FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
June 26, 2002

I. Call to Order.

CHAIR ROBERT WILCOX – Let me go ahead and call to order the June 26 summer meeting of the Faculty Senate. For those of you looking for a quorum, under our bylaws this is a quorum. The summer attendance is helped along immeasurably today, I am sure, by the weather here in Columbia.

II. Correction of Minutes.

CHAIR WILCOX – You have in the materials sent out the minutes of the May 2 meeting. Are there any corrections or additions to those minutes? Hearing none is there a motion for their approval? Moved and seconded. All in favor signify by saying aye. The minutes stand approved.

III. New Business - Resolution Honoring Dr. Palms.

CHAIR WILCOX – I would ask, without objection, if we could take some business out of order to consider at this point the resolution regarding Dr. Palms. Since he is going to be late to this meeting, it is a good opportunity to take the resolution up now so it will be a done deal by the time he gets here. Circulated to you is a resolution of the Faculty Senate that has been drafted and edited by the Steering Committee. I would entertain a motion for its adoption by the body. It has been moved and I’ll treat that as a second. It is now before the body. Is there any discussion of this resolution? Hearing none all in favor signify by saying aye. Opposed. By unanimous consent it is approved. I will ask that the record reflect that that was approved unanimously.

IV. Reports of Committees

a. Faculty Senate Steering Committee: Professor Sarah Wise, Secretary:

PROFESSOR WISE – The steering committee has filled a one-year vacancy on the Board of Governors/Faculty Club committee. Tom Cafferty from Psychology will fill that vacancy. University Athletics Advisory Committee also has a one-year vacancy which will be filled by Venkat Lakshmi from Geological Sciences. The Steering Committee nominates Robert Williams from Library and Information Science for a two-year term on the University Athletics Advisory Committee.

CHAIR WILCOX – The floor is open for additional nominations for that two-year term. That is one that is subject to election. That will remain open to the end of this meeting, if there are any additional nominations for that. There is also a vacancy for one-year on the Grievance Committee and that will be filled by the Steering Committee before our next meeting. But we would welcome any recommendations or nominations for a one-year term on the Grievance Committee to fill John Richards slot. I believe he is on
sabbatical for the year. So I would urge anyone who has an interest or knows someone with an interest to serve on that committee to please let me or let Sarah know before the beginning of the school year would be helpful. Any other information from Steering?

PROFESSOR WISE – No report.

b. Committee on Curricula and Courses, Professor Gary Blanpied, Chair:

PROFESSOR BLANPIED – We have eight items for your consideration on pages 15-19. Item one from the Darla Moore School of Business Administration in Economics and Finance changes in title and description of courses. And, from Management Science new courses.

CHAIR WILCOX – The committee has moved item I. changes in title, description, the addition of some new courses in the Darla Moore School of Business Administration. Any discussion of that motion? We are ready for a vote. All in favor signify by saying aye. Opposed. Item I. is approved.

PROFESSOR BLANPIED – II. is the College of Engineering and Information Technology the Department of Computer Science and Engineering there are three new courses.

CHAIR WILCOX – The committee has moved the approval of II. new courses in the College of Engineering and Information Technology. Any discussion? Caroline are we in good shape on these? You are my keeper on these. Okay, we are ready for a vote. All in favor signify by saying aye. Opposed. Very good.

PROFESSOR BLANPIED – III. is from the College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management the Department of Sport Management a change in title and description and that is all.

CHAIR WILCOX – The committee has moved III. College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management a one change in title and description in SPTE 650. Any discussion of that change? All in favor signify by saying aye. Opposed. III. is approved.

PROFESSOR BLANPIED – IV. College of Journalism and Mass Communications there is a change in prerequisites and a deletion of a course.

CHAIR WILCOX – The committee has moved IV. change in prerequisites in JOUR 326 and 434 and the deletion of JOUR 571. Any discussion? Hearing none all in favor signify by saying aye. Opposed. That is approved.

PROFESSOR BLANPIED – V. College of Liberal Arts the Department of Government and International Studies has a new course GINT 570.
CHAIR WILCOX – The committee has moved the approval of V. a new course GINT 570. Discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye. Opposed. Very well.

