Friday, November 18, 2011

Coffee ......................................................................................................................................... 9:00 - 9:30 AM
Arts and Letters Building Lecture Hall, Room 116

Morning Session ...................................................................................................................... 9:30 - 10:00 AM
Lecture Hall, Room 116

Welcome

Guest Speakers:
   The Honorable G. Murrell Smith, Jr. ................................................................. 9:30 - 10:00 AM

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

I. Rights and Responsibilities
   Arts and Letters Building, Room 123

II. Welfare
   Arts and Letters Building, Room 122

III. System Affairs
   Arts and Letters Building, Room 115

Executive Committee ........................................................................................................... 10:00 - 12:00 PM
Arts and Letters Building, Room 116

Deans Meeting ..................................................................................................................... 10:00 - 12:00 PM
Administration Building, Room 201, Bultman Conference Room

Luncheon .......................................................................................................................... 12:00 - 12:45 PM
Arts and Letters Building Banquet Hall, Room 142

Afternoon Session ................................................................................................................ 12:45 - 2:45 PM
Lecture Hall, Room 116
AGENDA

I. Call To Order

II. Correction/Approval of Minutes: September 30, 2011
   USC Columbia

III. Reports from University Officers
   A. Chris Plyler, Vice Provost and Executive Dean, System Affairs
   B. Sally Boyd, Assistant Vice Provost, Extended University
   C. Regional Campus Deans: Dean John Catalano, USC Lancaster
      Dean Ann Carmichael, USC Salkehatchie
      Dean Les Carpenter, USC Sumter
      Interim Dean Steve Lowe, USC Union

IV. Reports from Standing Committees
   A. Rights and Responsibilities – Professor Danny Faulkner
   B. Welfare – Professors Christopher Bundrick and Maureen Anderson
   C. System Affairs - Professors Carmela Gottesman and Blane DaSilva

V. Executive Committee – Professor Sarah Miller

VI. Reports from Special Committees
   A. Committee on Libraries - Professor Maureen Anderson
   B. Committee on Curricula and Courses - Professor Robert Castleberry
   C. Committee on Faculty Welfare - Professor Pearl Fernandes
   D. Faculty-Board of Trustees Liaison Committee – Professor Sarah Miller
   E. Regional Campuses Research and Productive Scholarship Committee – Professor Patrick Saucier
   F. Regional Campuses Academic Advisory Council – Professor Sarah Miller
   G. Other Committees
      1. Conflict of Interest Committee – Professor Noni Bohonak

VII. Unfinished Business

VIII. New Business

IX. Announcements
   A. Rigo Florez – Math Seminar announcement

X. Adjournment
Sarah Miller, Salkehatchie called the meeting to order at approximately 9:30 am.

Sarah Miller: Good morning. Welcome to the November Regional Campuses Faculty Senate meeting. Thank you to Sumter for hosting us today. That would be my welcome. I’m going to ask Dean Carpenter if he would introduce our speaker.

Les Carpenter: Good morning. Before I introduce our speaker I would like to welcome you to Sumter. We’re very happy to have you here, to be able to host the Faculty Senate. As I told a couple of people this morning, all it takes is money. And we’re glad you’re getting to see the very last of the money. But we’re glad to have you here today.

We are pleased to have as our speaker today State Representative Murrell Smith, whose district is number 67; that’s important to us at USC Sumter because this campus is in his district. He is in the majority party in the House, and is the only member in our delegation that is in the majority party. He is a graduate of Wofford College and also a graduate of USC School of Law, and is an attorney by training and practice. And currently he serves on the Ways and Means committee. He also chairman of a subcommittee, the Health and Human Services subcommittee. This is his 10th hear anniversary so we’re glad you’re still around and we look forward to hearing what you have to say to us today. Help me welcome Murrell Smith. (Applause)

Murrell Smith: Good morning everyone, it is a pleasure to be with you. Last time I think I spoke to you we were in the midst of trying to make USC Sumter a four-year institution. The House had passed it; unfortunately the Supreme Court sided with Gov. Sanford on it, but hopefully we might build on that in these years to come. I read that President Pastides has announced a plan that I think will be very beneficial to us.

First let me welcome you to Sumter. I have represented USC Sumter during my ten years in the assembly. Dean Carpenter has been a huge asset to us in the General Assembly, keeping us up to date not only with what’s going on here in Sumter but also with USC in general.

I’ve been asked to give an update on the state budget and let you know where things are. This has been my third year on the Ways and Means Committee. We have not had anybody on the committee from Sumter since the 1980s. So fortunately Speaker Bobby Harrell gave us our request, put me on the Ways and Means committee, and I was greeted with a tremendous budget deficit. So the good news is this is the first year in the last three years that we are commencing a session that we are not looking at a deficit;
we are not looking at mid-year budget cuts. I know the universities and schools have suffered through these mid-year budget cuts; last year we asked universities and agencies to give us a budget that showed a 20% budget cut, and I think that sent shivers through various state agencies. Fortunately the economy began to turn around last year. We did have some cuts but not anywhere close to 20%.

There are three parts of a budget: there are state appropriations or state revenue, and we built a budget on that of $5.4 billion, and you look at three years ago and we had a $7.1 billion budget in FY 2008-2009, so it was a tremendous drop-off in state revenues. Right now things look much, much better. Thus far, this year, looking at September numbers we are ahead of projections. Right now, if you look at the papers, we have what is being called a “billion dollar surplus.” Everywhere what I hear is “you have a billion dollar surplus, how are you going to spend it?” We are ahead of collections in state revenues versus a year ago, but we have to look at the economy as a whole. Most of our revenue comes from sales taxes in SC, which is up this year; individual and corporate taxes are also up, which is a good indicator of the economy. Now there’s also bad news we get from the economy as well, and the end result is that it looks like the economy is going to remain very stagnant. I think all the economists are predicting that we’re not going to have a double dip recession, but if you look at the unemployment rate, we’re 2% behind the national average in SC, and that’s not real good news. The other issue that really disturbs economists in the state is home sales. Home sales are down 10% despite 60 year low mortgage rates, and you see more apartments being built than homes. That's not good for our economy. And car sales are flat, which is a big component of our state economy. So when you look at the economic situation in Europe, we depend a lot on that economy, given the number of European companies here in our state.

