



Friday, February 12, 2010

Coffee ..... 9:00 - 9:30 AM  
 Daniel Management Center

Morning Session ..... 9:30 - 10:00 AM  
 Room 801-A

Welcome

Guest Speakers

Dr. Michael Amiridis, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

Dr. Helen Doeringhaus, Associate Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Studies

Dr. Phil Moore, Director of the Office of Institutional Assessment and Compliance

Standing Committees ..... 10:00 - 12:00 PM

I. Rights and Responsibilities  
 Room 857

II. Welfare  
 Room 860

III. System Affairs  
 Room 853

Special Committees..... 10:00 - 12:00 PM

I. Grievance Committee  
 Room 858

Executive Committee ..... 10:00 - 12:00 PM  
 Room 801-A

Deans Meeting ..... 10:00 - 12:00 PM  
 Room 801-H

Luncheon ..... 12:00 - 12:45 PM  
 Dining Area behind Lumpkin Auditorium

Afternoon Session ..... 12:45 - 2:45 PM  
 Room 801-A



University of South Carolina  
Regional Campuses Faculty Senate  
Minutes  
February 12, 2010  
Columbia

**Greeting and Welcome by Professor Mary Hjelm.**

Announcements: Lunch will be served where the day began. Coffee and food will be available throughout the day. Facilities locations were given.

**Introduction of Guest Speaker, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, Dr.**

**Michael Amiridis**

Dr. Michael Amiridis:

Dr. Amiridis offered his greetings to everyone, and spoke about the possibility of a snow accumulation. He jokingly assured all in attendance that Chris Plyler had secured enough bread and milk to sustain everyone present for 2 months.

Dr. Amiridis spoke about his recent trips to the Union and Salkehatchie Campuses and about his upcoming trips to Sumter and Lancaster. He referred to his visits to Union and Salkehatchie as being refreshing. He mentioned that he had been there before as a Dean, and understood the difficult conditions that are being faced in doing our jobs, considering both infrastructure and the socio-economic status that our students are faced with and a part of; the cultural problems and the lack of understanding in some cases concerning what higher education is. Dr. Amiridis pointed out that in all cases, the

regional campuses were viewed by their communities as a beacon of hope and in some cases, the only beacon of hope.

Dr. Amiridis commented on how valuable his conversations with the students at the regional campuses were. He said the initial point of contention was one of trust, with students questioning whether or not he was “real”, whether or not he would make due efforts in responding to the needs of the student bodies of the regional campuses. He offered his response as being the only way we will know, is if one year from now, he comes back and shows the students, based on what they said, that these are the things we have implemented. He continued by saying that the faculty has the same questions and concerns.

Dr. Amiridis stated that he has plans in the works to meet with the Deans of the two campuses he has already visited to discuss the issues raised by students and faculty members during his visits to the campuses. One of the major issues at both campuses was the limited capacity to having a college campus atmosphere. Currently there are plans being made to bring students and faculty from the School of Theater and Dance, The School of Music, Columbia Campus to bring to the regional campuses cultural programs designed to create some sense of an atmosphere of campus life for the students and communities. While recognizing that this may not be the number one priority, Dr. Amiridis noted that it is a starting point and that it was an issue that was brought up in the meetings at the regional campuses. These type activities help us to act as the President would have us act; one campus, one system.

Dr. Amiridis then began his report concerning the financial outlook for next year. He introduced this as being sobering news and stated that the outlook for next year was bad. While at the time of this message he did not have exact parameters, he felt that he would have more detailed information by the next week once the Ways and Means Committee comes out to give better guidance. Through newspaper reports, Dr. Amiridis said the State was facing a deficit of \$575 million dollars out of a total budget of 4.5 billion dollars. While some of these numbers may change, they will not change enough to erase this large an amount. In figuring percentages, we stand to lose another 50 million dollars on top of the 70 million we already lost last year. While many thought we would be on the road to recovery, this is not the case. Even more disturbing are the current predictions for 2012 which show a continuance of the current trends.