PROFESSOR BLANPIED – VI. School of Music there is a change in description for MUSC 102 and a change in prerequisites for MUSC 118, 217, and 218.

CHAIR WILCOX - The committee has moved VI. School of Music change in description of MUSC 102 and changes in prerequisites for MUSC 118, 217, and 218 which are continuation courses. Any discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye. Opposed. They are approved.

PROFESSOR BLANPIED – VII. College of Science and Mathematics in the Department of Mathematics there is a change in curriculum in the University Bulletin a change for the pharmacy schools requirement. And, the Department of Physics and Astronomy there is a proposed new minor for Astronomy.

CHAIR WILCOX – The committee has moved VII. changes in curriculum for the Department of Mathematics regarding the College of Pharmacy and the addition of a minor in Astronomy in the Department Physics and Astronomy. Discussion of either of those changes?

PROFESSOR NANCY LANE (FREN) – This is just an inquiry. Now that we have moved to web based bulletins is this just inserting a minor to sort of give more detailed information? Because at present normally minors are not listed in the printed bulletin. So is this something all programs should be doing is publishing the minor requirement as well?

CHAIR WILCOX – Has that been considered by the committee that you are aware of?

PROFESSOR BLANPIED – There was no minor in Astronomy so we decided that it should come before the Senate but normally the minors are defined by the colleges.

CHAIR WILCOX – Can we modify the motion that this would be the approval of the minor in Astronomy and, if it is to be published in the bulletin, that it would be approved for publication if necessary. Can we modify it in that way? Because I am not aware of any intent to change the practice we have not done that. I don’t believe that was the intent, I think it was to approve the minor. Yes?

PROFESSOR CAROLINE EASTMAN (CSCE) – I happened to be on the Curricula and Courses committee when the issue of minors came up. Kent Sidel, who I believe is here some place…..

CHAIR WILCOX – Right behind you…lurking.

PROFESSOR EASTMAN – Kent Sidel was also on the committee and looked into this even more than I did, so please correct me if I am wrong, Kent. A department which
wanted very much to have its minor in the bulletin, which at that time was a printed bulletin, brought a proposal to us. And, after many discussions with numerous offices around campus and various departments that had different opinions on whether or not minors should be in the bulletin or not and whether or not they had to be approved, our finding was that if a minor was to appear in the bulletin that it had to go through Curricula and Courses and be approved by this body. If it was not to be in the bulletin, it could simply be defined by the department and would be a minor. So it was left up to the option of the departments as to whether or not they wanted to go through this process and have their minors appear in the bulletin. As Nancy Lane has pointed out, this is probably less important now that the bulletin is on-line and the list of minors is on-line. Thus the students and many of the rest of us are really not going to distinguish between those alternatives. But having it brought here brings it a sanction that it would not otherwise have and allows it to appear in the bulletin. So I see no need to modify the motion.

CHAIR WILCOX – So essentially by our approving it, it would authorize it to be listed in the bulletin as such.

PROFESSOR EASTMAN – Yes.

CHAIR WILCOX – I appreciate that history. That is very helpful. Okay – any further discussion on that motion? All in favor signify by saying aye. Opposed. It is carried.

PROFESSOR BLANPIED – In item VIII. there is a correction to be made in the title the word “Fundamental” it should be “Fundamentals.” And item VIII. is for the University it is a new course UNIV 201.

CHAIR WILCOX – The committee has moved VIII. the addition of a new course UNIV 201 with the one correction that it would be “Fundamentals” (plural) of Inquiry. Discussion?

PROFESSOR CHARLES MACK (ART) – Just a question. A number of programs have their own courses in methodology, discipline methodology, this is not going to impact on those? This is very general?

PROFESSOR BLANPIED – Yes, it is part of a big scheme to bring things together.

PROFESSOR MACK – For instance we have a course in methodology – Methodology in Art History, this is not going to duplicate or attempt to duplicate that same sort of thing is it.

CHAIR WILCOX – Do you have an answer to that question perhaps?