In essence, what all economists agree on is *uncertainty* is what we have going on right now. We don't know what is going to happen.

So as to the surplus—we have some obligations that we have to fund. Some of these are federal mandates, some state programs. We have a capital reserve fund. I think all of us here benefited from a capital reserve fund, colleges and universities. There’s a Homestead exemption, for property taxes, but the largest part by far is Medicaid. When you look at the numbers of people enrolling, and the rising costs, and new federal requirements we have to fund $347 million next year. I’m not going to get into the politics of the Affordable Care Act, but the ACA is going to require the states to basically pick up medical insurance for people so this is where we’re going. We are required to go out and locate and enroll people who are eligible who are not currently enrolled.

The base student cost that we have in K-12, just to fund at the rate of last year is $56 million, which is well under the statutory requirements. And then you have agency
budget requests—the Department of Mental Health, for example—and a study came out recently which named SC as the state which funds mental health at the lowest rate in the union. So we have our work cut out for us with this $900 million surplus.

I think one of the things Dr. Carpenter asked me to speak about was the restoration of cuts to higher ed, when you look at this budget I think you will see some increased appropriations to higher ed than last year, but not a restoration of what it was in the past. I was looking at the percentage of state appropriations to budgets in higher ed and I think we are down into the teens, now, we are looking.

The other part of the budget that we deal with is the “other funds budget”--tuition, fees, fines, and so forth. That has grown over the last few years. When we look at the total budget, and you hear about the draconian cuts, and despite the horrible economy, the total budget has grown. So that shows we are relying more and more on these things—tuition, fees, fines, and so forth. The business of how we are funding government and how agencies are spending it is changing in South Carolina.

Lastly, Dr. Carpenter mentioned the prospects of a bond bill. When you look at the ability of SC to have bond bill for higher education, the reality is I don't think you’re going to have one this year. This is an election year. The electorate quite frankly is angry, and they are anti-incumbent, whether you are Democrat or Republican, so I don’t think the consensus politically is they are tired of the way politicians are conducting themselves, not only in Washington but also in Columbia, so I don’t think you will see a bond bill this term. This is my eleventh year in the legislature, going into my, we have never had a bond bill come up, which is almost unheard of to what had occurred previously. So I think we will have to have a bond bill at some point, in my opinion, but what’s happening is there is bonding going on in other ways. We freed up some regulatory processes last year for the universities to go to bond certain projects so there is bonding that is going on. One thing that I think is key is last year we had a capital reserve fund, which is one of the pots of money we set aside each year, for capital one-time projects. And so for the last three years we had to use the capital reserve fund if we had deficits to make sure we were not going to apply that to general appropriations not to have deficits. This year we had a capital bond bill and I think we have a capital bond bill this next year, and that’s going to be $104 million, so, about 50% went to higher ed, and I think there will be more next year. We have some deferred maintenance we have got to do at our universities, but there are also some other projects, so I think there will be some $100 million spent this year, so I’m sure I will be hearing from Dr. Carpenter, as well as the President of Central Carolina Tech on this soon.

So where we are, in essence, is that our economy is improving, revenue-wise there’s a lot of uncertainty out there plus a lot of obligations we have to fund. So when you hear about the surplus you have to temper that with the obligations we have going forward.
Quite frankly, you read a lot about the surplus being rebated back to taxpayers, with an election year, or unfunded liabilities or restoring cuts. When it comes down to it we may make a small contribution to the retirement funds and try to restore some of the cuts.

I tell everybody where I speak, what motivates us over in Columbia is hearing from the people back home. And that’s the only way you can have your voice heard over in Columbia is by contacting your legislature and making sure they understand your needs. You hear about the 99% and the 1%, and it is the 1% that is heard in Columbia. I’m not talking about income, but special interests. They’ve all got their agendas and they’re well-oiled and they’ve got their PR machines. But the 99% of the people who live in this district who are not part of a special interest group, they are sometime not heard. So get out and express your opinion and let your voice be heard, because we are at a critical crossroads in the state of South Carolina. So with that, I’ll be happy to take some questions. Yes sir.

**Chris Plyler:** Have you heard anything recently about the idea of downsizing, or streamlining, or even doing away with the Commission on Higher Education?

**Murrell Smith:** No, the governor has spoken to us about her higher ed agenda and what she is doing, and the good news for the two-year universities—I asked her about them specifically, because they were under assault by Gov. Sandford—and she said that’s not on her agenda, she thinks the more people have an education in south Carolina the better, so that’s refreshing to have that. There are a lot of concerns with CHE, with some members of my committee who think CHE is not a benefit. I hear that, but I don’t think there’s going to be any Earth-shattering changes with CHE this year.

**John Catalano:** [Inaudible. Question concerned SC Act 388 on property tax structures].

**Murrell Smith:** There’s discussion every year about that, but I doubt seriously it’s going to happen. You look at Act 388, and with respect to all the local governments, that came from the public. And it didn’t come from here in Sumter, it came from down on the coast, and the affluent areas, who scream the loudest but they also make up the majority of the legislature. You look at Greenville and you look at Charleston and you put those together and take a county like Richland, with 124 members in the House and you have the majority. Speaker Harold has said time and time again, he’s not going back on Act 388. Now you can try to tweak it, but he’s not going back on it.