Dr. Amiridis stated that there are no easy solutions. While there is a committee meeting very frequently concerning the current budget, they are carefully reviewing many possible options, but due to the complexity of the situation, they continue to seek out answers. While cost reductions are one possible answer, the current cost reductions have placed us where quality is going to start to suffer. While we may increase revenues by bringing in more students, we are already operating very close to capacity in many of the areas and we want to maintain the quality that we have. There are also issues with in-state versus out of state students. We could raise tuition; however the President has made a commitment to not burden the students/families with this cost. Overall it is believed that a mix of solutions will be implemented, increase size, increase tuition, and cut expenses. This process will take awhile and as it is implemented we will try to find

bridging funds to help tie us over. What is important is that throughout this process, we have complete transparency in all aspects.

While apologetic for bringing grim news/reports to the RCFS, Dr. Amiridis felt it was important to disclose all information to this group. He has also reassured us that we are working forwardly, planning and making provisions based on seen and unseen possibilities, such as legislative votes which may cap or freeze spending or on tuitions (which is currently being discussed).

Questions and Answers:

[Inaudible question]

I thought about it, I thought whether I should tell you this at the beginning of the day or at the end of the day, but in either case, I felt it was important that you know; that you know what is going on and what we are doing in response. While we are not certain of all of the numbers at this time, we do know there will be an operating deficit and this will affect our budget. A large portion of this deficit has to do with health insurance for state employees. Some of the cost of these increases may be passed to the individuals. If this occurs, while it will mean more money out of our own pockets, it will mean a lower reduction of funds to the institution itself. Again these are all parameters we will have a better understanding of, in the coming weeks when the first recommendations of Ways and Means comes out.

Chris Plyler: What are some of the early thoughts (even though we have been experiencing cuts along the way) as to how this will impact faculty and staff; things that will be done, things that will probably have to be done, things out of the ordinary?

It is difficult for me to answer this Chris, without guidance from the Deans; the impact, it may be different at each of the campuses. One discussion we have had here in Columbia, with the Deans, is how will this impact our Junior Professors? We have hired them, they are in their probationary period, trying to get tenure, and they have additional teaching requirements continuously placed onto them because of the situation that we have. Is it possible that we extend the clock for some of these folks? Under such extraordinary circumstances, everything is on the table; I want to hear innovative ideas, good ideas; for example, if it is not the monetary aspect, are there other important things we can do? But I will need local guidance from the deans to figure out how we are going to approach this.

[No name given] Some people are not aware but the General Assembly, for the first time in anyone's memory, has furloughed itself, one week this month, one week next month, one week the month after. There have been serious discussions at the state level that there will be imposed furloughs on all state agencies. Can you tell us anything about that?

We have heard about that discussion, as you know, the President has decided not to furlough; at least Columbia and I think most of the regionals have stayed inside his guidelines. Although, I believe that Aiken had one...Did you have one in Sumter?

[Inaudible answer]

The problem with the furlough is it really doesn't save you that much money; but it does save you money and it also communicates the level of [unclear] of the institution. The President decided not to do it for Columbia because it hurts the people who need it

the most. It hurts the people who have the [unclear] stuff, who make 20-25K a year, who live paycheck to paycheck, and if you cut them a percentage of their paycheck you really put them in a difficult situation. Of course, again, under these extraordinary circumstances, everything is on the table.

Thank you for your attention and for all you do for the University of South Carolina and more specifically, for all you do for your students.

**Dr. Mary Hjelm: Introduction of Guest Speakers, Dr. Helen Doerpinghaus, Associate Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Studies, and Dr. Phil Moore, Director of the Office of Institutional Assessment and Compliance.**

Dr. Helen Doerpinghaus:

Dr. Doerpinghaus opened by commenting that the General Education, Carolina Core Committee is her favorite committee. The committee is a large committee in as much as it has representatives from each college on the Columbia Campus along with regional campus representation; recently adding nine more people from the different disciplines, who are known as content consultants. We have also added someone from the Courses and Content Committee to help provide for updated curriculum information and to insure timely implementation of these updates. In providing this update, it is important that we have a brief review starting with encouraging you to go to our website:

<http://www.sc.edu/generaleducation>. Here you will find other important links a lot of useful information including audio recordings of our faculty forums, and information as to who the members are for the regional campuses.



The Carolina Core Revision was called for in 2005 by the Provost as the general education requirements had not been reviewed or revised in almost two decades. A task force of over one hundred, including regional representatives, looked at learning outcomes, and turned their findings over the current committee. Last January we had a forum to discuss what the learning outcomes would be and had a couple hundred students and faculty participate. In April we all voted to approve these new learning outcomes. Over the summer we developed an appendix which is posted on our website, and it fleshes out what each one of these learning outcomes mean.

