FACULTY SENATE MEETING
September 7, 2005

1. Call to Order.

PAST CHAIR JAMES R. AUGUSTINE – I call to order the meeting of the Faculty Senate of the University of South Carolina of September 7, 2005. It is my privilege to transfer the gavel to the new Chair of the Faculty Senate, Dr. Gene Reeder. (Clapping)

CHAIR C. E. “GENE” REEDER – Thank you, Jim. Good afternoon, everyone. To those of you at both our regional campuses and the USC campus, it is a pleasure to welcome all of you to the first Faculty Senate meeting of the new year. If I may have just a quick moment of personal privilege, I want to thank Jim Augustine for three years of what I know has been very dedicated service to this University and to the Faculty Senate. I want to thank him especially for serving as a mentor for me last year while I was Chair-Elect. It is certainly, I know, going to make my job much more productive in the coming year. So Jim, I do appreciate all that you have done for us. (Clapping)

Let me say most sincerely how much I appreciate the opportunity to serve as Chair of this Senate and to represent the collective interest of the Faculty of the University. I pledge to you to do the best job I can in a most dedicated way. My philosophy is – as it is with students and others – an “open door” philosophy. So if you ever feel the need to speak to me, e-mail me please. Feel free to do so. My contact information is readily available on the web. I welcome the opportunity over the next two years to get to know each and every one of you as we work together for the betterment of the University.

We are about faculty governance here. This is only effective when faculty chooses to govern, and you are doing that by being here as a representative of your unit in the Faculty Senate. As Senators, I would encourage you not only to be engaged yourself but also to engage those in your units about the issues that affect them as faculty members, and things that we can help them with in Faculty Senate. One of the roles of the Chair of the Faculty Senate (and I look forward to that) is working with President Sorensen, the Provost, and the other Vice Presidents in dealing with faculty issues. I know they have supported Professor Augustine in years past and I feel comfortable, having met with both of those individuals, that they will continue to offer that same kind of support. I look forward to working with all of you over the next couple of years.

The one piece of advice I can give you is to use the website for the Faculty Senate. I encourage you to go there. You will find lots of wonderful information, especially a document that was crafted by my predecessor, Dr. Augustine: the Handbook for Faculty Senators. If you have not seen this document, I think it is well worth your time to take a look at it. It is the “Cliff Notes” for being a good Senator. So I would encourage you to take a look at that document. Thank you again and welcome. Now we will get on with the formal agenda.
2. Corrections to and Approval of Minutes.

CHAIR REEDER – The first item of business is the corrections to, if there are any, and the approval of the minutes that were previously distributed to you in summary form (the full documentation resides on the web). So are there any corrections to the minutes? Hearing none, is there a motion to approve the minutes as distributed? The motion is made; is there a second? All in favor of the motion, “aye.” Opposed, like sign. The minutes are approved as distributed.

3. Reports of Committees.

CHAIR REEDER – Next we will move to the reports of the faculty committees. In an attempt to be as efficient as we can, I’ve spoken to a number of committee chairs at the Steering Committee meeting, and I will only call upon those who actually have reports to give. So we will move through that agenda rather quickly.

a. Faculty Senate Steering Committee, Professor Laura Kane, Secretary:

PROFESSOR KANE (School of Medicine Library) – Good afternoon. For the benefit of the new faculty Senators, I would like to go over a few issues. If you would like to make a comment during this meeting, we ask that you please stand, state your name, and your department. Two copies of the attendance sheet are being circulated. Please be sure to sign one of the forms before you leave today. If for some reason you are not able to sign the attendance sheet, you may call the Faculty Senate Office within the next few days to report your attendance.

Regional Campus Senators attending the meeting via closed circuit broadcasting should call 803-777-6073 to indicate their attendance. Again, that number is 803-777-6073. There is also an incoming line that Regional Campus Senators may use to call and speak while the meeting is in session. That is a toll-free number: 888-531-0685. Please be patient if the line is busy. Your call will be switched to a PA system so everyone can hear your input. This is also the number to call if a quorum is being called for.