There needs to be tax reform. The governor’s priority is tax reform; now the devil’s in the details. She’s talking about reducing some manufacturing taxes, which I think we do have to do, to make us more competitive, but we’ve got to do something with tax exemptions. There’s something like $2.2 billion in tax exemptions; do all of them make sense? No. Some of them are probably antiquated; some are special interest deals. So
we’ve got to have tax reform. Everybody agrees something needs to be done with tax reform, but nobody agrees how to do it. So maybe this is the year but for the last several years I’ve heard about it, and I think Act 388 is still going to be in effect. And it’s causing some problems, even with the business community in South Carolina so there may be some tweaking.

**Hennie Von Bulck:** How has the economy and the budget affected the state’s bond rating?

**Murrell Smith:** Right now our bond rating is still … I won’t say it’s still AAA. I think there were some concerns a few years ago but I think those were resolved. There’s still a bit of concern over our unfunded liability in our retirement. I know some people will say that’s an assault on state workers, what’s going around the country, but I truly think our retirement system is jeopardizing our bond rating. That’s what we’ve been told by some of the credit rating agencies. Right now the unfunded liability is 37 years, we’ve got to bring it down below 30 years in order to keep our credit rating.

**HVB:** Thank you. Second question: Realizing that revenue is not growing—setting aside Medicaid-- what is the second largest area you see growing [inaudible].

**Murrell Smith:** Obviously education. I mean, if you look at education in one form or another, higher ed, K-12, all that’s 60% of our state revenue. Right now you have a base student cost that’s calculated by formula and by statute, and if our base student cost is calculated to be $2000-$2100 per student I can’t remember exactly what it is and we fund it at $1600 so we’re about $500 per student where we should be. So there’s a huge issue for us to try to make up to get to that base student cost, and I don’t think quite frankly there’s enough money for us to get back there, but that’s a huge driver in our state budget right now. Yes sir.

**Steve Bishoff:** I know we compete with the technical institutions, in some ways, but I’m wondering in terms of industry is there’s something liberal arts institutions can be doing better, that liberal arts institutions can do better to play a role in?

**Murrell Smith:** Well that’s a good question, and we dealt with that with Continental. The technical colleges are a key component. We’ve given I want to say it’s the CAT program or something like that; we’ve funded that through Commerce last year and the technical colleges are a play a big part in that economic development process. There’s got to be some role that the liberal arts colleges serve over here, and I had some discussions with our development board this last year. And wasn’t there something that you were discussing with Central Carolina about partnering with them to play a role in that? If you look at Central Carolina, they do not have the capacity-- they have had more growth per capita than any technical institution—they’re running out of room. So there has got to be ways to partner with the liberal arts institutions. I think they’ve been doing that here in
Sumter, but I don’t know the specifics. But that’s what we’ve got to do, in my opinion, get these two-year universities--we here in Sumter serve the non-traditional population, obviously, and make sure they receive an education, but there also needs to be role that we can play in partnership with the technical colleges, too. I think that’s where we need to go to keep these two-year universities viable in this type of education system.

**Chris Plyler:** Would you be open to, just on your own, looking at a proposal, or some considerations thing along those lines?

**Murrell Smith:** Oh yes, absolutely. You know as well as all of us that the ideas we get in the legislature comes from the universities. You are much more rooted in what is going on nationally and what works and what doesn’t, and I think personally I am open to that and I think generally everybody is open to that. The big mantra we are going to get from the governor’s office this year is economic development. We need to fund the Commerce Department, we need to fund the technical schools; we need to fund those who are going to play a role in recruiting businesses here to South Carolina. That’s where she wants to concentrate our money and quite frankly if you look at how things have been done historically in the legislature that’s the way the legislature will probably move also,

**Chris Plyler:** Well, you can understand our dilemma: she has a liberal arts education. She was able to afford to go to a place where she was allowed to do that. She grew up in a regional campus community, and questions the existence of one of our campuses—or at least one point. I'm glad to hear now that she’s --

**Murrell Smith:** I hope—I’m not interested in fighting that fight over again, but I hope-- That’s what she told me and I hope she maintains that position.

**Chris Plyler:** Well I appreciate that. But uh, when you work with students in the various ways that we do: occupational skills, critical thinking—all of those things we know have a huge value. But how do you translate that into workforce development? And I'm just trying to come to terms with that, and I think it's registering with the students with their interest in baccalaureate degrees.

**Murrell Smith:** That’s where we going to have to move. We’re moving in that direction with the technical colleges obviously and we need to move that way with K-12 to some degree and also with the universities. You hear time and time again, and sometimes I am fortunate enough to sit down with companies that are looking to relocate to South Carolina and they’ve got a few questions every time: how is your manufacturing association, and how do you deal with the business community in South Carolina; what's your workforce look like? That’s their big question; they always look at that. And what’s your educational system that we can partner with or how can you train our workforce? Those are questions we get time and time again, and the more entities that
we have involved in training the workforce the better off we are, and right now we’ve been using, almost always through the technical colleges but there’s got to be other ways that we can deal with that.

**Hennie Von Bulck:** These large companies looking to relocate to South Carolina are looking at workforce needs and the technical training for them, but are also looking at the liberal arts side, too, just as hard, for their families and for management.