PROFESSOR DAN SABIA (GINT) – The proposed course is modeled on an honors course which was very general. It covers a variety of things besides methodology for example the ethics of research.
PROFESSOR MACK – Okay, fine thank you very much for the clarification.

CHAIR WILCOX – The response was that it was modeled on a broad variety of things such as ethics, research, and the like. Did we have a call in? A caller by any chance? Did we have a caller?

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE – Yes, we did.

CHAIR WILCOX – Did you have a question? Go ahead.

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE – They hung up.

CHAIR WILCOX – Okay. Well we appreciate the effort. That was something new and different; it was very exciting. If there is no further discussion then on VIII, all in favor signify by saying aye. Opposed. It is approved. Thank you very much.

c. Faculty Advisory Committee, Professor Daniel Feldman, Chair:

CHAIR WILCOX – Professor Feldman is not here today. I do not believe that the Faculty Advisory Committee had a report. They have done some business which is ongoing. He is attending a value-centered management committee meeting at the moment.

d. Faculty Welfare Committee, Professor Dan Sabia, Chair:

PROFESSOR SABIA – No report.

e. Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions, Jane Olsgaard, Chair:

JANE OLSGAARD – The Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions has one item to bring before the Senate and that change appears on page 20. This item was brought to the committee by the Assistant and Associate Deans Council. They had some concern about the misuse of the privilege of auditing a class and by the addition of this sentence it brings the Undergraduate Bulletin in line with what the current Graduate Bulletin says.

CHAIR WILCOX – The committee has moved the revision in the requirements auditing to add the language: No record of audit shall appear on a transcript unless a student attends 75 percent of the classes. Is there discussion of that addition? We are ready for a vote? All in favor signify by saying aye. Opposed. It is approved.

f. Other Committees. No reports.

V. Report of Secretary.

PROFESSOR WISE – No report.

VI. Unfinished Business.
CHAIR WILCOX – Is there any unfinished business to come before the body? I will inform the body about one matter of unfinished business. This group had earlier in the year passed a resolution requesting that the University modify its anti-discrimination policy. I sent a letter to the President around the 1st of May reminding him of that and urging him to consider it before his retirement. I am not aware at this time of any action that he intends to take before his retirement.

VII. New Business.

PROFESSOR PETER GRAHAM (SPTE) – Rob, I would like to make a motion. I move that a letter be sent by the Chair, on behalf of the Faculty Senate, congratulating Coach Ray Tanner and Coach Curtis Frye, their respective coaching staffs, and the members of the baseball and women’s track teams for their outstanding seasons and for the positive national attention their accomplishments generated for the University, the City of Columbia, and the State of South Carolina.

CHAIR WILCOX – That motion has been made. Is there a second? It has been seconded. Is there discussion?

I should mention as a matter of discussion on that, one of our colleagues, Jean Ann Linney, had seats right in front of me at the regionals. And, I said “Jean Ann I didn’t know you were a big baseball fan!” She said, “No, but I have a student who plays. He is such a wonderful student. He takes such great care to make up all of his work and I think he is so wonderful that I came to watch him play.” I thought that was a wonderful commentary from a faculty member talking about one of our student athletes. Unfortunately, about two innings later a foul ball was hit into the stands and it hit Jean Ann square in the hand, broke her fingers, and she left the game. So that is true dedication there for our students. But, I did think that was a very nice tribute to our student athletes that a faculty member felt that way about it.

If there is no further discussion, all in favor of the motion signify by saying aye. Opposed. If you will give a copy of that to the Secretary we will forward it along. Any other new business?