What are we doing right now? We are talking to faculty members who teach in the general education courses and asking what are the learning outcomes in the class, how can you tell that these are the outcomes and what resources do you use? What are some of the things you do not teach and think should be taught at the foundational level and what things do you teach that could be eliminated? Using these opportunities we are getting input into general education and we are going to use that to recommend distribution requirements. What are distribution requirements? How many hours of communications courses do you need; how many hours of social sciences do you need; how many hours of foreign languages, etc. This is what we are currently in the process of doing and we will have a forum in March to recommend what we think these should be and we need input from the full university. Then we will go to faculty senate to make our recommendations.

We have some guidelines, one of which is not to make the core bigger unless it is a very good reason. The Carolina Core is the true core for college curriculum. Once it is approved, then the colleges will be invited to review and comment. While we have been

at this for four years, the average time is seven to nine years, so we are on track with our current schedule however we have to remain diligent in our efforts as to not fall behind. In the fall we will start developing course development, course approval process and in the fall 2010 we will have a forum getting focused on that.

Question and Answer Period:

[unidentified speaker]            It may be too early for this, but have you begun to work on assessments of the learning outcome for the Carolina Core?

While the use of the word assessment is avoided do to the hostility it brings, we have had two sessions looking at different rubrics which help determine how you know the students have learned. While yes it is early, these assessments have to be looked at. This is why we ask, how do you know they have learned?

[Inaudible question]

No, we have not. We are really staying focused on the classrooms right now, until April and then we will go to course development and assessment.

We welcome everyone's comments and input and we have a blackboard site for everyone's use. Thank you for letting me give this update.

**Introduction of Director of the Office of Institutional Assessment and Compliance, Dr. Phil Moore**

Dr. Moore began by discussing the QEP, Quality Enhancement Plan, the compliance report, and the on-site visits. The QEP is required by SACS and we are investing five years and a lot of money into a project designed to improve student

learning. SACS wants to make sure we are doing this right so the on-site visits will focus on the QEP. Thus far we have had a call for proposals, and over twenty were submitted. We have a committee of seven people who are to select the top four QEP topics. If you would like to review them go to: <http://www.sc.edu/provost.qep> and you can read the full proposals there. We are currently developing a committee to flesh those out, developing one 75-100 page document to go to SACS to be reviewed. All of the work will be transparent and will be available for review on that website.

Concerning the compliance report, we used to have over 300 must statements, SACS thought this was way too much so now we have 80 plus standards and core requirements, which pretty much contain all the must statements. It is due Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. To prevent confusion as in the past, we will have three types of standards, one where it is just a university system response to it, one where it is the Columbia campus response and then the regional campus respond as a group, like program approval, and finally where each campus responds as their own unique facility as in program assessment. We believe that currently we are in pretty good shape with our current program.

SACS currently places recommendations on two areas, core requirements and standards. If you get a recommendation on a standard, you are ok; you just have to work on it and do more reporting and you are reaffirmed. If you receive a recommendation on a core requirement it is called a sanction and you are not reaffirmed. It is a public sanction and it is fairly embarrassing. So all of the ones that start with a 2 are core requirements and we are working very hard on that and we think we are in good shape. What generally happens is we will turn in this report in September and an off-site committee will review it. They will meet in Atlanta and review three institutions. Here

they will discuss the report and discuss recommendations. SACS in December will send us those recommendations and we will get to write a focus report as to why we got these recommendations. It is not unusual to get 25 recommendations out of the 80-some standards, which is devastating; it makes for a long focus and a lousy Christmas Season. It is our goal to do the work up front and keep those to a minimum. After the focus report, then we are assigned an on-site committee, and they have tentatively proposed a Chair for this committee and I know this person and we could not have gotten a better person. They show up organized and with the proper mindset. They will send focus specific people to respond to the recommendations and hopefully spend one day responding to that. The other two days are to be spent focusing on the QEP. We will not know when they will be on campus until probably in January 2011. In this coming visit, they will probably be on the regional campuses on March 28<sup>th</sup>, and for a viewing of facilities, rather than talking to people. They will be in Columbia from March 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>; but I don't know this for a fact, it is tentative, but as soon as I know, I will let everyone else know. I am somewhat optimistic that we will do well.

