sheel
Faculty Senate Secretary

Janet Straub
Faculty Senate Recorder