VIII. Reports of Officers.

CHAIR WILCOX - If I may take the advantage of the reporting of the officers to report to you on a couple of matters regarding the University. First of all I mentioned that Daniel Feldman is at a value-centered management committee meeting at the moment. This is a committee of slightly more than 20 people from around the University. People from the budget office, various administrative offices, includes five faculty members (Professors Leitch, Wallulis, Wilcox, Feldman, and Strobel) and also two deans (Dean Crawley and Dean Sternberg) are on this committee. We met in late April, or there about, to begin our work. I would say my impression is that, until the budget was completed, there was not a whole lot of momentum toward implementing the value-
centered management proposal. Until today, the committee had not met this month. So it has not been exactly flying along the track and that was largely because of the work that budget people were doing. One of the things that we have done since our first couple of meetings is to try to modify the role of the faculty members on that committee. We had a concern that the committee was going to operate and make a lot of its -- effectively make a lot of its decisions by subcommittee. And, that the faculty were heavily situated on one subcommittee that did not deal with instruction or research. We felt we ought to be involved in the policy decisions that effected those fields. My understanding, and I think this is what they are talking about some today, is that that committee is going to be restructured in a way that the policy decisions are discussed by the larger group. And, that the subcommittees will simply do specific detailed work that needs to be done to determine whether information is available. The budget staff will do much of the leg work of actually coming up with figures and numbers and things. This utilizes the faculty a lot more appropriately. Hopefully, we are going to come up with a system where there is pretty good faculty input. I can tell you that early on there was an effort to create a straw man system with some various assumptions. It was circulated to the committee and at the outset most of the faculty members (and I include the deans as well here) were really concerned about some of the proposals. The committee has begun that process already of modifying the straw man. And, that is a lot of the discussion, I think, that is going on today. I expect that work will speed up rather dramatically in the next few weeks but it has not made a whole lot of progress to this point. I am not sure that I tell you much more about it at this point, quite frankly, other than we are trying to insure as best as possible that measurements reflect legitimate values of the University. It was already obvious at the outset that we are going to have to have a lot of discussion on that subject. I will say that I think Rick Kelly comes at it with a very open mind and my discussions with him so far have suggested to me that he really is looking to get something that works as it is supposed to - not just to change the system to something different. So it is still very, very early in the process that is basically my report on that.

Another matter that has been discussed in this body was the merger of the foreign languages departments. The Board this past week met to discuss the name change. There were several of us who thought and believed that would be an opportunity to also discuss the merits of the merger. It was clear, however, that the Board’s feeling was that when they had approved the President’s recommendations on SDI, that included approving the merger and, therefore, they simply voted to change the name. So my perspective is that that is now effectively a done deal – the merger of those departments. Concern about the merger I thought was very effectively expressed by several representatives of the department including two of the department chairs. I thought you all did a nice job trying to bring the points to the Board’s attention but I think they felt that they had already made that decision and were ready to move on.

The third item I wanted to raise is enrollment. I will ask the Provost in essence to begin his report by bringing this body up to speed on the information and to discuss with you as you see appropriate. The Board will meet tomorrow to approve the University budget for the next fiscal year. That budget is based on the assumption that we will have an entering freshmen class of approximately 3,700 students which is an increase. The
current year I believe was slightly under 3,300 – 3,200 something. I think that this is a subject that certainly is of interest to all of the faculty. The implications of this spike in the number of freshmen admitted are significant, and I would ask Jerry to, if you will, explain at this point some of the reasons why we are where we are and what is being done to address it in the short term. Thank you.