**Murrell Smith:** I think it is, too, and let’s not get lost on… Look at Continental Tire, I can’t remember how many, but I think they’re going to bring over 100 engineers into Sumter County. Now are all of those going to come from out of state? Some of them will but we need to train our engineers in this state to fit our projects, and that’s going to be the issue that the universities are going to have to deal with, to make sure that we’ve got the workforce and we’ve got the programs available to meet the needs of our industries that are here or are coming here. We’ve had some very good announcements lately. I noticed that Nephron Pharmaceuticals was announced at the USC campus, and that’s a perfect example of what we’re going to have to do; it’s going to have to be a partnership there. And I think we are recognizing that in the General Assembly, and I think everyone understands that the transformation of this economy, that we’re not going to get the textile manufacturers back. Those are gone. What we’re going to have to do is have some high-tech industries that require a better trained and more educated workforce, and we’re going to have to partner with the higher education institutions. As much criticism, and I’m one that has leveled some criticism at the universities for some of their research programs and some of the other programs, at least there’s been a foresight by the state of South Carolina that when we branch out into the Innovista and into the I-Car and these Endowed Chairs, they benefit this state. If you look at what we have and what we’ve created in South Carolina through these programs, by any quantitative measure, they produce jobs. And there’s a lot of criticism that the government doesn’t create jobs, but partnerships with the government does create jobs. You pint to I-Car, and there’s numerous successes at USC, and the Endowed Chairs program is working, and that’s the way we’ve got to model… we’ve got to deal with the traditional education still, but we’ve also got to model some partnership with our industry because that helps the citizens of the state by employing them and it helps recruit industry here.

**Chris Plyler:** I just want to thank you for all that you do on behalf of the Regional Campuses, we don’t say two-year, but Regional Campuses. We are much more than just the first two years now…

**Murrell Smith:** I’m just … old school, I keep calling them two-year campuses. I know we’ve got USC Beaufort and Aiken. I’ll never get that out of my head I’m sorry to say.
Chris Plyler: But our main champions are primarily the members of our delegations from across the 22 counties that we serve. And your advocacy is invaluable; we appreciate it, and we hope you’ll be even more vocal in the future. We appreciate all that you do.

Murrell Smith: Well, thank you for that. We are, as I said, when you look at the universities and the make-up of the legislature, we are a dying breed in these smaller counties, and it’s every year there’s some budget proviso or something—but I’m not going to pick out universities. I would encourage this to everybody: we’re not in competition with one another, at any of the regional campuses; we’re all in this system together. And time and time again I get some legislator who says, I want this or I want to redistribute the formula so this will help my university as opposed to the other universities, and that’s not what we need to be doing in South Carolina. So when you talk to your legislators, we’re not in competition with anyone, we’re not trying to gain funding in any place to the detriment of any other university, we’re for increasing and improving education across the state with every university being a part of it. So I would encourage you to do that. Any other questions? I think my time is up. I thank you for having me here, it’s always a pleasure to be here. Thank you all for what you do. I was telling Dr. Carpenter yesterday I haven’t moved far from this little block. Yesterday I was Principal of the Day at the little school there next door, and then the technical colleges commission meeting was over there last night and I’m over here this morning, but I can say this, speaking yesterday at the luncheon that they had: it’s good for us to come and interact with the folks who are involved in education. It was wonderful for me to go over to the middle school yesterday, and watching the teachers in the classroom brings back the reality of what it’s like in the classroom. And it’s great for me to be with you, interact with you, hear from you, because y’all are on the front lines of education. It helps me have an understanding when we’re over there debating those issues. So thank you for what you do, you’re the backbone of higher ed in South Carolina, and I look forward to working with you. (Applause).

Sarah Miller: Thank you. We appreciate you taking your morning to come talk to us.

[Adjourned]
Sarah Miller called the afternoon session was called to order at approximately 1:00 p.m.

Minutes of the Sept. meeting were approved.

Report of the Vice Provost for System Affairs and Dean of Extended University, Chris Plyler:

I’d like to thank Dean Les Carpenter and the USC Sumter nation, Mary Fran Smith and her staff for the accommodations and for the lunch. We appreciate you hosting us here today.

Rep. Smith took much of what I was going to say about legislative and budget issues and pretty much said it all, if you were listening. He was simply trying to warn and temper the excitement that you see in the headlines.

Craig Parks, Senate Finance Chief of staff, addressed the President’s Executive Council yesterday and warned not to get too excited about last week’s Economic forecast. The first estimate indicates that revenue is $1B higher than anticipated, which flies in the headwind of headlines that speak to high unemployment, declining income and higher poverty, consumer spending versus lack of confidence; the delicate economic climate in Europe and the implications failure may have; the escalating US debt and the anticipated report of the Congressional Super Committee and, of course, market unrest.

He wonders if the bleeding has stopped and a transfusion to begin? Noting that we have lost $400M in higher education funding alone (1984 level), he is confident that we will not have a mid-year cut nor will there be further reductions in 2012-13. He also delivered some facts:

• The current level of government spending (83%) is still too high compared to a more sustainable level of 80%)

• Reason for banking’s negativity is a big draw down in savings in the 3rd qtr. by households which is something that is less likely to happen in coming quarters, but the squeeze on real incomes will restrain growth in consumer spending—likely holding back the economy’s growth in the year ahead

• While October’s retail sales report showed broad gains, weak income growth remains a constraint—consumer spending rose at its fastest pace in over a year in the third quarter, but households are significantly cutting back on saving to fund their spending.

• Again, income is down and poverty is up
Other challenges: Labor force vs. jobs; construction/housing/permits/foreclosures; flawed tax structure and policy; aging population/2030 dependency ratio 50-50/entitlements

So what does $1B in new money mean? What is the competition for this money?

1. Over $1B in deferred maintenance in higher education alone

2. State must pay down its long-term commitments

3. The General Fund must be restored to 4% (by law)

4. State employee health benefits must be annualized

5. Roads/highway infrastructure decaying

6. State employees have gone without raises in 4 years

This portion of my report is not given to depress you but to temper the recent optimistic economic forecast.

On 11/11/11, we were witness to the largest capital campaign announcement in the University’s/state’s history, called Carolina’s Promise. Ironically, a $1 billion goal.

All campuses have campaign goals commensurate with their capital and programmatic needs.

On May 10, 2012, the campaign will focus on fundraising announcements/celebrations in over 20 cities across the country citing 7 goals from the Focus Carolina report: Quality, Leadership, Innovation, Diversity, Access, Global Competitiveness, and Community Engagement.

