1. Call to Order.

CHAIR C. E. “GENE” REEDER – I would like to call to order at this time the October 5th meeting of the USC Faculty Senate and to welcome our colleagues who join us by video from the regional campuses.

2. Corrections to and Approval of Minutes.

CHAIR REEDER – First order of business is the approval and/or corrections of the minutes from the September 7 meeting. Are there any changes/corrections to those minutes? Seeing none, do I hear a motion to approve? All in favor? Opposed? Thank you.

3. Reports of Committees.

The next item of business is the report of faculty committees. I will only call upon those that have reports to give. So we will begin with the Senate Steering Committee and our Secretary’s report.

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

PROFESSOR KANE (School of Medicine Library) – Good afternoon! As you have probably noticed we are trying a new method of taking attendance today. There are sign-in sheets at the back of the room and you are welcome to sign in either as you come in or as you leave. Hopefully this method will be a little less disruptive.

There are also a number of vacancies on committees. The first one was the Instructional Development Committee. There were two vacancies, both of which were one-year terms. The Steering Committee appointed Briana Timmerman from Biological Sciences and Mark Tompkins from Political Science to fill those vacancies.

There are two vacancies on the Committee on Libraries and those are both three-year terms. The Steering Committee nominates Jill Michels from Pharmacy and Dan Sabia from Political Science to fill those two slots. At this point we will open the floor for additional nominations to the Committee on Libraries. Are there any additional nominations at this time? We will vote at the end of the meeting.

There is also a vacancy on the Faculty Grievance Committee and this is a three-year term. The Steering Committee nominates Kin Blackburn from Economics for this slot. We will open the floor for additional nominations at this time to the Faculty Grievance Committee. Are there any additional nominations? We close the nominations and vote at the end of the meeting. Are there any questions? Thank you.
CHAIR REEDER – Thank you, Professor Kane. Related to the election and the process of filling vacancies, from time to time Faculty Senate committees have vacancies by natural attrition for various reasons. So I would like to go ahead and put a bug in your ear, if you don’t mind, to think over the next few weeks about individuals within your departments that would serve the University well by participating in the committee process. In November there will be mailed out from Faculty Senate Office a list by which you may volunteer for a respective committee. So I would encourage you as Senators to engage your faculty colleagues to participate in this most important process. We don’t throw the list away. So even when we fill the initial cyclical vacancies on the committees, we retain those forms and as vacancies occur over time we will call upon you and your colleagues for help as appropriate. So I hope you will do that and think about it. If you have any questions, please call me or you can call Ms. Luker who really knows the answers to all the questions in the Faculty Senate Office.

The next committee with a report is the Committee on Curricula and Courses, Professor Victor Giurgiuƫu.

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

PROFESSOR GIURGIUTIU (Mechanical Engineering) – Good afternoon. First there is an errata sheet circulating. I hoped we have picked up most of the typos but if there are any left please let us know. We have a large amount of pages today. I will try to move by colleges and see if we can expedite the process. I am sure every one of you has seen this submission and has had time to read it. Let’s begin with the College of Arts and Sciences first: A. Program of African American Studies, B. Department of Geography, C. Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, D. Department of Naval Science, E. Department of Philosophy, F. Department of Political Science, and G. Department of Religious Studies.

CHAIR REEDER – The motion comes from the Committee on Curricula and Courses and does not require a second. Are there any discussions or suggestions for the proposal as submitted from the College of Arts and Sciences which is all of item 1? Hearing none, all in favor of the changes as submitted by Curricula and Courses, say “aye.” Opposed? The motion carries.

PROFESSOR GIURGIUTIU – Thank you. Please let us go to item 2, the College of Engineering and Information Technology: A. Department of Civil Engineering, and B. Department of Mechanical Engineering.

CHAIR REEDER – Again, the motion coming from the Committee on Curricula and Courses does not require a second. Are there any questions or discussions relative to the motion from the College of Engineering? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion as proposed? Opposed? The motion carries.

PROFESSOR GIURGIUTIU – Thank you very much. We move to item 3, the College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management: A. Department of Hotel, Restaurant, and
Tourism, B. Department of Retailing, C. Department of Sport and Entertainment Management, and D. Technology Support and Training Management.

CHAIR REEDER – The motion before you from the committee does not require a second. Are there any questions or discussions about the tome before you? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion to approve as submitted, say “aye.” Opposed? The motion carries.

PROFESSOR GIURGIUTIU – Thank you. Item 4 is a submission from Regional Campuses from the Palmetto College.

CHAIR REEDER – Thank you. Again, no second is required. Are there any questions or discussions regarding the motion as presented? Yes, sir, state your name please.

PROFESSOR COLIN BENNETT (Mathematics) – The Mathematics department has never seen this proposal, as I’m informed by my chair. As far as the affected departments are concerned, they ought to be provided with an opportunity for discussion and input. I request more time for our department to discuss this proposal and provide input.

CHAIR REEDER – Okay, you are suggesting that letters of departmental concurrence were not included?

PROFESSOR BENNETT – The department has never been informed of it; never even seen this proposal.

PRESIDENT SORENSEN – Mr. Chairman, what page is that on please?

CHAIR REEDER – That would be on page 26.

PROFESSOR GIURGIUTIU – One moment, which is the part that you are objecting to?

PROFESSOR BENNETT – Mathematics is one of the disciplines affected by this. So the normal practice, I believe, would be to send the proposal to the affected departments for their concurrence. That has never happened in this case.

PROFESSOR GIURGIUTIU – The Department of Mathematics is represented in the Committee of Curricula and Course and that representative has voted to approve this document. Have you checked with your representative, sir?

PROFESSOR BENNETT – Shouldn’t it still go through the department? Whatever the representative says, surely the department chair deserves the right to see this document to have the faculty input.

