

Opening Faculty Meeting
Friday, August 20, 2010
Blackwell Ballroom

Dr. Fergeson called the opening faculty meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

The minutes of the spring faculty meeting, 3-25-10, were approved as posted.

Dr. Fergeson welcomed returning and new faculty to a new era at Longwood. She thanked Dr. Amoss for his work chairing the Senate for the last three years and last year's Executive and Search Committee members for their work. She mentioned recent accomplishments of each of the colleges and talked about several initiatives underway or to be undertaken this year—for example the continuing work on the five-year program being developed by CEHS and CAS, development of a process for a focus on academics and the expected involvement of the Faculty Senate and the faculty at large in that process. She also mentioned ways in which faculty could communicate with each other and with the Senate: through department representatives, by email, by watching the Senate web site for announcements, minutes, and reports, through a newly established listserv, Facebook, the Senate blog, and possibly Twitter. For the governance structure to work well it is important for faculty to let Senators know their concerns and ideas.

Dr. Fergeson read an email from President Finnegan (see below). She introduced Dr. Perkins who welcomed faculty to a year he hoped would be joyful, thanked them for their hard work and devoted service, asked for their advice and patience, and thanked them for taking teaching to heart.

Dr. Fergeson opened the floor to nominations for the faculty representative to the Board of Visitors. Dr. Apperson nominated Dr. Pamela Tracy. The nomination was seconded. Dr. Abrams moved that the nominations be closed. The motion was seconded, and Dr. Tracy was elected to the position.

Dr. Fergeson recognized Dr. Hall who explained the need for a liberal studies representative on the Educational Policies Committee and moved that the Senate bylaws wording in Article IX be changed to read "This committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall consist of the Chairs of the Curriculum Committees established by each academic college, 8 faculty members including at least 2 Senators, **and a voting member from the Liberal Studies Advisory Committee.**" The motion carried.

Dr. Fergeson recognized Dr. Stuart who moved a bylaws change to the name of the Faculty Status Committee. It would become the Faculty Status **and Grievances** Committee and would appear as such in Articles VII and X. The motion passed.

Dr. Lisa Kinzer spoke briefly about the work of the Faculty Status Committee and explained that there would be a runoff vote for a regular spot on the committee among Dr. Audrey Church, Dr. Alix Fink, and Dr. Rená Koesler. Dr. Church was elected; Dr. Fink and Dr. Koesler will serve as alternates.

Dr. Ross explained and demonstrated the new method for class roll verification being piloted this fall and talked about the many benefits of the system.

Dr. Fergeson then called on the Deans to introduce new faculty in their colleges. Dr. Barrett introduced
Dr. Ernest H. O'Boyle, Assistant Professor of Management
Dr. Charles D. White, Assistant Professor of Management

Dr. Wayne McWee, returning Professor of Business
Dr. Jones presented

Dr. Pamela Aerni, Assistant Professor of Education
Dr. Katrina L. Maynard, Assistant Professor of Education
Ms. Alicia Peterson, Lecturer of Fitness Concepts
Dr. Steve Whitaker, Assistant Professor of Education

Dr. Ross introduced

Dr. Dale Beach, Assistant Professor of Biology
Dr. Suzanne M. Donnelly, Assistant Professor of Science Education
Dr. R. Adam Franssen, Assistant Professor of Biology
Dr. Casie R. LeGette, Assistant Professor of English
Heather Lettner-Rust, Assistant Professor of English
Dr. Virginia L. Rothwell, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice
Dr. Kelsey Nicole Scheitlin, Assistant Professor of Geography
Dr. Leah N. Shilling, Assistant Professor in Math Education
Dr. Kimberly J. Stern, Assistant Professor of English
Dr. Wade A. Znosko, Assistant Professor of Biology
Dr. Christina P. Blottner, Instructor of Nursing
Ms. Virginia Lewis, Instructor in Mathematics Education
Mr. Mark Cole, Lecturer in Art
Ms. Cynthia S. Crews, Lecturer in Nursing and Clinical Simulation Director
Mr. Lawrence John Sestoso Getubig, Lecturer in Art
Dr. Leanne Hanson, Lecturer in Biology
Dr. Karen S. Rogers, Lecturer in English
Mr. Nelson J. Sanchiz, Lecturer in Spanish
Ms. Laura Christine Schultz, Lecturer in Spanish

Dr. Fergeson asked for new business or announcements. Dr. Orth reminded faculty of the lineup for the Freshman Honors Ceremony in the Willett lobby at 10:30, and Dr. Pierson added that there will be lunch tickets for participants. Dr. Alvarez reminded them of the rally, march, and soccer game on Sunday. Dr. Fergeson reminded them of the imminent deadline for Blackwell talk proposals and the new exhibition opening this evening from 6:00 to 8:00 at the LCVA.

Dr. Abrams moved adjournment, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Susan May

"Dear Members of the Longwood faculty:

Welcome back to campus for the beginning of another academic year as a proud member of our faculty. I'm very sorry that I'm unable to be there in person to welcome you or be there for the start of classes next Monday but hope to be well enough soon to return to work and participate in campus activities.

The returning students and New Lancers are ready for you to help them learn. Our main focus must remain on students and teaching them well -- there is nothing more central to our mission of transforming these eager young men and women into tomorrow's citizen leaders. Let's make sure we uphold Longwood's time-honored

tradition of student-faculty relationships that help us remember that this truly can be the Longwood family.

I also look forward to the opportunity to working together over the coming years on initiatives that will help determine Longwood's future and what we want our University to be. I know that many of you have thoughts and ideas that we should be able to meld together to create a vision for Longwood in the 21st century.

Although teaching is a demanding calling, at the end of the day it should also be enjoyable. Not every day is fun, of course, but education is not a grim business. In the long run, it should be both uplifting and joyful if we all work together.

I urge each of you to follow the "play nice" rule -- that is, treat everyone on and around campus with friendship and courtesy even when you may disagree. We gain nothing by overheated emails or angry arguments -- it will make Longwood an even better place if we treat each other with respect and civility at all times.

These are not easy days for higher education in Virginia or across the country. We'll continue to stay engaged to ensure that we can impact the economic situation as much as possible. In the meantime, what we teach students in and out of class -- both about academic subjects and the right way to conduct yourself with others -- has a value beyond any measured cost: it can be truly priceless.

Best of luck to all of us this year. See you soon. GO LANCERS!"