Huron Report: Preliminary recommendations are being formulated and will be vetted with the Board of Trustees on November 29. Once the recommendations have been forged into a blueprint for organizational development, the proposal will be communicated with all University constituents. From all that I hear and I know about it I can tell you from what I know, it’s good, it’s positive.

If you’ve read the headlines in recent The State newspapers about “Back to Carolina,” a very positive initiative that will impact our division greatly, and our Palmetto Programs degrees, by the way, will be the featured degrees in Back to Carolina.

When the final Huron Report or recommendations are put forward it will empower us to, not award, but to offer through the system more baccalaureate opportunities. The details are still to be worked out. We could become, at some point, in the very near future, equal in administrative structure with the senior campuses, and report directly to
the President. So there will be organizational and academic changes on the horizon. What those are I don’t know yet. As soon as we know, I’ve advised the Provost and the President to share and not to decide before sharing, hopefully, what some of the concepts may be so faculty input can be obtained and incorporated along with all of our external constituencies, because our campuses certainly impact a number of people beyond just faculty and administration.

I believe that he will have a general assembly of all our regional campus faculty probably in late January or early February. We’re working hard to make that happen. You’ll be notified when that happens. But before he can go anywhere with any of these changes he will have to notify the board. And the media, with the way it is today, if you’re in a Commission on Higher Education meeting, or a Board of Trustees meeting, or if you’re in a faculty meeting, the media will take any little bite that they believe to be of importance to be known now publicly and to go with it. So a lot of these things are slipping out, and a lot of the information is incomplete, but I just want to say that from all I have heard, things are looking very good for the Regional Campuses programmatically and in stature within the higher education realm going forward.

The Rights and Responsibilities’ and System Affairs’ additions and revision to the faculty manual went forward. We try to get these things to go forward much more quickly than they do sometimes, but in this case a Board of Trustees deadline for consideration of these changes happened and they were approved in record time this past Wed., Nov. 16. So that’s a good thing, but on the other hand, there was a change made in Legal Affairs that was, as I was told, non-negotiable, from a legal standpoint, so that was included. And I think we will have to continue to remind all those concerned that we need to be informed or need to be able to act or to consider those kinds of non-negotiable items before they go forward. In this case I’m not sure anything could have been done about it anyhow, but we’ll just keep our nose to the grindstone and remind our colleagues in Columbia that we’re part of the process.

Lastly, I’d like to congratulate Professor Kunka. Every time I pull up the USC website there’s Andy at the greenboard. And that’s a good thing. We’re getting a lot of exposure in a lot of areas, and I appreciate your involvement in applying for external funding, especially through the Provost’s grants, and other means, external to the university. And not just in scholarship and research but in excellence in teaching and in service to the community. All of that is so important, and it’s certainly being noticed, and I appreciate the university communications and publications for their more aggressive strategy for all of our campuses. Thank you for what you do. Any questions? Have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Report from Asst. Vice Provost, Extended University: Sally Boyd
Palmetto Programs update: 279 students are currently enrolled, 200 in BLS and 70 in BOL. As of last August 109 students have received degrees, 100 BLS and 9 BOL. Twenty-six applications have been filed for December graduation, 14 for BLS and 12 for BOL.

Chris mentioned Back to Carolina. It’s the President’s initiative to offer an online degree completion program for former students who left without completing degrees has been placed with Palmetto Programs. We will offer 12 courses Fall 2012; grants for online course development have been awarded to faculty members on the regional campuses and in Extended University. Before the end of the semester another round of course development grants will be awarded for an additional 12 courses to be offered Spring 2013. It speaks very highly of all involved that Palmetto Programs was selected for this initiative to increase opportunity.

Report from the Dean, USC Lancaster, John Catalano:

Student Enrollment: Enrollment numbers: 1744 headcount, 1259 FTE. That equals a 10% increase over the Fall 2010 semester. Attachment included.

Faculty: Dr. Cox and I have received the report of the Faculty Hiring Priorities Committee. Dr. Scarlett and the committee did their usual thorough job. We have always tried to follow this committee’s recommendations. We received approval to hire an instructor of mathematics and a librarian/instructor, with both positions starting the first of January. Searches are underway. The responses to the other recommendations for Fall 2012 hires will depend on the budget.

Facilities: Discussions are underway with the City of Lancaster that would move the Native American Studies Program to Main Street in Lancaster. The Native American Studies Committee of the faculty is informed and involved. All grounds keeping on campus is now outsourced to Landscape Designs of Lancaster. This is a five year contract that should result in an aesthetic improvement to campus while lowering overall costs. Over the last year we have been working through a detailed deferred maintenance schedule that totals $1,000,000. The major project this year is the replacement of the Gregory HWC chiller that is over 30 years old ($140,000).

Community Events: Roy Clark will perform tomorrow, Saturday, November 19.

Financial update: The budget situation has been helped dramatically by the enrollment increase.

Parity: for years I have complained about the inequity of state funding. It has only worsened.

Fall Semester, 2011*
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<th>FTE</th>
<th>2011-2012 Appropriation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lancaster</td>
<td>1,744</td>
<td>1,259 $1,450,359 ($1152 per FTE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salkehatchie</td>
<td>1,155</td>
<td>759 $1,135,413 ($1496 per FTE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sumter</td>
<td>1,018</td>
<td>775 $2,297,158 ($2964 per FTE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>334 $ 560,614 ($1678 per FTE)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These numbers do not include the number of students working on Bachelor's degrees on our campuses since they are technically Columbia students. In the case of Lancaster, that number of students working on Columbia degrees but doing all their coursework here exceeds 130.