CHAIR REEDER – Then the appropriate thing, if that letter of concurrence hasn’t happened, is that it really should go back to the Committee on Curricula and Courses until such time that the department has concurred or at least had its concerns addressed.
So I will entertain a motion to refer this back to committee until those issues are resolved. Is there a second? All in favor of the motion to refer back to committee say “aye.” Opposed? The motion carries.

PROFESSOR GIURGIUTIU – Thank you. Finally, item 5 is an Experimental Course in the College of Arts and Sciences. The experimental courses do not need Senate approval but I submit this for your information.

CHAIR REEDER – This item is presented for information only so no action is necessary. Is there any other business from Curricula and Courses?

PROFESSOR GIURGIUTIU – No. Thank you.

CHAIR REEDER – Any questions of Professor Giurgiutiu? Thank you, Victor. The next committee that will report is Faculty Budget Committee, Professor John McDermott.

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

PROFESSOR JOHN MCDERMOTT (Moore School of Business) – Good afternoon. I just wanted to report briefly that we did have our first meeting on Monday. We decided that the best use of our time would be to write a report on the recent evolution and structure of the University budget. Basically this encompasses two main areas that we talked about but it could be more. One main area is the increasing importance of grants and contracts for the basic functioning of the University. The other is the current state of the method by which funds that flow into the University are allocated down to the various units and perhaps sub-units. All the information we are gathering is readily available over the net or in conversations with the administration. So basically we just want to try and clarify this process because there seems to be a fair amount of confusion about it. A third area that we discussed but probably won’t get into in much detail concerns the budget implications of the retention policy with respect to the TERI retirees. So, we are still thinking about that one but the law is not clear yet. Thus, that one is not too active right now. If you do have any other comments or concerns or questions or things you think that this report should address, please get in touch with me or Gene or any other member of the Budget Committee. Thanks.

CHAIR REEDER – Any questions for Professor McDermott before he steps down? Thank you, John. The next committee will be the University Athletics Advisory Committee, Professor Bill Bearden.

d. University Athletics Advisory Committee, Professor William Bearden, Chair:

PROFESSOR BEARDEN (Moore School of Business) – We met this month and two issues were addressed in the committee meeting. The special admissions process was reviewed by Russ Pate in front of our whole group of 15. All the special admits except one are in satisfactory standing with the University. Those policies and procedures that
reflected the special admit status are available on the web. If you’d like to get them, you can send a note to me or Russ Pate.

Eric Hyman attended the meeting along with Rod Walters and we went through the changes in the drug program in depth. We felt pretty good after the lengthy conversation about the whole process. I think it is much more strenuous than you might think for those of you that have just casually heard about it. Eric has also agreed to come to the Faculty Senate meeting next time to make a short presentation and answer any questions. So he will be here in November.

For our committee meeting in November the primary thing we are going to do is look at the loss of scholarship issue you might be familiar with. We’ve invited the financial aid and scholarship committee to meet with us – they were involved in some of those decisions. Any questions? Anything we can do to help? Thank you very much.

CHAIR REEDER – Thank you, Bill. The next item on the agenda is a report of the Bookstore Committee, Professor Jeff Persels.

e. Bookstore Committee, Professor Jeff Persels, Chair:

PROFESSOR PERSELS (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) – Thank you. The Bookstore Committee has requested some time before this body prior to the submission of Spring book orders to raise a couple of issues of importance to students. To do that we have the Student Body Treasurer, Tommy Preston, and the General Manager of the University Bookstore, Andy Shaffer. The Bookstore has been operated by Barnes and Noble, as you probably know, since 2001. So first, Tommy Preston.

TOMMY PRESTON (STUDENT BODY TREASURER) – Good afternoon everyone. Thank you, Dr. Persels, for that wonderful and brief introduction, and Mr. Chairman, thank you for giving us the opportunity to speak today.

Today I want to talk to you about an issue that is of great importance to students and one that I feel has gone unaddressed here at this University and all across America. Since becoming the Student Body Treasurer last March, my executive officer colleagues and I have spent great amounts of time researching the issues of the prices of textbooks and also talking to students and hearing their concerns with this topic. We understand that this is a national issue but we’ve seen that there are things that we can do here at the University and even at the state level to address some of these concerns. Just to let you know, we have been working with the Provost, Dr. Becker, on this issue and he’s been very supportive of listening to what students have to say about the prices of textbooks. I would have to say the outrageous prices of textbooks. We’ve also been working at the state level. Just two weeks ago we met with the new Speaker of the House, Bobby Harrell and addressed this concern with him. We gave him a proposal of different things that other states across the country are doing such as California, Illinois, and Connecticut and some of the ways that they are addressing this issue at the state levels. Last week the Student Body Vice President, Ryan Holt and I traveled to Washington, D.C. and met with
every member of our congressional delegation and also the Assistant Secretary of Education for Post Secondary Education and discussed this issue with them at the national level. So we are very committed to this cause and we believe that there are things we can do on this campus here at USC to address this concern of students.

Today I wanted to talk to you about three things. First we want to talk to you about the relationship that we have built with the Bookstore. We met with them earlier in our administration and we found that there is quite a bit of compassion for this issue and ways that we can work together to address this concern. The second thing I want to talk to you about is having an electronic listing of textbooks and course information. I will go into that in further detail in just a moment. Finally, there are two major issues that students and programs across the country have researched on textbook prices and these are things that we can do here on campus to lower the cost for students. Or as I say, lessen the financial burden on students.