Question and Answer period:

None

### **Adjournment to Committee meetings**

### **Afternoon Session:**

Dr. Hjelm opened with thanking Dr. Plyler's office, Summer especially for all of the amenities which make these meetings so much better. Also thanked was Wes, who records all of the meetings for prosperity or arguments sake.

The first piece of business is correction and approval of the minutes.

Christine Borycki: I have a correction, under the motion on R and R, I would like to eliminate the last sentence, (inaudible) and the material it refers to should be added to document.

Dr. Hjelm: OK, Yes

Mary Ellen Bellanca: On the Systems Affairs report, I have already spoken to Sarah about it, some alternative terminology, just to be consistent with the template of summary of how we doing teaching evaluations.

Dr. Hjelm: Minutes accepted with changes

Due to the threat of inclement weather, the Deans and Provost have submitted electronic reports and will forgo the normal oral reports (Section III of the agenda, Reports from University Officers). If you are following your agendas (we will go out of order here), all of the chairs of special committees have also submitted electronic reports and will forgo the oral reports, so we can dispense with part six of the agenda (Section VI of the agenda, Reports of Special Committees). We do need to have reports from Standing Committees, beginning with Rights and Responsibilities.

**Report of the Vice Provost for System Affairs and Executive Dean for Extended University,**

**Chris Plyler:**

**Budget/Legislative:** Echoing the Provost's remarks earlier today, the State continues to face roughly a \$575 million deficit signaling the possibility of a 4 – 4.5% mid-year budget reduction from all State agencies and a projected 15% reduction going

into fiscal year 2011. To date, the USC System has been cut \$78 million. The cuts will have to be managed by growing the enrollments; increasing tuition, and reducing budgets.

It is early in the Legislative session with potential bills focused on regulatory issues, elimination of the CHE, limited terms for members of Boards of Trustees, tuition caps, no bond bill in the forecast.

March 24 is Carolina Day at the Statehouse; work with your campus deans to encourage participation.

**SACS** preparations are heavily underway, and I am working daily with the Provost's office to integrate the regional campus perspective into University responses to most standards.

The **USC System Organization and Efficiency Committee** recently met with representatives for the Association of American Governing Boards to discuss impediments and possible solutions to organization and efficiency.

The Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies and Organizational Leadership are in queue for delivery in Greenville through the **University Center at Greenville**. Start-up could be possible by fall 2010 assuming all goes well in our preparations. I will have much more to report to you on this in the April meeting of the Senate.

The provost is in the midst of visiting all regional campuses and Extended University. His remaining visits include: Extended University, March 2; Sumter, March 25, 2010; Lancaster, April 6

Congratulations to Dr. Janet Hudson, who was recently awarded the 2009 George C. Rogers Award, presented annually by the SC Historical Society to the author of the best book of South Carolina published during the preceding calendar year. Janet's work, *Entangled by White Supremacy*, was picked as a finalist by the editorial board of the *SC Historical Magazine* and chosen as the winner by an independent panel of judges.

### **Report of the Dean of USC Lancaster, John Catalano**

**Students:** Spring 2010 enrollment will be up by approximately 10% over Spring 2009. USCL is sponsoring a low country archeological dig and an international study experience in China this May. The new USCL softball coach will be named next week and we will begin NJCAA Division play in 2010-11. The USCL golf team is ranked 12<sup>th</sup> in the country.

**Faculty:** Even with retirements, the full time faculty census now exceeds 60. The budget has prevented us from hiring as many faculty as needed, but we are currently doing tenure track searches in political science and English and an instructor search in art. These new faculty will begin in August.

**Facilities:** Repainting and carpeting Bradley has begun and will continue during Spring Break. This work will be done at no cost to USCL. We also hope to finish the Hubbard interior project this year. Approximately \$450,000 of deferred maintenance funds is reserved to complete old floor unit removal, more asbestos remediation, painting and carpeting. The new picnic shelter at the GH&W Center should be completed soon. New gateway signage and partial fencing at the main entrance will be completed in the near future and has been primarily funded by grants from the City of Lancaster.