Occasionally a Senator may have to miss a meeting for one reason or another; however, there are no excused absences. You are welcome to send someone else from your department to attend as a visitor, but that person cannot vote or sign in as a Senator. If a Senator will be unable to fulfill his or her obligation for an extended period of time during a semester, his or her college or department can elect or appoint a replacement to finish out that semester or term. The Faculty Senate office needs to be informed of this kind of change ASAP.

There are a few items regarding appointments made by the Steering Committee. Two faculty members have been appointed to represent the University within the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics. I believe you have heard Dr. Bearden mention this coalition a number of times in the past year. The two representatives are the Chair of the
Faculty Senate, Dr. Gene Reeder, and the Chair of the University Athletics Advisory Committee, Dr. Bill Bearden. They will be reporting to us throughout the year on matters as they relate to USC.

Also, Dr. Wanzer Drane has agreed to continue in his capacity as Parliamentarian of the Faculty Senate.

Finally, two Senate representatives have been appointed to serve on the newly configured Academic Budget Policy Committee. This is a new administrative committee that evolved from the VCM. The two representatives are the Chair of the Senate, Dr. Gene Reeder, and the Chair of the Faculty Budget Committee, Dr. John McDermott. Thank you.

CHAIR REEDER – Thank you, Professor Kane. I think we have distributed among the Faculty Senators an update on the Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering. Please raise your hand if you do not have that handout and we will get one to you. That is the next item coming up under the business of the Committee on Curricula and Courses with Dr. Victor Giurgiutiu.

b. Committee on Curricula and Courses, Professor Victor Giurgiutiu, Chair:

PROFESSOR GIURGIUTIU (Mechanical Engineering) – Good afternoon. We are breaking tradition here – we have at this first meeting some work for you to do. Usually we do not do that, but this is an urgent matter. This is a program that is proposed to be offered in Fall 2006. Because of the timeline issue we have given you the latest edition of this program – which is called “Errata Sheet” and replaces pages 9 through 12 from the material circulated two weeks ago as part of this meetings agenda. We couldn’t have it at that time and continuous iteration has taken place to make this program really interdisciplinary and to address everybody on campus that has an interest in it. Their interest is being satisfied, we hope.

So with this introduction I present to you the Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering which is proposed by the College of Engineering and Information Technology, the Department of Mechanical Engineering and the Department of Chemical Engineering. This is a new curriculum. On the first page there is no info in the current column, it is empty, but the proposed column represents the new curriculum. On the first page of the Errata you see General Education courses, Science Education courses and on the back/next page you see Biomedical Engineering Education (these are the specific courses), and Technical & Biomedical Engineering Electives. And, finally, on page 3, more electives are listed. The detailed bulletin description of the new courses is given on pages 4 and 5.

In spite of all the efforts, two typos have crept into this latest document. It has been brought to my attention by Dr. Bayoumi just a second ago. On page 1, under B lines 4 and 5 which are under “20 Credits of College Biology,” the typo is that the numbers are reversed. So instead of what is written you should read: BIOL 243 or
EXSC 223. The next line should read: BIOL 244 or EXSC 224. I hope you will forgive this eye-crossing typo.

Besides this I can only hope that you will approve this new program. Those that know about it are here present from all departments that have been consulted and have graciously agreed to bring their contribution to this interdisciplinary program in the form that is presented to you.

CHAIR REEDER – Thank you, Victor. Coming from the Committee, this does not require a second. Is there any discussion or questions on the proposal submitted by this Committee on the Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering? We will present this as a whole for adoption.

PROFESSOR RICH GOODWIN (Medicine) - I have a question. I was wondering if someone from Biology, perhaps Dr. Waldman, could just tell me what BIOL 302, 243, and 244 are? I am just curious about what those classes are. I don’t mean to put you on the spot Alan.

PROFESSOR ALAN WALDMAN (Biological Sciences) – I am not sure what all those are but maybe Dr. Lincoln knows?

PROFESSOR DAVID LINCOLN (Biological Sciences) – BIOL 302 is Cell and Molecular Biology with the associated lab. BIOL 243 and 244 are Anatomy and Physiology I and II.

CHAIR REEDER – Does that answer your question, sir?

PROFESSOR GOODWIN – Yes.

CHAIR REEDER - Good. Are there any other questions? Yes sir, would you please state your name.