There have been two reports that have been released recently that address this concern and I encourage you to go online and search for these resources, so not only can you take mine and Andy’s word for it, you can also take some national organizations’ words for it as well. The Government Accountability Office just sent out a report in August addressing this concern and one of the interesting things that they found was that with textbooks, the prices are going up at twice the rate of inflation each year. As a matter of fact, to be more specific, it has gone up 6% each year since 1986. So that just shows the increase that we have seen over the past few years. Also there is an organization called the Student PIRGs that works with student groups across the country. They sent out a report and had some startling statistics as well and some of those I will mention to you today.

I am going to get into the first topic now. This year Student Government has been trying to hear the concerns of the students that we feel are going unnoticed. One of the groups of students that we’ve been talking to is the disabled students on campus. One thing that they consistently tell us is that when they are purchasing their books at the beginning of each semester, they are required to go to three different bookstores to get their books. We had one student that told us that she had to pay someone to go off campus to get her textbooks because she couldn’t go on her own. There is a solution to this. We’ve found out that many professors on this campus refuse to put their textbooks in the Russell House Bookstore or the University Bookstore. We are encouraging you today as professors to go back and tell your colleagues to at least give the Bookstore a chance. There have been problems in the past that we are aware of but I can tell you that in working with the Bookstore they offer the lowest costs. They have a price guarantee program that guarantees that if the price of the book is cheaper at SE they will give it to you for that price. We are encouraging you to put your books in that bookstore as well so that students can at least have the opportunity to use our University’s Bookstore instead of having to go across Columbia to purchase their textbooks. Another issue that we have seen in this same category is with course packets. I’ve used tons of course packets in my 3 years here at the University of South Carolina and one thing that I’ve been exposed to myself is that I have to go across Columbia to get these items. I think the Law School
has a system where you can go over to the Russell House Bookstore and purchase your course packets there. This would be convenient for all students and it would also be particularly convenient for the students that are disabled, those students that I spoke to you about today. So I just want you to understand that and hopefully we can work together on that issue.

Another thing I want to talk to you about, and one issue that I agree with the Bookstore on, is the fact that they are focused on using used textbooks. I want to go into a little more about why using used textbooks is great for our University. Mostly because the cost is lower and I’ll give you some statistics on that. Our bookstore here on campus has made it a mission to sell more used textbooks to lower the costs for students on this campus.

The second topic I wanted to talk to you about and one I just mentioned earlier was the consistent electronic system to allow students to see what textbooks they are going to be using. I have talked to students about this and I have experienced it myself. I have gone into classes where on the first day of class I am told what textbook I am going to be using. I took a Political Science class this semester and on the first day we were told that we had to purchase 5 books. Luckily I’m on a scholarship that pays for my textbooks and I could go over to the Russell House Bookstore and make those purchases after that class. But so many of my peers don’t have that opportunity so many of them went to the Bookstore and realized purchasing 5 books was just something they couldn’t do on their budget. So we are encouraging professors to send your lists to the bookstores earlier. Also we are encouraging the University to find one electronic system and, I don’t have the master idea for this and hopefully you all can work with us on this, but have one type of system where students can go online and see exactly what books they are going to be needing to use prior to taking the class. Also some other course information such as requirements, some of things that you will be doing in the class, maybe a synopsis would suffice, so that students when they are coming into class know more than just the room number of the class, the professor, and the title of the course. So that is the second thing I wanted to talk to you about.

The final thing I want to talk to you about is two things that we can do here on campus. This is something small that we can do but something that will greatly benefit students when they are purchasing textbooks. When choosing textbooks we are encouraging professors not to roll to new editions so rapidly. Also, as to bundling of books that include software, clickers and other items, we encourage you not to use those. I’ll go into depth on those issues at this time. As for the new editions, let me give you some statistics from a report that we’ve been working on. The most widely purchased textbooks on college campuses that have new editions are published every 3 years. So that a book I am using now, I have the newest 6th edition and I took a look at the 5th edition and it is the same exact book. It is not changing much – maybe a page or two at the beginning or maybe the cover is changing but not much else is changing. So some professors on campus are switching to these new editions every single year and it is only making the cost more expensive for us. On the average, textbook prices that change from the old edition to the new edition also increase the price by at least 45% and that is on
average. We actually took some textbooks that we use on campus and I am going to give you an example of one. The 6th edition of a macroeconomics book published by McGraw-Hill (and I won’t say the name of it) in 2005 cost $97.25. The year before was the 5th edition and that book cost $80.25 – so there is a $17 increase this year. We took a look at that book and looked at all the pages and nothing changed – nothing at all changed in that textbook.

The second issue I mentioned was the high cost of bundling. Students that purchase these bundled textbooks which include software, or other multimedia supplementary material, hardly ever use those in their classes. The government accountability report that I mentioned even showed statistics from professors across the country that literally said that we don’t use these items in our classes. Some professors just think that it gives students additional knowledge that they can get outside of the classroom. Well the problem with that is the cost is extremely difficult for students. I want to show you an example of something that we took from the Bookstore as well. An organic chemistry book edition that came out in 2004 by Thompson Learning cost $223.75. If we would have been able to purchase that book unbundled, it would have cost $152 and that would have saved us $71.75. So some professors use these items in their classes; I am taking a Geology class now (GEOL 103) and we actually use clickers and those things in our course. However if you are not using those, give students the option of buying these items separately from the books.