**Planning:** We are in the implementation stage of the long range strategic plan and the facilities master plan. We are working on a detailed landscaping plan that includes digital topographical maps of the entire campus. Fundraising for the new classroom building is now up to approximately \$2,000,000. We hope to build within two years. The Educational Foundation of USCL is still working on a plan that allows them to build and manage housing on Foundation land (contiguous to campus), but that may be delayed until Fall 2011.

**Safety & Security:** We are becoming a safer campus. Ongoing implementation of a security and safety study by Graham Consulting is part of an effort to upgrade overall campus safety and emergency response. New additions included a director of campus safety (Dr. John Rutledge), classroom interior thumb deadbolts, upgraded notification systems, and uniformed officers during peak hours. We now have an officially sanctioned USCL police department.

**Financial:** We have already experienced our first two budget cuts of the year (approximately \$146,000 or 7%). We have been told to plan for up to a 15% cut (or over \$300,000). We are currently operating at 39% of the SCCHE mission resource requirement (MRR) formula. That figure includes the federal stimulus money. USC Sumter, by comparison is operating at 72% MRR. If USC Sumter were funded at 39% MRR (as USCL is), an additional \$1,676,243 would have to be cut from the 2009-10 USC Sumter budget. If USCL were funded at the USC Sumter rate of 72%, USCL would then receive an additional \$1,944,371 in the current 2009-2010 appropriation.

**Community:** The campus continues to be the center of community life for the Lancaster area. The Performing Arts Series has gone well this year and Cherryholmes was a big hit last month.



The Glenn Miller Orchestra, The Manhattans, and the Tams will finish up this year's series. We anticipate over 300 outside events on campus this year alone.

We look forward to the RCFS visit to USCL in April this year.

### **Report of the Dean of USC Salkehatchie, Ann Carmichael**

Preliminary spring enrollment figures indicate an increase of 10.84% in headcount and 17.41% increase in FTE over last spring.

Faculty searches and interviews are being conducted for replacement positions in English, math, and history.

Congratulations to Roberto Refinetti for being promoted from Deputy Editor to Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Sexuality & Culture*.

The Salkehatchie Healthy Communities Collaborative programs received \$17,700 in awards from The Winthrop Family Fund for health-related programs benefitting the community.

USC Salkehatchie adjunct biology instructor, Dr. Travis Folk, was featured on "Walter Edgar's Journal" on South Carolina public radio on Friday, January 29. He talked about railroads, the ACE Basin, and Green Pond.

Soccer ended the regular season for men and women with both teams finishing 3rd in the region. Thirteen of our players were named to the All-Region team.

Commencement is scheduled for Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Edward Sellers, CEO of BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, is the commencement speaker.

The new USC Salk promotional video is out and being distributed to area schools and select perspective students. This DVD will also be available for viewing on our web site.

### **Report of the Dean of USC Sumter, Les Carpenter**

Since my last report to the Regional Campuses Faculty Senate on November 19, 2009, the economic news from the South Carolina General Assembly and State Budget and Control Board has gotten even worse, and there have been a number of notable events and activities at USC Sumter.

**Budget:** To quote from my 11/19/09 report to you, “As all of you already know, all public agencies, and especially the colleges and universities in South Carolina have experienced unprecedented severe cuts to our State Appropriations – cuts that nobody currently in service in these agencies has ever seen before, and the worst cuts in the history of the Sumter Campus.” As I indicated in that report, USC Sumter escrowed some 15% of our FY 10 budget for known and expected cuts to our State Appropriation. At present, we have been advised to expect yet another cut in spring of 2010 of approximately 5%, which will bring the cuts for this FY up to 14%. However, the *really* bad news is that we’ve been advised to prepare for additional cuts to our State Appropriation in FY 11 of between 12.5% and 15%, on top of all the other cuts we’ve experienced in FY 09 and FY 10. USC Sumter already has begun the process of determining how we would accommodate additional cuts of 15% in FY 11.