PROFESSOR MICHAEL MYRICK (Chemistry & Biochemistry) – I just wanted to note that there is one more typo which is under section D under the electives, CHEM 561 and CHEM 562; those should be 541 and 542.

PROFESSOR GIURGIUTIU – So noted.

CHAIR REEDER – Are there any other questions or additions or corrections that need to be made? If not, I think the general consensus is that we can just accept those emendations to the get the wording correct and submit them. So we are now voting on the submission with the corrections as noted thus far in the Senate. No further questions? All right. All in favor of the program as submitted in its totality, say “aye.” Opposed, like sign. Thank you. The motion carries and the program is approved.

PROFESSOR GIURGIUTIU – Thank you very much.
CHAIR REEDER – We will skip next on the agenda down to item F, the Faculty Budget Committee. Professor McDermott, Chair of that Committee, wishes to be recognized.

c. Faculty Budget Committee, Professor John McDermott, Chair:

PROFESSOR JOHN MCDERMOTT (Moore School of Business) – Hello. My report will be very brief. I just want to let you know that the Budget Committee is here to convey questions, comments, or information from the faculty to the administration concerning budget matters. So, if you have anything that you would like me or the committee to discuss or bring to the attention of the administration, please feel free to contact me, John McDermott, in the Economics Department of the Moore School of Business (dynamo@moore.sc.edu). Thank you.

CHAIR REEDER – Thank you, John. The next item of business is the Report of Officers and we will first hear from the President.

4. Reports of Officers.

PRESIDENT ANDREW SORENSEN – Thank you very much, Dr. Reeder. I look forward to working with you during your term as Chair of the Faculty Senate. I am confident that we will have an excellent and productive relationship.

I spent a considerable amount of time in the General Faculty meeting that immediately preceded this thanking all the members of the University community for their heroic efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina, so I won’t repeat all of those remarks.

The Provost will report to you how we are accommodating transient students. We are expecting about 50 students from various universities, particularly in Louisiana and more specifically New Orleans, coming here. We already have a dozen law students and we are processing them in an expedited fashion. We have made available the Center on Pickens Street for processing general evacuees. I received a call at 7 o’clock this morning saying that four airplanes with 180 people per plane were arriving. We will have 720 people coming today in addition to the people that we processed yesterday. I was down there over the lunch hour and we have already processed 100 people today in addition to those that were processed yesterday. The University community is coming together in an extraordinary way. It is especially gratifying to see people transcending race, social class, economic, political, and institutional boundaries to come together for this common need. We are going to accommodate as many people as we can. Faculty have responded in an extraordinary way, not only in participating as volunteers, but in offering their homes to faculty members from universities who have lost their homes, and the university is closed down completely for at least the semester and maybe for the entire year. If you believe in the efficacy of prayer, I urge you to pray for those people.
I am going to give you just a few suggestions on how you might access information about how to respond. On our website which is www.sc.edu/katrina you will find the following information: frequently asked questions (FAQ’s), how to volunteer, how to donate, USC contacts for displaced students/evacuees, and contacts for the USC community. One of our faculty members, Renee Gibson, is a certified liaison of the American Red Cross. She can be reached on e-mail at Gibson@gwm.sc.edu and her telephone number is 777-1121. Then, finally, South Carolina Cares is the designated coordinator of all the relief efforts and their number is 401-8847. Samuel Tenenbaum, the chairman of South Carolina Cares, is coordinating all the activities and we have been working together since last Friday on all this. He is doing a terrific job.

Finally, a note about the Legislature. I am meeting with legislative leaders now, although the legislative session does not start until January. I want to impress on them the importance of supporting our University. The responses so far have been very cordial and convivial but, of course, “there’s many a slip ‘twixt the cup and the lip.” Thus I have to make sure that the money is there by the end of May. But I am working my plan and planning my work.

We welcomed over 100 new faculty today – 108 full-time faculty joined us as of this fall. We expect over 100 more next fall and again the year after that. On September 15th we are going to have a groundbreaking ceremony for the Innovation District with 550,000 square feet of additional buildings being constructed. If you are so inclined, I hope you will join us for that groundbreaking ceremony. Thank you very much. Mr. Chairman, I would be happy to respond to any questions if there are any.