PROVOST JERRY ODOM – Thank you very much Rob. Let me just say first of all that Dennis Pruitt, I, and the President are usually involved in discussions throughout the year about enrollment management and how many freshmen we will have. We were hoping for no more than 3,300 freshmen this fall. And, I think due to a variety of factors it looks as if we could have as many as 3,700 as Rob mentioned. Let me just tell you what we did. We asked Dennis to look at the last five years of acceptances of our offers of admission to the University and we would use that acceptance rate, the yield rate, as what we would do in terms of making offers, admitting students. We did that. We had a 4% point increase in our acceptance rate for this fall’s class over what we have had for the average for the last five years. So the question is, “Why has this happened?” I think there are a number of reasons. Some of which I think we know, some of which we may not know. As Peter Graham mentioned in his motion earlier, we have had some very favorable publicity and as much as I have thought for a long time that Athletics doesn’t affect your enrollment, I think it does affect your enrollment. We won the Outback Bowl, we were in the NIT finals, our women’s basketball team did very well. We have had the outstanding track and field for several years both in the women’s and the men’s area. So I think that had something to do with our increased yield. I think that September 11 had something to do with students staying closer to home this year - either them wanting to or their parents wanting them to. I really think that the lottery and increased scholarship funding has played a part in keeping students closer to home or keeping them in the State of South Carolina. So there have been a number of factors I think that all happened together to increase our yield. If I were asked is 3,700 a good number, I would say, “No, it is not a good number it is too many people.” However, I will tell you that as soon as we saw what was happening I told the President and I told Dennis and I told Rick that we need to have more funds to put into the colleges where our freshmen would be taught the first year. There is nothing worse, I don’t think, than having a prospective freshmen come to campus in the summer with his or her parents and be told that, “Well, we don’t have any classes for you in the fall.” So I have put substantial funding into the College of Liberal Arts, into the College of Science and Mathematics, into Computer Science and Engineering in the College of Engineering and in University 101. That is where I thought the pressure was. There have been explicit instructions given to add sections not to increase the size of sections to try to address this quality issue. Dennis and I have a meeting with President-elect Sorenson on Tuesday to go through this very carefully and try to make some adjustments and to basically try to set a figure next year. Hopefully that will be somewhere between 3,000 and 3,300 and we will not exceed that number. We simply have to do a better job. But I think there were a number of factors this year that we just did not see that were going to affect what happened with respect to people accepting our admission offer. But I will be happy to answer any questions I can about that.
PROFESSOR LANE (FREN) – What is the latest status report on housing for these freshmen?

PROVOST ODOM – What we have done, Nancy, is the Fiscal Policy Committee of the Board last Thursday approved contracts with the Holiday Inn, with the Clarion Townhouse, and the Adams Mark. Whether we have to use all three of those we don’t know. Also, based on our previous experience, all of those students will be able to move into the dormitory in the second semester. I was telling the Senate Steering Committee though that our experience with the Holiday Inn in the past has been that those students who were there don’t want to move. They’d like to stay there instead of move to the dormitories in the second semester. They think it is a much better deal.

PROFESSOR CHARLES ALBER (GERM) – Is the University subsidizing that housing? In other words is it paying more than the students would pay for it?

PROVOST ODOM – No, the students will pay for that just like they are paying for the dormitory.

CHAIR WILCOX – Just one clarification. There will actually be a cost to the University in the Fall, but the Board was told was that there are a certain number of vacancies in the Spring from graduating seniors who leave the University in December. What will happen is, by being able to move these people from the hotels back into the dorms, there will be a higher occupancy rate in the Spring. So they look to make up any initial costs to the University in the Fall. They project costs will be, I believe, more than made up by the improved occupancy rates in the Spring. That was how the numbers were presented to the Board.

Any other questions on the University budget? The Board does meet tomorrow and my intention is to at least indicate to the Board that my sense as a faculty member is this should not reflect a policy of the University. That while it may be a one time blip, unanticipated, we would not want it to become a policy of the University unless sufficient study and effort was made to insure that did not have quality impacts. There are concerns that doing it on a very short notice like this can have inevitable quality problem. If it is a one year blip, it is a one year blip, but it should not reflect an ongoing policy. That would be my intention of my comments tomorrow to the Board. So if there are other things that need to brought forth, feel free to raise them now.

PROVOST ODOM – One other point that I did not raise but that we do feel like the quality of the class measured by SAT scores, anyway, will be significantly higher. About 15 to 20 points higher even with as many as 3,700 freshmen.

CHAIR WILCOX – If you would like to continue with the rest of your Provost report, that would be fine.

PROVOST ODOM – Mr. President would you like to discuss the budget that will be presented tomorrow?
PRESIDENT JOHN PALMS – You can take care of everything. (Laughter) Have you said something about the budget?

PROVOST ODOM – I have not.

PRESIDENT PALMS – You go ahead.

PROVOST ODOM – Okay, alright. The budget that will be passed, hopefully, by the Board tomorrow or that will be presented to the Board includes a number of enhancements for academic units - commitments that were made to deans. There is included a 17% tuition increase for our students. The President was very strong in his feelings and I certainly concurred that we should do everything we could to try to reward faculty and staff in some way even though the State will not be providing any money for that. What we have proposed and I have already discussed with the deans, is a 1% increase for faculty that will be merit based. I realize 1% is almost nothing but it is a way of trying to express to the faculty that we do value them and their productivity at least more than the State does. With respect to classified employees, we will transfer an amount of money – one time to the colleges that would average $250 for a bonus for classified staff. Both of these are slated to take effect August 16 of this year if they are passed by the Board.