**Human Resources:** Per the President's guidance, USC Sumter's Dean made a strategic decision to protect USC Sumter's primary mission – undergraduate instruction – by *not* laying off or otherwise terminating any faculty. The 30 positions laid off or frozen in December 2008 were all non-instructional staff positions. In November 2009, using Federal Stimulus Funds, USC Sumter began filling these 30 vacancies with temporary employees, a process that is now complete. As you already know, the General Assembly did not provide a pay raise for faculty or staff for the current FY. In light of the extremely bad budget news for FY 11 mentioned above, it is likely that the 2010 General Assembly will not provide a pay raise for faculty or staff for a second consecutive year. Two tenure-track faculty positions will be vacated at the end of the 2010 Spring Semester. Professor of English Ellen Arl has announced her retirement, and Assistant Professor of Biology Jeff Steinmetz has announced his resignation. Formal national searches to fill both vacancies have already begun. Since the inception of the TERI program, 31 USC Sumter employees have opted into the program. Of those 31, 26 have already retired, two are scheduled to retire in FY 12, and three in FY 14.

**Federal Stimulus Funds:** As mentioned above, USC Sumter received \$575,463 in Federal Stimulus Funds for the Federal FY 10 (10/1/09-9/30/10), and anticipates receiving the same amount for Federal FY 11. The plan for USC Sumter that was approved by President Pastides was to use some of these funds to fill the 30 vacant staff positions at USC Sumter with temporary employees. The funds cannot be used to hire permanent slotted employees, and if sufficient permanent state appropriations have not been restored by 9/30/11, these positions will be vacated, again, as necessary. The remainder of the stimulus funds are being

used to enhance campus-wide safety, security, and handicap accessibility efforts, as well as other one-time expenditures that are relatively high on a campus project priority list.

**Student Enrollments:** Preliminary official enrollment figures for the 2010 Spring Semester indicate a 4.17% headcount enrollment increase compared to last year, and a 7.43% FTE enrollment increase compared to last year. These modest headcount and FTE enrollment increases support USC Sumter's efforts to continue to grow our enrollment over the next several years.

**Student Activities:** Fire Ants teams in men's Baseball and women's Softball have begun their spring seasons, and both teams eagerly anticipate the friendly but spirited rivalries with teams from other USC Regional Campuses. The planned addition of a third intercollegiate sport for men and women in FY 10 was delayed due to the budget cuts, but serious consideration is being given to adding those teams for FY 11.

**Faculty Workload Adjustments:** Following the adoption of a Faculty Workload Adjustment Plan for USC Sumter, the 2008 Fall Semester marked the implementation of the first phase of this Plan for all junior tenure-track faculty, as well as selected senior tenured faculty identified as "productive scholars." The second phase of adjusted teaching loads for these two groups of faculty was originally scheduled to be implemented during the current 2009-10 academic year, but instead has been delayed for at least one year due to budget cuts. In light of the extremely bad budget news for FY 11 mentioned above, it is likely that the second phase of this important efforts will be delayed yet a second year.

**Professional Travel:** At USC Sumter, during the current FY, another strategic decision was to protect professional travel funds as "mission critical" for faculty who are either presenting papers, serving on panels, or whose presence is expected as an elected officer in the

professional association. All other professional faculty travel must be approved on a case-by-case basis against the “mission critical” standard. In light of the extremely bad budget news for FY 11 mentioned above, this strategic decision necessarily will be examined very carefully.

**Capital Improvements:** A new Instructional Laboratories Building continues to be the top priority for new buildings for USC Sumter, and currently is ranked #14 on the state-wide list of capital projects for higher education. 2010 will be the tenth year since the General Assembly passed the last capital construction bond bill – the longest span without a capital bond bill in anyone’s memory. In light of the extremely bad budget news for FY 11 mentioned above, it is unlikely that a capital construction bond bill will be passed during the 2010 Session of the General Assembly.

### **Report of the Dean of USC Union, Hugh Rowland**

**Enrollment:** Head Count – 468, a 17% increase from last spring

F.T.E. – 314, a 21% increase from last spring

**New Faculty** – Lab instructor position in process of hiring; two (hopefully) new faculty will be hired by fall, with disciplines to be determined.

**State Budget** – We have been able thus far to absorb state budget cuts, and anticipate being able to absorb cuts for this year. Anticipated cuts for next year will be factored into our budget

**Robotics/High Technology/QuickJobs Development Center** – Center is now open. Center will be a partnership of USC Union, Spartanburg Community College, the County

of Union, and the City of Union. Based on the source of the grants that were used to fund the construction, the rear of the building will be devoted to Spartanburg Community College jobs training only. The front of the building will be devoted to USC Union and Spartanburg Community College academic credit courses, reception, administration, and some classroom parts of training.