So these are a few things that we have been working on in Student Government. Andy, the General Manager of the USC Bookstore is going to talk to you about some of the other things that we have worked on and some of the solutions to some of the problems that I have addressed today. I truly appreciate having an opportunity to speak to you today. I know we have taken up a lot of your time but this is something that is very important to students here on campus. With the tuition increases and student fee increases we hope that you will stand by us as we try to reduce the financial burden on students. Thank you so much for your time. (Clapping)

ANDY SHAFFER (General Manager – USC Bookstore) - I also thank you for allowing us to come and speak with you about this issue. It is very timely because the letter for book orders actually goes out tomorrow to faculty. As a campus community we have the ability to resolve many of these concerns that our student body expressed in the choices that we make and when we make them in the semester. Since taking the reins of the Bookstore operation in 2001, Barnes and Noble has drastically changed the face of our campus bookstore. Those of you that have been here for awhile know it has a very torrid history, and it was fully renovated in 2003 and it has greatly increased the number of students we serve each semester. Since taking the reining of the Bookstore operation in 2001, Barnes and Noble has drastically changed the face of our campus bookstore. Those of you that have been here for awhile know it has a very torrid history, and it was fully renovated in 2003 and it has greatly increased the number of students we serve each semester. Sales have increased over 40% in this time and the scholarships generated by the University Bookstore have grown from just $400,000 a year to $750,000 each year. Listening to our students and customers is our operational foundation in the Bookstore. Responding to the call for less expensive textbooks and more options, my team and I worked with faculty to pay our students over $350,000 in May for their used textbooks. This was double the amount paid out the previous year. And, because of this change our used book sales in the Bookstore are up 35%. As these
used books cost our students 25% less than the new shelf price, these used books save your students over $250,000. We were able to save the students this money during buy-back and through ordering by receiving your book orders in a timely fashion and then offering students more money when they turn them in. If a book is needed for the next term and there is still a need for the book, we offer students 50% of the selling price of that book. They have now saved themselves half of what they paid for their textbook. Simply by having the book order before finals begin will greatly affect the textbook prices of this campus. We have only begun to scratch the surface here at USC and by continuing to receive these textbook orders in a timely fashion we can continue to grow this number.

In addition, Tommy mentioned we are working very hard to break down every operational and relationship roadblock in the Bookstore to make sure that there are no barriers for students and faculty to work with the University Bookstore. We now offer the lowest textbook price guarantee. If there is a textbook price out there that is lower, in any one of our brick and mortar competitors, we will match that price – no questions asked. That is just another one of those barriers that we are working through.

We also continue to receive feedback (that you also heard from Tommy today) that many of these items packaged with these textbooks are never touched. We see the evidence of this during the buy-back periods when the students bring their textbook back and then bring the CD still wrapped in plastic, the clicker still in the box. They are not using these materials unless they are truly required to pass the class. Please evaluate your book adoptions this semester. Ask your students if they are truly using these materials and if not, adopt the book alone. This gives the Bookstore and your students a better chance of finding less expensive textbooks.

In the bookstore, when a package that is adopted but is not required for the course, we work to still give our students a choice. We will put both options on the shelf for our students. Again, giving them the choice is key in this and that way they can pick and choose what is more important to them.

Some faculty also expressed concerns about placing book orders so early. Here it is October and we are looking at January classes and I know that is a major concern. We have given out some flyers today and it is about a new tool to help with the ever-growing demand to find the perfect teaching tools. The Faculty Center Network allows you to search your course subjects and view published materials available for public selection. Sample readings, outlines, and reviews are included with each title to assist you in making those difficult decisions. In addition you will see where the book is being used, what classes it is being used for, and actual professor reviews on the book as well. Even better, a simple click will allow you to order a desk copy or at least get you in the right direction in how to place an order for that desk copy and also get you in contact with the publisher for additional information. As always, your University Bookstore is glad to help you in selecting materials as well. We are happy to visit your office at any time to hear your needs and provide options for your courses. I invite you to register for this
service online, take a test spin, and share your feedback with us so that we can tailor it to meet your needs. We did this for you.

Finally, we all need to work together in order to serve our students better when it comes to textbook availability. My team and I have worked very hard to resolve the many service issues that have plagued the campus bookstore for a very long time. At the minimum, all textbooks or required materials need to be made available in the University Bookstore. We will work with you or any faculty and staff member at any level, at any degree to make sure that this is done correctly and the right book is in the right shelf in the right quantity. No matter how much time it takes, how many meetings it takes to hear your concerns and finding solutions, we will do that. It is what our students want and deserve. Together we can resolve many of the concerns you heard from Tommy on behalf of our students and we can lower the cost of textbooks and improve the availability of these textbooks so they can shop at one location if they so choose. I look forward to your continued partnership. Thank you for your time. (Clapping)

PROFESSOR PERSELS – Thank you very much. Since I have a mid-term coming up on Tuesday I would like to ask the Bookstore to reconsider offering free bluebooks. That comes straight from my students. Thank you very much; if you have any questions, I would be happy to field any questions on behalf of the Bookstore Committee or if not you can contact me through the Faculty Senate website. Thank you.

CHAIR REEDER – Are there any questions for Jeff, Tommy or Andy while they are still with us? We certainly want to thank them for bringing us up to date on the book pricing issues and so forth, and I might add, Tommy, that I never worked with a more delightful, energetic group of people in my life than the students you have here. You can see the kind of leadership we have and it’s just a pleasure to work with all of you. Sir, you have a question?

PROFESSOR MARY FOSTER COX (Nursing) - Yes, I’d like to know if you all will match the online book prices that they can find in places like Amazon.com?

ANDY SHAFFER - We evaluate these each semester. We are seeing that more and more of the price discrepancies are becoming less and less at Amazon and Barnes & Noble, our own sister company, as they are having to produce profitable numbers. We evaluate this pricing often, but right now we are focusing our efforts on our local competitors and giving our students a better choice when they decide to shop in a store.

CHAIR REEDER – Thank you. Please remember that when you speak, we are recording for minute purposes, so if you will, please state your name and your department until we learn everyone’s name (which is probably never). Thank you.

Is that it? Thank you, gentlemen. You will also find reports from committees at the end of the attachment (Attachments 2 through 7). These are the Annual Reports of the outstanding committees of Faculty Senate from 2004-2005.
Next on the agenda is the report of the University Officers and the first report will be from the President, Dr. Sorensen.