A USC Lancaster student is valued at only 39% of what a USC Sumter student is. If we were funded the same as Sumter ($2964 per FTE), the state would have to increase our appropriation to $3,731,676, an increase of $2.28 million.

**Report from the Dean, USC Salkehatchie, Ann Carmichael:**

USC Salkehatchie is pleased to report a record enrollment this fall with a slight increase in headcount giving us a total of 1155.

Congratulations to Dr. Sarah Miller who was honored as South Carolina Outstanding History Teacher of the Year 2011-2012 by the National Society Daughters of Colonial Wars. She is also a nominee for the national teacher of the year.

The USC Salkehatchie Leadership Institute worked with other community groups to present the 2011 Mystery Stroll, a whodunit within the theme of a masquerade ball on the downtown main street of Walterboro. Many Salkehatchie faculty members participated, including Carmela Gottesman, Brian Love, Brian Lai, and Maureen Anderson, who dressed in costume as part of the mystery. This was a collaborative effort to encourage community patronage of local business and eating establishments in the downtown area.

USC Salkehatchie students performed over 1800 hours of volunteer service across 9 counties last year. In keeping with the USC Connect out of classroom learning experience, these students are working in a variety of areas from Boys and Girls Clubs to schools to recreation leagues to food pantries.

Earlier this fall, the annual Salkehatchie magazine, Salk Update, was published and featured the Topper exhibit which is housed in the foyer of our west campus library. We
recently received an anonymous $20,000 donation for Phase II of this exhibit, which will include an interactive, dynamic media component that utilizes documentaries and news stories from this archaeological dig site.

**Report from the Dean, USC Sumter, Les Carpenter:**

Since my last report to the Regional Campuses Faculty Senate on September 30, 2011, the economic news from the state of South Carolina continues to be grim. There also have been a number of notable events and activities at USC Sumter.

**Budget:** USC Sumter, and all public institutions of higher education in South Carolina, continue to manage very significant cuts to our state appropriations. These cuts began during the Fall Semester of 2008, which means that we are well into the fourth fiscal year of what has become known as the Great Recession. The cumulative effects of budget cuts and other recessionary issues are the worst in the nation and this state since the Great Depression of the 1930’s.

**Human Resources:** As you already know, the General Assembly has not provided a cost-of-living pay raise for faculty or staff for the past three fiscal years. The USC Board of Trustees approved a payroll bonus, which was paid on October 31, 2011, but this bonus did not become part of the salary base for employees. As previously announced, three faculty retired at the end of the 2011 Spring Semester. They are Professor of Sociology Richard Bell, who also served as the Chair of the Division of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Education; Associate Professor of French and Spanish Bernard F. Fitzgerald; and Associate Professor of Management Christine Borycki. Two of these positions were filled as one-year term Instructor positions due to budgetary cuts, and the third position will remain vacant due to budgetary cuts. As previously announced, an internal search was conducted, and Dr. John Safford, Professor of Philosophy and Political Science, was selected as the new Chair of the Division of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Education, effective July 1, 2011. Since the inception of the TERI program, 34 USC Sumter employees have opted into the program. Of those 34, 27 have already retired, one is scheduled to retire in FY 12, three in FY 14, one in FY 15, and two in FY 16.

**Student Enrollments:** Official enrollment figures for the 2011 Fall Semester indicated a 14.68% headcount enrollment decrease compared to last year, and a 11.73% FTE enrollment decrease compared to last year. USC Sumter is not pleased with these figures and trends. Some five factors have been identified as primary contributors to the decreases, and each has already been addressed or work is underway to resolve the effects of that factor.

**Student Activities:** During the 2011 Fall Semester, USC Sumter did not field a Women’s Soccer Team due to a failure to recruit a sufficient number of players. As permitted by
NJCAA rules, the few remaining women soccer players played with the Men’s Soccer Team during what has proven to be a “learning and building” season for interim Head Soccer Coach Otis Holloway. USC Sumter’s new Head Basketball Coach, Mr. Adam Wainwright, recruited well and the Men’s Basketball Team and Women’s Basketball Team are both competitive in their first year of competition in Region 10 of the NCJAA. The schedule for both basketball teams will continue into the 2012 Spring Semester. All of USC Sumter’s intercollegiate athletic teams look forward to the friendly but spirited rivalries with teams from other USC Regional Campuses.

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 members, as well as selected senior tenured faculty members identified as “productive scholars.” At present, fifteen (15) of USC Sumter’s tenure-track faculty are benefiting from this teaching workload adjustment. The second phase of adjusted teaching loads for these two groups of faculty was originally scheduled to be implemented during the 2009-10 academic year, but instead has been delayed for at least three years due to budget cuts. Due to the continuing bad budget news, it is probable that implementation of the second phase of this Plan could be delayed even further.

Professional Travel: At USC Sumter, since the beginning of budget cuts in Fall 2008, a 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. However, due to the continuing bad budget news, it is probable that the professional travel budget will be frozen or cut. Fortunately, faculty and staff professional travel will begin to experience moderate increased support in FY 12 from a new private endowment administered through the Sumter Partnership of the USC Educational Foundation.

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 statewide list of capital projects for higher education. 2011 is the eleventh 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, and the continuing bad budget news for FY 12, it is very unlikely that a capital construction bond bill will be passed during the 2012 Session of the General Assembly.

Report from the Dean, USC Union, Steve Lowe:
Faculty searches are proceeding, if slowly. The committees for the Biology and Chemistry Teaching Associates and the Psychology Assistant Professor have met or will have met by the end of classes. Interviews probably won’t take place until early in the spring semester.

Final enrollment numbers are 492 in headcount (-7.17%) and 334 FTE (-7.01%). Headcount is the same as last report; FTE is down one. The percentages are slightly different than last time because of the comparison dates used by Institutional Research. Early projections for spring have us at or above 550 due to additional spring concurrent enrollments.