USC Union is currently offering 3 daytime classes at center.

**Focus Groups for USC Union Master Plan** – Rescheduled for Wednesday, March 17.

The focus group sessions with the Boudreaux Group will be integrated into the campus Master Plan.

**Infrastructure Improvements** – Improvement in our infrastructure, particularly relating to computer systems and phone systems, have been undertaken using Federal stimulus funds. Several new projects, including the installation of new smart classrooms, are on pace for completion by this fall.

**Report of the Assistant Vice Provost for Extended University, Sally Boyd**

Our unit has completed searches for an assistant professor in Speech and an assistant professor in English and Women's and Gender Studies. Both are replacements for retirements.

The Provost will visit our unit on March 26.

Palmetto Programs' growth continues. Currently 202 students are enrolled (175 in BLS and 27 in BOL). To date 38 students have graduated with the BLS, 21 from Lancaster, 12 from Sumter, and 5 from Salkehatchie.

I am in conversation with Loren Knapp, Associate Dean for Arts and Sciences, and Shane Thye, Interim Chair of Sociology, about extending Columbia's baccalaureate degree in Sociology to the four regional campuses.

## **Reports of Standing Committees**

### **Rights and Responsibilities Chairperson Chris Borycki**

First, we are continuing to look at and research the issue of "librarian, staff or faculty?"

Next, due to communication and procedural issues, we will postpone a vote on the scholarship issue, which was deemed substantive last time. All of the information which we need to get out to you will be done so by next week; come hell or high water, I will deliver hand written copies and we will vote on it next time. Number three; we have been given a new charge: Nursing; A clinical tenure track? We are going to be looking into the possibility of a new tenure track for clinical faculty which would include Nursing and Psychology. Number four, we have a motion that, "The Rights and Responsibilities Committee move to accept the changes to our Regional Campus Faculty Manual as presented by the ad hoc manual revisions committee". This will be presented to you under new business.

Questions and Answers Period

No questions

### **Welfare Committee, acting chair Pearl Fernandez**

The Faculty Welfare Committee meet and worked on the teaching award and a decision was made. The name will be given to Dr. Chris Plyler and will be announced at the next Regional Campus Faculty Senate Meeting in April. The committee also finalized the speakers for the May 10<sup>th</sup> T and P workshop. The Committee compiled the results of the salary survey. Thank You.

**System Affairs Chairperson, Mary Ellen Bellanca**

First we would like to make a motion that the senate approves a new math course proposed by Union, RCAM. It is a regional campus math course 105, Contemporary College Mathematics. Thomas Simpson, who is a faculty member at Union and proposing this course, is available to briefly explain this course and answer any questions at the time of the motion. Second thing is we are making progress on the summary of the template of the teaching evaluations for T and P files. We have used a lot of the feedback from members of the faculty and Executive Committee and will have a new and much improved document to circulate to the Senators in the near future to see if it is more to everyone's liking. There will also be a rough document suggesting possible procedure for coming up with a cumulative data report table of some kind that can be provided to the person writing the teaching evaluations and I will transmit it via email and ask you to share it with your faculty members and let us know what you think. Thank You

**.Executive Committee Report, Sarah Miller**

Only report is the nominations, floor turned over to Steve Bishop

The Nominating Committee met for five minutes and the slate for next meeting for voting is Sarah Miller for Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Bruce Nims, Secretary. We will be losing



Mary after next year and her campus will not be represented, and so Chris Nesmith has volunteered to be the Member-at-Large, and that is because Union does not have a representative available. From Special Committees, Committees on Libraries, Maureen Anderson has volunteered, Robert Castleberry is on the Committee of Curricula and Courses, Conflict of Interest Committee, Noni Bohonak has volunteered to be on it again. And we may have another slot to vote on, the Committee on Faculty Welfare, due to a conflict, Darris Hassell has been unable to attend for some time and I will contact him before the next meeting.