CHAIR REEDER – Thank you, Mr. President. Are there any questions for President Sorensen? Yes, would you rise and state your name please.

PROFESSOR CARL EVANS (Religious Studies) – Mr. President, I am very interested with what the University is doing in response to Katrina. Maybe it will focus the community’s attention on good things at the University. Before that, I constantly got the question, “What is going on at the University with the ‘4 strikes and you are out’ policy?” Can you help us on this?

PRESIDENT SORENSEN – Professor Bill Bearden is Chair of the University Athletics Advisory Committee. I would like to suggest, Mr. Chairman that you invite Eric Hyman who is our Athletics Director to come and talk about this policy. Our Athletics Director says that we have a more rigorous drug testing policy than any other school in the SEC. We test urine and blood more frequently than anybody else does. His attitude is that when a kid grows up in an environment, for example, in which he knows neither parent and is bounced from home to home, is exposed to a great deal of crime and drugs as he is growing up: for him smoking dope is no big deal because his neighbors do it all the time. He hangs out on the street corner. When he comes here, we need to work with him and help him understand that he has a dependence on drugs and that we can help him deal with that and help him overcome that. This is the notion of redemption, a concept with which you are intimately familiar. The student can be redeemed. He believes that being
punitively is not the way to deal with that child’s problem. Thus it includes a very rigorous counseling program, monitoring program. I suggest you have him come here and talk about that.

Any other questions? Thank you.

CHAIR REEDER – Dr. Sorensen, I am sorry about the reception but I understand if you give a pint of blood, Red Cross will be glad to give you a cup of orange juice and some cookies. So, all is not lost. And, as to your suggestion, it is very timely. As a matter of fact we plan to invite our Athletics Director, Erik Hyman, to address the Faculty Senate probably later in this semester than earlier, given that he is still learning names and faces. So we certainly plan to do that because I think it would be a very worthwhile initiative for us to have a chance to meet with the Athletics Director. Next we have the report of the Provost, Dr. Becker.

PROVOST MARK BECKER – Thank you, Mr. Chair. I will be very brief because I had a very lengthy report at the General Faculty meeting. To this body I would like to present updates on dean searches. We have two dean searches active at present. For the campus dean for the South Carolina College of Pharmacy, that dean search is underway. The committee as I understand it is reviewing applications at this point and is closing in on the point at which they will actually start doing interviews. For the College of Engineering and Information Technology, the committee is also composed and moving forward. The ad should have appeared or be appearing any day now in The Chronicle of Higher Education as well as other appropriate outlets. So we expect to be receiving applications as the semester goes forward and of course we will then move forward to review and eventually bring candidates to campus. I have nothing further to add at this time but would be happy to take any questions if there are any. Seeing none, thank you.

CHAIR REEDER – Thanks, Dr. Becker. Next item of business is the report of the Secretary. Laura, do you have a report?

5. Report of Secretary.

PROFESSOR LAURA KANE – No report.


CHAIR REEDER – Is there any unfinished business from previous Faculty Senate meetings? None.

7. New Business

CHAIR REEDER – Any new business for consideration?

PROFESSOR DAN SABIA (Political Science) – I too wanted to address the drug policy. It seems to me that we might want to ask the Chair of the University Athletics Advisory
Committee to speak to us about this as well. I would like to know, for example, if they were involved at all, what are the origins of this policy change, who in the University approved it, etc. I think we should hear from faculty as well as from the athletic head.

CHAIR REEDER – Thank you, Dan. I will pass that request along to Professor Bearden who serves in that capacity. I am sure he will be delighted to do that, probably in tandem with Mr. Hyman. Thank you. Any other items of new business for the Senate?

8. Announcements.


CHAIR REEDER – Once again, if there is anything that the Faculty Senate can do, please contact me or the Faculty Senate Office. We look forward to working with you.

The next meeting is Wednesday, October 5th at 3 o’clock here in the Law School Auditorium. That concludes all the listed business of the Senate. Is there a motion and appropriate order to adjourn? Motion is made and seconded. All in favor say “aye.” Opposed, “no.” Meeting is adjourned.