In facilities news, construction is proceeding well on the new library classroom/computer lab with a probable completion date of mid-December. The final report on the 311 Project (a new bookstore and student center on Main Street) has been submitted with a cost estimate of $450,000 for demolition and renovation. I will be meeting with our local commission soon to discuss funding options.

We are working with Union County Adult Education to offer some basic classes in Math and English to prepare students for college-level work. That effort will begin in the spring semester with a more aggressive effort to take place in fall 2012.

USCU is also exploring the creation of Learning Communities, cohorts of students who will take three or four classes together during their first semester and hopefully develop into a supportive group of colleagues during their time at USCU. We are hoping that this will improve retention.

We are in the process of doing a preliminary re-vamp of our website to remove outdated information and clean it up in preparation for a total redevelopment in the coming months. The new site should be live in January or early February.

We honored two former members of our local commission, Leslie Anderson and Warren Little, at our annual Founders Day ceremony on October 20.

The USC Choir will perform a holiday concert in our auditorium on 11/20 at 6:00 p.m.

The Second Annual Upcountry Literary Festival will take place on March 23 and 24, 2012.

Reports from Standing Committees

Rights and Responsibilities, Danny Faulkner:

We have three motions coming from our committee. We expect one of these is clearly non-substantive, one of them is substantive, and the third one we ask that the chair rule substantive for reasons I’ll explain a bit later. The first motion, let me give you a little
background to this: the Senate already approved and passed moving the first chapter from the manual to the appendix. The reason for this is the first chapter contains a list of university offices and administration, and positions. Each one of these have titles that continuously change, and have job descriptions that continuously change, and these are realities whether we have anything to say about it or not. We want to keep the manual in line with reality as much as possible. So that’s really not a substantive change. We moved you may recall to move the chapter to the appendix and gave our Vice Provost Chris Plyler authority to make any changes necessary as they are handed down. We don’t need to keep coming back to the Senate with those changes. However this has not yet been approved by the Board of Trustees, so while we have passed this, technically it is still part of our manual. There have been in the meantime some more job descriptions that have taken place, and Chris went ahead and made those changes, informed the Executive committee, asked for their consent and they did consent to it. So we are asking today to properly approve those changes to the manual since it is still in the manual. It’s pretty pro forma but I think we need to do this.

Second motion: we had a provision we changed in the faculty manual several years ago, that in the event there were not enough eligible faculty members to serve on a tenure and promotion committee on a particular campus, the minimum number being five, that we could add additional members of the committee and the authority was given to the local T&P committee to do that. And usually they worked with the Vice Provost to identify faculty members who could do that. One thing we didn’t really think about or consider is what happened at Union recently, since they didn’t have anybody on their local committee, Chris quite naturally up the position to do that, but technically, a tenure and promotion committee is a faculty committee, not an administrative committee, and it’s not proper that an administrator, not that we don’t trust Chris, but it’s not proper that an administrator should do this unilaterally. So we’ve offered a motion to clarify this. The essence is this: in absence of anyone on a local committee, that it ought to be the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate, in consultation with the Vice Provost, who appoints members. That way it still will be a faculty committee.

But also it occurred to us that if you had one or two members on the local committee they might have a bias either for or against the candidate, and could cherry-pick members for the committee who could rubber-stamp their own ideas about what the Tenure and promotion decision ought to be. So we are proposing that if there are fewer than three members of the local T&P committee that again the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate will appoint additional members, in consultation with the local committee and with the Vice Provost. And again this is asserting not just faculty rights, but also faculty responsibilities. When Chris did this we should have come forward on our own and say, we ought to do this. We can be very quick to criticize administration when they don’t carry out their responsibilities but we should also criticize ourselves
when we don’t step up to the plate and perform our responsibilities. So we expect that since this is a manual change this will be ruled substantive.

The third motion is more complicated. Chris alluded to it in his report. Recently Vice Provost Christine Curtis informed us of some changes to our faculty manual that the Legal Office insists must be made, and one of these changes was described as non-negotiable by her. You can read that at the bottom of the handout there. This falls under the heading describing or discussing university-sponsored educational media material. I’m not quite sure what that means, by the way, we discussed it in committee today, and I think we agreed this would not affect any of us very much. It probably is something that is being done to bring us in conformity with university procedures and possibly state law. So we move this morning to adopt this change to the manual. We are asking that this be ruled non-substantive for two reasons: one it is a fait accompli, and already in the manual, and two is that the Board of Trustees will vote on this next month, so we’d like the chair to rule it non-substantive for those reasons. Questions?

Fran Gardner: I have a question. Essentially this is saying that if you are involved with any university-sponsored production of materials that you have to obtain releases from everyone involved. Is that what it’s saying?

Danny Faulkner: I don’t think that’s what it says at all, Fran. I think…

FG: … “shall obtain appropriate releases giving all necessary rights to the University from individuals prominently appearing in or giving support to the materials.” Can you tell me what you think that means?

DF: I can’t but maybe Lisa can. She has her hand up.

Lisa Hammond: No, I can’t. But I can clarify—the first two paragraphs of this document are already in the manual right now. So the three paragraphs you see are in the manual. The change that is being suggested is cutting the last paragraph.

DF: Thank you for making that clarification. The words you see there are already in the manual, on pages 66-67. What we are asking to do here is to delete the crossed-out section, and in the paragraph above the word “negligence” is being removed, to indemnifying the university of legal responsibility if there is legal action dealing with intellectual property rights. I don’t know the entire import of this, Fran, I really don’t. And I haven’t thought about this but as an artist you’re concerned about this sort of stuff. I think it’s dealing with copyright and trademarks and not so much getting permission from people who appear in your artwork. I think it comes down to a suit being brought because you stole somebody’s material in artwork you might have done, or passed off and copyrighted and so forth. I think in the entire context that’s what it means.
FG: Chris, is that your understanding of this?