4. Reports of Officers.

PRESIDENT ANDREW SORENSEN – Thank you very much, Professor Reeder. I enjoy working with Professor Reeder. We had a meeting earlier today and I predict we are going to do wonderful things together. I want to echo Professor Reeder’s comment regarding the Student Government Association. In the Antediluvian Period, I was a Student Senator and then a Faculty Senator. I worked with a huge number of student officers during that long career and I have never, ever worked with a group of students as capable, as talented, as dedicated, and as conscientious as this group of officers we have now. Justin Williams, the President of the Student Government Association, an extraordinarily able leader; Ryan Holt, Vice President, equally adapt and able; and Tommy Preston’s competence and adequacy was illustrated beautifully. Tommy, thank you very much and please convey to Ryan and Justin that I praised them before the Faculty Senate in their absence. Also, my thanks to Professor Persels, who has left us, for his role in working so closely with you. Andy, thank you also. This kind of collaboration between the faculty, the students and the vendors is truly unusual and enormously beneficial to all of us.

At the last meeting, I gave you a report on the response of the University to Hurricane Katrina. I would like to give you an update on things that have happened since then. I told you about the SEC contribution of $1 million in cash to the American Red Cross for Katrina Relief. Since then at the University of Alabama/University of South Carolina game, the only memorable part of that day for me (as the former President of the University of Alabama) was that I was asked at least a hundred times by my Alabama former friends if I could see the scoreboard from my seat and what I thought of the score and did I have any regrets about leaving Alabama, to which the answer was “no!” We raised $33,000 at that football game. Prior to that game, Coach Dave Odom, our men’s basketball coach, had gotten together a group of coaches and they gave $15,000 in cash from their own salaries to the cause. Last night it was my privilege to help host a concert for the Hurricane Katrina victims and evacuees at which all the student groups played. Our faculty members, our students, the steel band, jazz band, and symphony group participated. There was a wide variety of musical talent available – no rap or hip-hop, but virtually everything else – and that was done for the benefit of the evacuees. There is a terrific spirit that is evident among our faculty and our students. And then the Koger center staff, many of whom are unionized, dedicated and gave their time and they asked for no compensation. Every time we open the Koger Center we have fixed costs with people setting up the stage and operating the lighting and very strict union rules. Yet they donated their time. So we are very appreciative of the Koger center staff for that contribution as well.

We have now processed over 1,900 evacuees excluding the students and I am hosting a breakfast tomorrow morning for the students from Louisiana universities who are enrolled at the University of South Carolina. They are very appreciative. Several of
them have sent me e-mails and I am sure they will express to me tomorrow morning at breakfast their deep appreciation for the way in which they are being accommodated by our faculty and by our staff. I thank all of you for the warm and open way in which you are receiving them into the University community.

Then Sam Tenenbaum who likes me to call him the Field Marshall of the Evacuees Program has requested today that they be allowed to use our facilities for two more weeks because additional evacuees are coming in. Also, there are some problems with accommodating the 1,900 evacuees that are with us already. So we are going to keep that facility open to assist these people who are in such desperate need of the support. There is a lot of sadness in the lives and stories of these people as they tell them to me and to others but there are also some amusing and wonderfully inspiring aspects of it. I appreciate irony, and one of the wonderfully ironic notes about all of these is that you have a Jew, Samuel Tenenbaum, who is the organizer of South Carolina Cares, eating food with the evacuees that is offered by the Southern Baptists. There is nice kind of lovely American quality to that that cannot be duplicated, regrettably, in a lot of other countries or cultures. So you see blacks and whites, Jews, Christians, Muslims, men and women, university people, community people all coming together for one common purpose with a great deal of enthusiasm and dedication. I am a sentimentalist and I find it very touching and enormously inspiring.

We had a conference yesterday on fuel cell research. There is a very interesting confluence of interests on the part of our politicians with our University research. That doesn’t always happen and so I am trying to exploit this as fully as possible. We are, arguably, if not the nation’s leading university with respect to fuel cell research, surely one of the leading universities in the nation. The dramatically rising price of fuel, the devastation of oil rigs in the Gulf Coast, the devastation of refineries along the shore of the coast and even quite a bit inland, have commanded the attention of politicians throughout the country. So yesterday it was my privilege to host a panel at this fuel cell conference of 50% of our congressional delegation. We have six representatives and two senators in Congress from the State of South Carolina. Half of them were on this panel, along with Bobby Harrell, who is Speaker of the House of Representatives and the General Assembly, and they all extolled and praised the research that we are doing. Of course, never one to miss an opportunity to talk about funding for this University, I pointed out to them that very generous federal and state contributions to our fuel cell research programs and other parts of the university might be in order. And, of course, I chose to do that in a public venue so that they can respond to this suggestion to an audience of a couple hundred people. They were, to a person, highly supportive and full of praise for what we are doing here. So that was a terrific feeling.