One other thing I should tell you, I told the Steering Committee, the University won one time from the city. We appeared before the Zoning Appeals Board and asked for a variance in parking for the Child Development Center. Believe it or not they granted that to us. We are now in the processes of obtaining permits for the facility and I don’t see right now any other impediments towards the development of that center. We had an excellent meeting last Tuesday night that involved parents and teachers from our Child Development Center as well as parents and teachers from Educational Television Children’s Center which is being closed once our center opens. We have obtained a commitment from Health and Human Service in the State of South Carolina to help us make this a model center – a center of excellence. There are a number of faculty throughout the University who are currently involved in planning a second floor which will be primarily research into early childhood development. So I would hope that we will break ground soon and that we will open a new Child Development Center next Spring.

CHAIR WILCOX – Any questions for the Provost? Thank you sir.

It is a honor and a pleasure to introduce to you for the final time to make his report to the Faculty Senate, our retiring President, Dr. John Palms. I should note he finally wins a parking battle with the city and there he goes and retires on a winning streak. If he will come forth to give us his report, I would like to take this opportunity to say that in dealing with Dr. Palms in several capacities over the years I have always found him to be a wonderfully honorable and very decent person to deal with and a very fine colleague. As a result of your treatment of us as colleagues of yours, we would like
to recognize your service. And, before you came today we approved a resolution which I will read to the body.

PRESIDENT PALMS – Was it a close vote?

CHAIR WILCOX – It was a fairly close vote. But we twisted some arms and it passed unanimously:

WHEREAS, Dr. John M. Palms is retiring on June 30, 2002, as President of the University of South Carolina, after eleven years of dedicated leadership; and

WHEREAS, during his service as President, Dr. Palms has consistently articulated a vision for the improvement of the University and has worked zealously toward the fulfillment of that vision; and

WHEREAS, through the efforts of Dr. Palms, the University has created new scholarship programs and has successfully recruited increasing numbers of outstanding students from this State and from around the Nation, thereby improving the academic quality of the University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Palms has led a successful campaign to raise nearly $500 million, thereby increasing substantially the University endowments and providing new financial resources to attract and retain outstanding faculty at the University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Palms has been a faithful champion for the growth and improvement of the University libraries, recognizing their collections to be a foundation of all scholarly efforts; and

WHEREAS, through the leadership of Dr. Palms, the University has established long-range plans for the growth, development, and beautification of its several campuses so as to provide appropriate and attractive facilities for the use of students, faculty, and the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of the University of South Carolina does hereby express its appreciation for the exemplary leadership and service of our colleague, Dr. John M. Palms, as the twenty-sixth President of the University, and does acknowledge with gratitude his commitment to the qualities of excellence, character, and integrity in all aspects of University life.

CHAIR WILCOX – Congratulations on your retirement. (Clapping)

PRESIDENT PALMS – Thank you very much. I appreciate your recognition. It has been a gratifying, tremendously fulfilling experience to be your President. I told the deans this morning at the last deans’ meetings that I thought the group most important in
administration of a university were the deans because their job was to run the colleges and garner the best faculty. The vice presidents’ responsibility was to serve the deans. The dean’s responsibility is to serve the faculty, and I hope they have done that. But, the responsibility of faculty is really the most important of all as far as membership in the community of higher education. We have made great progress together at this institution. It could never have been done without what you do in your research, what you do in your scholarship, and what you do with the students. We are about to have one of the largest, probably the largest, freshman class in the history of this institution. This increase is a reflection on how 26,000 current students go home and talk about the experiences that they have had at USC and on how our graduates tell other younger people why they should consider going to the University of South Carolina. Their positive comments and experiences have happened because of your work and your endeavor.