Question and Answer Period:

None

### **Reports from Special Committees:**

#### **Committee on Libraries, Bruce Nims**

No Report

#### **Report of Courses and Curriculum, Robert B. Castleberry:**

The Committee met in January and will be meeting again this afternoon. Please recall that the agenda for each meeting is forwarded to the administration of each of our campuses. They let me know if they have a concern about anything. The Committee vote is just a recommendation to the Faculty Senate; it is the Senate's action that really matters. I remind you that the best way to keep up with the final changes to courses and curricula is to check the web page for the Columbia Faculty Senate.

For me the most interesting development from the January meeting was the approval of ECON 221 and 222 as internet courses.

In today's meeting there are a few items you may want to follow:

1. ECON is requesting a change in the gpr necessary for admission/transfer into their program from 2.25 to 2.5 (which, if I am correct, would apply to our students when they do a change of campus form).
2. WGST 113 will have a name (but not content) change.
3. FINA 101 is being proposed as a 1 hour course which is essentially an introduction to personal finance.

#### **Committee on Faculty Welfare, Pearl Hernandez**

The Faculty Welfare Committee for the USC System is looking at salary data for the Columbia campus as well as the Regional Campuses.

#### **Faculty-Board of Trustees Liaison Committee, Mary Hjelm**

No Report

#### **Regional Campuses Research and Productive Scholarship Committee, Patrick Saucier**

The Regional Campuses Research and Productive Scholarship Committee met on January 15, 2010. At the meeting it was decided to assess what form of support is needed by Regional Campuses faculty to engage in productive scholarship. It was also agreed that an accurate and current assessment of available resources to support productive scholarship is needed. The committee is currently gathering this information.

It was also discussed that the needs vary greatly between disciplines and campuses as do available resources. It was suggested that the committee develop some type of questionnaire to assess the various needs of faculty in different disciplines.

It was also noted that an accurate assessment of needs is at least partially dependant on the guidelines currently be worked on in the Rights and Responsibility Committee and what research and scholarship definitions are adopted by the Senate.

Attending: Patrick Saucier (chair) Chris Nesmith, Lisa Hammond, Fran Gardner, Brian Love, Wei Kai-Lai, Tom Powers, Avery Fouts, Denise Shaw

**Regional Campuses Academic Advisory Council, Mary Hjelm**

No Report

**Conflict of Interest Committee, Noni Bohonak**

No Report

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

(Christine Borycki) The motion from **Rights and Responsibilities** is as follows:

“We move to accept the changes to the Regional Campus Faculty Manual as presented by the Ad Hoc Manual Revision Committee.” Lisa will walk us through it and these changes will be posted for review and comment and we will vote on it probably in April. The proposed changes are attached as the following documents:

[Report of the Regional Campuses Faculty Manual ad hoc Revision Committee Proposed Manual Changes Tracked](#)

[Proposed Manual Changes Accepted](#) (this is what the changes would look like if accepted)

[Proposed Friendly Amendment](#) (this as proposed by the floor at the Feb 12 meeting)  
CORRECTION from April 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting – this amendment was tabled.

This motion was ruled substantive, to be voted on 9 April 2010.

New Motion from System Affairs:

(Mary Ellen Bellanca) **Motion from System Affairs:** “To approve the establishment of a new course, proposed by Union, RCAM 105 Contemporary College Mathematics.” The instructor proposing the course is here to talk about it, and will answer any questions. This course is designed for those students majoring in Humanities, Social Sciences, Nursing, and Education who may not need or desire to take an intensive college mathematics course preparing them for calculus or any other intensive college math that they will not be required to take. This is proposed as a more appropriate course for them. The Course Descriptions says: “Linear and quadratic equation and models; functions, exponential models, logarithms, systems of equations, fundamentals of probabilities and statistics.”

Question and Answer Period:

Inaudible discussion concerning the transferability of this RCAM Course and how it is to be listed in the course description was held involving many members.

The motion was brought to the Senate for a vote and passed by verbal “Aye” votes.

**Announcements:**

March 24<sup>th</sup> is Carolina Day at the State House. He would like it to be announced at the Regional Campuses to encourage participation.

Please check the websites for information concerning the many things we have going on and for related updates.

Sumter will hold the Regional Campus Math Seminar on the 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:15 pm for those who are interested.

The Tenure and Promotion workshop sponsored by our Welfare Committee will be on May 10<sup>th</sup>

The next meeting of the full Senate will be on April 9<sup>th</sup> and will be hosted by Lancaster.

Motion to adjourn was seconded and all were adjourned.