On Monday, for another bit of humor in my life, I had my first of my annual Bow Tie Bus Tours. I take nine of them every year, going to each of the 46 counties of the State of South Carolina. I started at the Dutch Fork High School in Irmo at 8:30 in the morning trying to convince the young people there that going to college was terribly important and what better college to attend than the University of South Carolina? Then we stopped at Wilson’s General Store in Pomaria, South Carolina. Anybody ever been to
Pomaria? No traffic light. Wilson’s General Store had a big sign up saying “Hip Waders, Fish Bait, Beer and Ice Cream for Sale.” I went in there and got a cup of coffee. You can buy one of anything at Wilson’s General Store in Pomaria but if you ask for two you will be in trouble because they only have one of everything. Then I went up to speak to the Clemson Rotary Club, and Clemson fans believe in wearing orange all the time. So I addressed a sea of orange Rotarians and then went to see a few wealthy alumni of the University who live in that part of South Carolina. At that meeting was one of our doctoral students in the Music program here at the University of South Carolina, Reggie Houze, who is the Assistant Director of the Clemson Tigers Marching Band, and Brad Spede, who is the Director of the band was the Assistant Director of the Band at the University of Florida during the 6 years I was Provost there. They all issued an invitation saying they were going to be practicing and would I like to stop by and bring my trumpet along and play with their band. I said I’d be delighted to. So I thought I’d be going into the bowels of the Music building on the Clemson campus and playing in a nondescript setting. But it turns out they were practicing out on their practice field for the football team doing their formations for the game this coming Saturday. So I am walking across the field with my trumpet as a bevy of photographers and newspaper reporters take my picture. So there I am playing and they say, “What would you like to play? How about Tiger Rag?” I said, “Not on your life! If you think I’m going to play Tiger Rag with you all you are really crazy.” So we played good things. A sort of jazz tune and that seemed to go reasonably well. Then afterwards to express their appreciation they gave me an orange and purple hat and asked me if I would be kind enough to wear the hat. I am looking at all these photographers and thinking, “I might be stupid but I’m not a fool.” I could just see trying to explain to the Gamecock communities scattered all over the world (and this would surely be on the web – in fact, they did take a picture of me and it is on websites all over; I knew they would transmit it digitally within nanoseconds of the time that the picture was taken) and so I accepted the hat but refused to put it on. So on the front page of the Anderson Independent Mail in Tuesday’s edition is a picture of your President playing good things with the Clemson Tigers Marching Band. I am going to play with the University of South Carolina Marching Band at the Florida game and we are going to win and I’m going to enjoy playing very much.

My wife and I hosted a reception last night for about 400 international students. We continue to have a good enrollment of international students and for that I am enormously grateful. I believe our federal government is misguided in assuming that a huge proportion of foreign students are terrorists and/or interested in stealing intellectual secrets that will enable them to stimulate terrorism in their respective countries. A difference in political orientation, I assume, and I’m pleased to report that we still continue to attract an enormous number of international students. To a person, they came and they expressed appreciation to you the faculty for how thoughtful and how understanding you are. Some of them have difficulty with language, as was evident in the introductions as my wife and I were standing at the door and then chatting with them after they had all come in. I thank you all very much for making them feel welcome, making them feel warm and that they are part of our wonderful university community. So thank you for that.
We have two searches underway – Hudson Akin, who is the Vice President for Advancement, has submitted his resignation effective November 30. I have asked Joel Smith, Dean of the Moore School of Business, to chair the search committee and I will be announcing its composition within the next day or two. I still have a couple of people to talk to. Our Law School Dean has also submitted his resignation and Provost Becker is working on that search and he will address that topic in his remarks.

Although the Legislature is not in session and does not convene as a body until January, I have begun meeting with leaders of the General Assembly. I met with Bobby Harrell yesterday. He is Speaker of the House and an alumnus of this University, and I talked with him about our anticipated budget needs. Then today I met with Representative Chip Limehouse from Charleston who is also an alumnus of this institution and Chair of the Higher Education Subcommittee of the Education Committee in the House, and talked about our needs in great detail. So we are constantly working with the Legislature to try and convince them of our need for support. I am very pleased to say there is one initiative on which Clemson University, the University of South Carolina, and the Medical University of South Carolina presidents are going to go as one. To use a theological metaphor with which I am intimately familiar, I am going to have Ray Greenberg on one arm and Jim Baker on the other and we are going to march down the aisle together and go to the assembly altar and make our requests known. I am hopeful that we will be successful.

Finally, a comment for Professor McDermott, thank you very much for your work with the Faculty Budget Committee. Our transformation of how we do budgets began during my first year here. The desire that I have is to make our budgeting process more transparent because the system that I grew up with as a professor, then as a chairman, and then as dean was to have a mysterious process occur in the central administration building and then, after the puff of smoke went up from the chimney, then the word would be disseminated to the troops what the decisions were. My sincere desire is that you know exactly how we put the budget together and where the money goes. There is no Chief Financial Officer of a university in the United States more dedicated to that principle than Rick Kelly. So we want to be helpful to you, we want to be transparent; there is nothing magical or mysterious about it. If we can be helpful, please don’t hesitate to ask us. Thank you very much for the work that you are doing.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report. I would be happy to respond to any questions or comments people might have.

PROFESSOR JEANNE GARANE (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) – What happened with the budget in our college?

PRESIDENT SORENSEN – What happened with the?

PROFESSOR GARANE – I think that it just wasn’t clear what had happened with the budget of the college.
PRESIDENT SORENSEN – In the College of Arts and Sciences? The Provost will address that during his remarks. Other questions? Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIR REEDER – Thank you, Dr. Sorensen. The next report is from the Provost, Dr. Becker.

PROVOST MARK BECKER – Thank you, Mr. Chair. First, I’d like to join Chair Gene Reeder and President Sorensen in congratulating Tommy Preston and all the Student Government leaders and recognizing them for their many contributions. To drill down one layer deeper, I’ve had the real pleasure and good fortune this summer working with Tommy, Ryan, and Justin as they visited me numerous times to talk about textbook prices and other issues of concern to the Student Body, but it is not just a troika. There is a whole other level of student Senators and this has been a wonderful group to work with. Whether they like it or not they have a provost that is trained as a statistician so as they come in and they say, “We think this is an issue and we want to deal with it,” I say, “That is very nice. What are the data? It would help to have some information here; your point will ring loud and true if, in addition to identifying this as the issue, you have the data.” Because they are a high quality of people, they get the data and they’ve brought in various other Senators, and I think, to a person, every single one of them has been impressive. It is a hard-working group, truly committed to this University; they love the institution. They are very committed to their fellow students and they do a wonderful job. So thank you and congratulations on the great job you are doing.