The budget is dismal this year. Really, it has been dismal for 11 years, and every year we have received a little bit less. In real dollars, I think we are actually getting less this coming year than we did 10 years ago. But, look what you have accomplished in spite of that. The size of the University’s budget has increased. Our students have been willing to assume, through higher tuition, more of the burden to carry the cost of the institution. It is their choice to come. You have helped raise this revenue because of the way you treat and teach students.

The $500 million, although not in my hands, it is there, it is coming. People have given this money because they had good experiences at Carolina and they bought into the vision that we collectively formulated for this institution to be as good as any university in the country. We are worthy. This campaign is also a tribute to the faculty who have been here the whole time I’ve been here for their research and teaching and their ability to bring young faculty to Carolina. These new faculty members trusted this University to help them evolve the talents that they have inherently in them to be scholars and teachers.

So I am filled with gratitude and deep appreciation. I am very much gratified also that you didn’t run this president off. You know that you have that capability. Either formally or informally, you can do that at any time. I remind you of that and whoever follows me should know that also. But, the last 11 years have been a good time, and we have had good times together at athletic events. And, who could ever forget Octoberfest? A grand time for togetherness, a little joy, relaxation, and just having a good time. For all these things I am grateful. My and Norma’s plans are to take a little spiritual sabbatical. I am very seriously coming back and doing some teaching and research. I have always tried to keep up – kind of hanging on with your finger nails. This summer, I will be joining my colleagues in the physics department to keep looking for the mass of that nutrena which keeps getting away. So, with that, I want to tell you I have enjoyed my tenure here, and I am appreciative to you for making it productive and for giving me and Norma a quality of life during the last 11 and a half-years or so that has been worth living. Thank you very much. (Clapping) Any questions?

PROFESSOR MACK (ART) – You put me on the spot. I would ask one but I won’t and it is about the new hotel plans. But I won’t ask it.
PRESIDENT PALMS – No you can ask it.

PROFESSOR MACK – I am worried about it. And I am worried about the community’s reaction to the University’s about it. I well remember as a young faculty member in the 1970’s, I can remember that far back, coming in in the morning and seeing a house and seeing it gone when I drove back. It was a ruthless rape of a beautiful neighborhood and I am just worried about it. I just hope the University can do something to preserve the two buildings as part of a well designed architectural plan for a hotel. I think it could be done and I think it could be done in such a way as to please the entire community, salvage those buildings, and make us look good.

PRESIDENT PALMS – Well, I appreciate that. We are concerned about that. We have talked about what might be done with those buildings and whether they are movable if we could find an appropriate place for them. What is there now is not very attractive, obviously that one building…

PROFESSOR MACK – It could be made attractive.

PRESIDENT PALMS - …that one building particularly. I know what you are saying there. I think at this point we are still open to that and the incoming president has indicated that he is certainly willing to be engaged in those discussions. I also think the Advocacy Center is an important entity. There is additional federal support that would come into an addition or an inn conference center. We just have to evaluate that as well. I am looking for a home close the campus, and I am going to be just as sensitive about what the neighborhood looks like in the future. This whole issue is under discussion and will continue to be so. No final decisions have been made.

PROFESSOR MACK – I just hate to put myself in front of a bull dozer.

PRESIDENT PALMS – Well, the governor is going to do that to stop plutonium, so I mean… (laughter). Thank you

PROFESSOR MACK – Thank you.

CHAIR WILCOX – I remind Dr. Palms if he comes back to teach and do some research that he is eligible for service in the Faculty Senate. (Laughter)

PROFESSOR MACK – You could ask questions. (Laughter)

CHAIR WILCOX – Is there any other business of the body?

IX. Good of the Order.

None.
X. Announcements.

CHAIR WILCOX – I will make one announcement and that is that at the beginning of the next academic year it comes time to select a Chair Elect of the Faculty Senate. My job description does not say shall serve until replaced, it says it is a two-year term. So we will need to find a new chair-elect. In the next several months I will be talking to people to see if we can find a candidate or candidates for that position. So if you will give that some thought as well, I think it is something worthy of your consideration and please communicate any thoughts you have to me on that. I would very much appreciate your help in that process.

If there is no other business before the body, is there a motion that we adjourn? Unless there is an objection, we stand adjourned. Thank you.