

Opening Faculty Meeting
August 19, 2011
Blackwell Ballroom

Dr. Fergeson called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. The minutes of the spring faculty meeting were approved as posted. She thanked last year's Senate Executive Committee members for their hard work and introduced the members of this year's committee—David Lehr, David Loccasio, Sharon Menegoni, and Robin Smith. She asked the Senators to stand so that department members could identify their representatives who would be representing them and reporting to them about Senate issues and actions.

Dr. Fergeson introduced President Finnegan who informed the faculty about the following initiatives:

A planned expansion of the international program to increase diversity and exposure to other cultures and languages. The expansion includes the institution this spring of an ESL program. If the program does not become self-sustaining, it will be discontinued.

The creation of an office for sponsored programs to help faculty with grants.

A study of faculty, staff, and AP salaries by an experienced company. The company will come up with a three- to five-year plan to remedy problems.

A search for a Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost, to be headed by Dr. Pierson. There will be a firm to assist in the search.

President Finnegan talked briefly about his excitement over the participation in the Academic Strategic Plan Forum which will be the centerpiece for the five- and ten-year plans for the University. He mentioned the SACS and QEP planning which he hopes will tie into the Academic Strategic Plan. He announced the reissue of a printed phone directory which will be available for \$3.00 to \$5.00. Emphasizing the main focus of the University on academic programs, President Finnegan thanked the faculty for their dedication to students and for all the work they do.

Dr. Fergeson called for nominations for a faculty representative to the Board of Visitors. Dr. Pam Tracy nominated Dr. Derek Taylor. There were no other nominations and Dr. Taylor was elected by acclamation.

Dr. Fergeson recognized Dr. Lisa Kinzer, chair of the Faculty Status and Grievance Committee who announced the other members of the committee—Lee Bidwell, Audrey Church, Rená Koesler, and Bob Webber. She explained the committee's function, to hear and resolve grievances between faculty members or between the faculty and the administration.

Dr. Fergeson recognized Dr. Perkins who talked briefly about the six-year plan required by SCHEV to address increasing the number of degrees earned by Virginians, increase retention, and prepare students for good jobs, especially in STEM areas. A draft has been submitted and after revisions it will go to the Board of Visitors for approval. Much in the plan will require state funding. The plan is subordinate to the Academic Strategic Plan.

Dr. Fergeson called on Ms. Kinman and Dr. Amoss to talk about SACS and QEP. Ms. Kinman outlined differences in SACS since our last self study, mentioned the areas of assessment and an adequate number of full-time faculty, items about which questions had been raised as a result of Longwood's Fifth-Year Interim Report. She outlined the timetable for the various stages of the SACS review process. The SACS Leadership Team, chaired by President Finnegan, will be Dr. Pam Tracy, Dr. Perkins, Dr. Amoss, and Ms. Kinman. The Compliance Steering Committee, chaired by Ms. Kinman, consists of Dr. Pam Tracy, Dr. Perry, Dr. Fergeson, Dr. Whitworth, Ms. McKenzie, and Ms. Howard. That team will appoint the various committees. Ms. Kinman's final words were a reminder that it is not enough to do the things SACS is looking for. We must demonstrate compliance with supporting data.

Dr. Amoss explained the Q(uality) E(nhancement) P(rogram) that Longwood will develop as part of the reaffirmation process. A Topic Selection Committee will identify key issues emerging from assessment concerning learning outcomes and the supporting environment and will guide the selection of a focus by spring. Over the next two years the University will develop a plan for improving or enhancing student learning outcomes in that area to be approved by SACS as part of the reaffirmation of accreditation. This forward-looking plan based on up-to-date research in the field must show that funding is available for implementation. It will go to the SACS on-site committee prior to their visit and will be their main subject of interest during their visit. Assessment of the plan's implementation will form part of the next SACS 5-year report.

Dr. Fergeson called on Dr. Perkins to present new faculty members. He began with administrative changes, the appointment of Ms. Suzy Palmer, Dean of Greenwood Library and Professor of Library Science, of Ms. Sallie McMullin, interim director of Admissions, Dr. Alix Fink, interim director of the Honors College, Ms. Cynthia Erickson, interim Registrar, Dr. Jeannine Perry, Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies. Also new in the library is Ms. Emily Cox, Instructor and Librarian for Instruction and Reference Services.

Dr. Perkins called on Dr. Ross who announced that Ms. Erin Devine had successfully defended her dissertation. He introduced Mr. Michael Mergen, Assistant Professor of Art, Mr. Adam Paulek, Lecturer in Art, Dr. Amorette Barber, Assistant Professor of Biology, Dr. Catherine Franssen, Lecturer in Biology, Dr. Noureddine Hamamouch, Lecturer in Biology, Dr. Gary Page, Visiting Assistant Professor of Physics, Dr. Brett Martz, Assistant Professor of German, Dr. Sean Ruday, Assistant Professor of English, Mr. Edward Howarth, Lecturer in English, Mr. Jonathan Page, Lecturer in English, Mr. Richard Mulligan, Lecturer in English, Dr. Donald Blaheta, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, Dr. Thomas Wears, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Dr. Roland Karnatz, Lecturer in Music, Dr. Pamela McDermott, Visiting Assistant Professor and Director of Choral Activities, Dr. Barbara Maling, Assistant Professor of Nursing, Ms. Jo Ann Davis, Clinical Educator, Nursing, Dr. Danette Gibbs, Assistant Professor of Psychology, Dr. Laura E. Agnich, Assistant Professor of Sociology.

Dr. Jones introduced Mr. Blain Harrison, Instructor of Exercise Science, Ms. Donna Kanary, Lecturer in HARK, Dr. Karen Bibbins, Visiting Assistant Professor of Therapeutic Recreation, Dr. Shannon Salley, Visiting Assistant Professor of CSDS, and Dr. Sarah Miller, Assistant Professor of Education.

Dr. Barrett introduced Dr. Xun Bian, Assistant Professor of Finance.

Dr. Fergeson reminded faculty of the Honor and Integrity Ceremony and line-up which was to begin at 10:30 in the Lancaster Gallery.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Susan May