One of the issues that we deal with as a University on a periodic cycle is what is known as accreditation. If you have not been introduced into the world of accreditation, this University, like all universities that receive federal funds, must be accredited by a body recognized by the Department of Education. For university-level accreditations these are geographically-based organizations and our particular crediting body goes by the acronym SACS, located, I believe, in Marietta, Georgia. Our next accreditation date is 2011, to which you might say, “That’s 5 to 6 years away.” But in accreditation time that is almost tomorrow. Our accrediting body updated some of their expectations for accreditation with certain new rules and procedures issued in 2004. So what I want you to be aware of today is that we have recently brought in a consultant on the process on the expectations that SACS will have with this institution in 2011. We will be starting this immediately in preparation for what we will need to have submitted in 2011. I mention this here to this body in particular because you will probably see, at different levels, committees and other activities taking place. There is already a General Education Committee that started its work last winter looking at general education, general education requirements, the goals and objectives of those and how we assess those, and data actually demonstrating that we have assessed them, and that students are indeed accomplishing the goals and objectives. These are all part of the new process for which we must have multiple years of data and that is why we are starting at this point. But that is one of many activities that will take place. For some of you that haven’t had to do this before, we must, for example, document transcripts of all of your academic credentials to prove that you are indeed the people that you say you are and that you are qualified to
teach your courses. We must do this for every single course we offer every single semester, etc. So those are some of the things coming down the pipeline.

Dean searches – the President mentioned Law. The Law School, as mandated by the Faculty Manual, has elected representatives to serve on the search committee. I will complete the committee and am meeting with the Law School next Thursday. They have a standing meeting next Thursday afternoon and we will announce that search committee no later than at that meeting - possibly at the meeting.

In addition, the College of Engineering search continues. There is really no new information. They are receiving and reviewing applications at this point. I don’t believe they have moved beyond that.

Also, the College of Pharmacy is under way with its search for its campus dean. I’ll ask my colleague, Dr. Pastides, to give us a report on the Pharmacy search.

VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS PASTIDES (Office of Research and Health Sciences) – Mr. Provost, in the words of Tommy Preston, thank you for that wonderfully brief introduction. I met with the Pharmacy search committee recently and we have decided that we need to go back to the well. We need to re-advertise that position and put together an even more specific and hopefully exciting announcement. We did have a slate of candidates but in agreement with the committee we did not have the right slate of candidates. So we will be re-advertising that position.

PROVOST BECKER – Thank you. Another item of information that will lead to some activity as early as this spring on this campus in a noticeable way and before that in largely non-noticeable ways: the Southeastern Conference as a collection of 12 institutions made a decision, led primarily by President Sorensen and a couple of other key leaders in the Southeastern Conference, to form an academic consortium. It goes by Southern Eastern Conference Academic Consortium or SECAC. This organization’s activity is modeled on the Committee on Institutional Cooperation which is a long-standing body that comes out of the big ten universities. CIC has quite a developed network of provosts and deans – it is a provost body it is not a president’s body – but it is a collection of the same institutions that compete on the playing field to also work in collaborative ways on matters academic and of mutual interests. SECAC provosts met for the first time last week as an official body (prior to that we had organizational planning meetings). We met at the University of Georgia in Athens. I just want to give you an idea of the activities that are taking place and the sorts of collaborations that we expect to arise out of this mutual partnership. First and foremost we will be issuing an RFP for an institution to host us. It is very important symbolically to realize that this activity is not part of the Southeastern Conference. We start by organizing around a set of 12 particular institutions that share geography and share a number of mutual interests. The Southeastern Conference office under the leadership of Director Slive has been instrumental in getting us out of the gate and getting us organized. But this will be a separate activity. It is symbolic and important that SECAC will not be housed at the SEC headquarters in Birmingham, Alabama. Myself and my provost colleagues, I believe,
from Arkansas and Mississippi or Mississippi State will be traveling to the CIC headquarters at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to get some sense of how they are organized, how they operate, etc., as we put out an RFP for an institution within our 12 institutions to serve as the host home for this activity. Two immediate academic collaborations are coming out of this:

1) Round study abroad. Study abroad is a very important opportunity and component of the undergraduate student experience and the graduate student experience. At this University 20% of study abroad is done by graduate students. There was an informational meeting of study abroad directors this past spring – Spring of 2005 – where they basically just got a sense of the lay of the land – who is doing what – and they actually issued a very nice report with each university submitting their activities, etc. That activity was a success. The people that run study abroad activities see a real opportunity to collaborate, share resources, share information, and – perhaps without having to spend a lot more money – add new opportunities for our students and students from each institution by partnering and creating additional opportunities that we may not have started but may be available by partnering. The next meeting of that group will be on this campus in the Spring of 2006 – I believe in April. We are working on the details for the venue, etc. But I see a real forward progress in the study abroad area and opportunities to collaborate. For example, the University of Georgia has facilities, I believe, in Rome, Italy and Costa Rica – facilities that we might be able to avail ourselves of for some activities of our own.

2) Modeling a very successful program in the CIC (Committee on Institutional Cooperation) we will be launching an academic leadership program. This is a model that works on cohorts. Each institution that wants to participate would send probably five fellows per year and the fellows will meet 3 times overlaying some weekends. Each of the 3 meetings – one in the fall, one in the spring, and one in the winter – will be set around particular themes. The purpose of this program is really, quite simply, to enrich by deepening and diversifying the pool of individuals who might be deans and other senior leaders on campuses. Developing leadership at the department level can effectively and efficiently be done at an institution level, but as you move to the level of having to have a cadre of people who have a depth of knowledge and experience that cuts across the institution, there is a real advantage to doing this as a partnership of institutions rather than as single institutions. This University which made the proposal – the proposal I made last week – was adopted unanimously and this institution will be the lead institution in developing that program. So as we get that program into place and all the institutions get their liaisons together and we get the programming down, and all the details of the venues, etc., there will ultimately be a call for nominations for fellows drawn from this campus to participate. The fellows to be selected will be department chairs, associate deans, some center and institute directors, and associate directors, etc. but not exclusively. There are other opportunities.

A couple of other informational items: the Provost Women’s Advisory Committee met with me a couple weeks ago and talked about this year’s programming. If you are not familiar with that group, they have 2 major activities per year as an addition to their
meetings. They have a Research Forum – this was the second year for the Research Forum – and it is jointly sponsored by the Office of Research and the Office of the Provost and that was held a few weeks ago. The other marquee event which is longer standing than the Research Forum is their Leadership Forum and that takes place in the spring. I think you can put that in your calendars on Reading Day. They choose Reading Day because of the broad availability to faculty and staff. They have had very good attendance in past years and we are certainly hoping and expecting the program this year will be equally as rich and rewarding as in past years and therefore expect a large turnout.

I want to mention that yesterday we had the dedication of the French House. The French House is our first language-based living/learning community at the University of South Carolina. We hope it won’t be our last language- or culture-based living/learning community. I think this is a very important step forward for our University. These living/learning communities are wonderful venues for students to enrich their education well above and beyond what takes place in the classroom and courses. It was a very nice ceremony. The students that spoke there just wowed you - knocked your socks off. It was really impressive; their abilities, their interests, and their commitment to their educations. In addition, the President has issued a proclamation that this is the year of languages and that proclamation was presented and read yesterday as well at that ceremony.

As an informational item, on October 19th the University Committee on Tenure and Promotions will meet and I will go and meet with them. We will meet at the beginning of the year as we look prospectively as this process moves up out of the departments into the University level for the year. If you have any issues that you want to address to the Provost through that committee, that meeting is October 19th and we encourage you to get that information to the members of the committee. I am very much looking forward to meeting with the members then.

Since Professor McDermott gave the finance committee report and the President also remarked on the budget, I would only add that Professor McDermott and Professor Reeder are your representatives on the University Budget Policy Committee which will be meeting here shortly. I believe their first meeting for this semester is scheduled. That is also a place where we will start this year at the very simple place of, “How does it all work?” Because of new faces around the table, etc. Again, for those particular discussion items, Professor McDermott and Professor Reeder are your representatives and are available to you, of course.

There was a question about the budget in the College of Arts and Sciences. If I understood the question – the question, I believe, is “what happened to the budget?” At the level of the University, nothing happened to the budget. We addressed in this same body similar sorts of questions and concerns last year. There was a perception in some quarters that the budget had been cut or the budget had been reduced and that is not true. The situation as we went into the merger and the transition within the college is that there appeared to have been some overly optimistic expectations and misinterpretations of how the budget was working. We came through a period where the budget model changed
and it appears (I can’t say this for a fact) that a couple of years ago some people made some assumptions and put into place some practices that were not sustainable because the budget actually did not support that. So they started doing things that they did not actually have the money to do. But the budget was not changed. We did not take money away from the College of Arts and Sciences. Within the college, as the merger happened and you have a new dean, how the budget is allocated may have changed, but that is really within the college level and should be addressed through college governance with the Dean’s Office and through the department chairs. I really can’t speak to that issue at that local level.

PRESIDENT SORENSEN – Have you suggested that your department chair go to the Dean and ask explicitly for the information?

PROFESSOR GARANE – My understanding was that he had met with her but that things are not very clear.

PRESIDENT SORENSEN – I would like to suggest here that the Provost meet with the Dean and talk about your department explicitly and see if there cannot be some communication that is effective. So that your people should know what is going on. There is no desire on the part of the President or the Provost to dissemble or conceal information about the budget. So I am sure the Provost will follow through with that.

PROVOST BECKER – Other questions? Seeing none, thank you very much. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR REEDER – Thank you, Provost Becker. Mr. President and Mr. Provost, thank you for being with us and reporting this afternoon.

5. Report of the Secretary.

CHAIR REEDER – We already had the report of the secretary.


CHAIR REEDER – The next item on the agenda will be unfinished business. The first items are those committee nominations which were offered to you at the beginning of the meeting and remain open. Professor Kane, would you like to continue with the nomination process?

PROFESSOR KANE – The two nominations for the Committee on Libraries are Jill Michels and Dan Sabia.

CHAIR REEDER – Are there any other nominations from the floor? Hearing none, the nominations are closed. All in favor say “aye.” Opposed? The election carries.
PROFESSOR KANE – The single nomination for the Faculty Grievance Committee is McKinley Blackburn from Economics.

CHAIR REEDER – Are there any other nominations for the Grievance Committee? Hearing none, the nominations are closed. All in favor of the nominee say “aye.” Opposed? The election carries. Thank you, Professor Kane.

7. **New Business.**

CHAIR REEDER – Just a couple of items. One is a reminder that at the next meeting, Mr. Eric Hyman, the Athletics Director of the University, will be with us to give a brief presentation on his management philosophy for the Athletics Department and specifically to address questions a couple of senators had last time regarding the drug testing policy. He has agreed to meet with us.

Also, I remind you again to think about volunteering for committee service when you receive the committee vacancy form in November. Please do try to engage your colleagues to participate.

Are there any other items of business for this afternoon’s meeting?

8. **Announcements.**

CHAIR REEDER – Any items for the good of the order? Hearing or seeing none, do I hear the appropriate motion to adjourn? Second? All in favor?

9. **Adjournment.**

CHAIR REEDER – The meeting is hereby adjourned.