Chris Plyler: It's an intellectual property issue, as I recall, from my conversations with the Provost's office about this. [Inaudible] think it is to obtain permission from the source and clearing it at all USC levels before going forward. But if you'd like we can get Legal to give their opinion on this.

FG: I'm just trying to understand what it is they're talking about when they are talking about striking a paragraph that takes the university out of responsibility.

DF: I think what they language you have now obligates the university to provide legal counsel and to legally support and provide a defense, financially. However, it does remove negligence as a defense; basically you'd be on your own, if you knew you were using this material and it was illegal but you used it anyway, if you did it out of negligence, that has been removed. That language is being taken away that doesn’t obligate them. That's the way I'm reading that but I'm no legal expert, of course. Any other questions or discussion at this time?

Ok, in conclusion of my report I want to make it very clear that many of us are not happy with the way this was handled. It was a kind of late-night thing before the liaison committee with the Board of Trustees could be presented with this, and that was kind of late. We'd prefer it be brought to us before the fact and ask us our consent or agreement to this. I also want to make it clear that Chris Plyler is not the bad guy in this. I would like to request that our Executive Committee in some manner to sort of convey this up the line to the people. We talked about an R&R possibility of how we can make it clearer, but we want the people up the line to understand this is our faculty manual, and we want to work with the administration to make changes if necessary but we'd like to know about them ahead of time.

CP: In all fairness to the Provost's office, I could have stopped this. But I didn't view at as something that was... the process was violated, yes, but in terms of what it was going to do to the faculty senate or any regional campus faculty member, I didn't see it as significant, and of course we're being pressed to get it before the board, and if hadn't we'd been delayed another [inaudible]

DF: Ok, but I want to make it clear also that, despite our displeasure, the R&R committee did vote unanimously with this motion this morning and we hope the senate will pass it today. Are you going to rule on these motions?

Sarah Miller: The first one I rule non-substantive, and the second one substantive, so we will vote on it at the next meeting. And the third one we were just discussing I am going to rule non-substantive.
DF: Thank you, Madam Chair.

SM: Welfare, Professor Chris Bundrick.

Chris Bundrick: The Regional Campuses Tenure and Promotion Workshop is set for January 13. We have sent reminders and requests for rsvp's. Please ask your faculty to rsvp as soon as possible as that helps with our planning. Also, we are preparing for the Duffie Teaching award. Nominations need to come to me from the individual campuses by the 15th of December. I know I've gotten two sets so far. The applications from the individual candidates are due by the 31st of January. Finally, we discussed in depth the job satisfaction survey we will be sending out next year and will be altering a bit the precise data that we collect and the way that we analyze it.

Robert Castleberry: Concerning the John Duffy Teaching Award. Part of the information in that folder is teaching evaluations. What time frame are we talking about, 1 year, 2 years?

CB: One year.

RC: One academic year?

CB: One academic year, so for this year's award that would stretch back to August 2010.

RC: All of last year but not necessarily the current fall.

CB: Right, fall, spring, and I believe summer of last year, if applicable. Does that sound right? So fall 2010 through July 2011. Any questions?

Sarah Miller: Report from Systems Affairs, Professor DaSilva.

Blane DaSilva: Becky is passing out a handout there so I don’t have to read all the motions. I’d like to thank the committee for their patience. This is my first time as chair and I am a much better second lieutenant than a chair. The first motion concerns the creation of some new classes. The first motion is to create RCAM 106, “Foundations of College Algebra.” And the idea here is to differentiate from RCAM 105 which is currently being taught at Union and is transferable to USC Upstate and S[Spartanburg Community college. They don’t want to change the course description of that and mess up their transfer agreements, but we did want something that the Math professors felt would prepare students a bit more for MATH 111 than RCAM 105 does at the moment. So as you can read the course description there, it prepares students for MATH 111. So these are voluntary, each campus can decide if they want to implement these classes on your own campus. You can also decide whether or not you want to allow these classes to be taken for elective credit for a degree, which would make them eligible for
monetary aid. Again, these are voluntary, we want to create these as a tool for the Math
and English departments.

I briefly talked about RCAM 106. RCAM 104, Foundations of Composition, with specific
emphasis on the review of grammar, punctuation, and mechanics, while practicing
composing essays. Again, that is a foundation course. We have those two motions. I will
take any questions on those before going on to the next. Yes?

Bruce Nims: Number of credit hours associated with these courses?

BD: Three hours. Anything else?

Bryan Lai: In the first motion you mentioned, are there any restrictions on students
who can take this course? If the student has taken other math courses, supposedly
these shouldn’t count. Is that in your description of the course?

BD: Ok, I think what you’re asking is if a student can take other courses and then go
back and take this course, and we felt that restriction would be better placed in the
degree requirements as opposed to in the course itself. So you can take care of that in
your degree requirements as opposed to placing it in each RCAM course.

Kajal Goshroi: Are these pass-fail courses or full credit courses?

BD: That’s up to each regional campus. [discussion]…Oh I’m sorry, I misunderstood
your question. Three credit courses, not pass-fail. I apologize for that. Robert?

Robert Castleberry: Point of information. Even though a course is offered for credit, a
grade credit, which these are, a student can elect to take them pass-fail if they’re
elective credit.

Pearl Fernandes: Who decides if a student will be in an RCAM course or not?

BD: I believe it is the student’s choice. It’s voluntary for the campus to choose to teach
that, and it’s voluntary for the student to choose to take that course, within the
restrictions that the campus chooses to place on that. Anything else?

Our third motion deals with students transferring from Regional Campuses to a
baccalaureate degree-granting campus, and the concern is that those students are
labeled as a transfer student, and will be treated as a transfer student and will be
treated differently from students who started on, say, the Columbia campus or Beaufort
or Upstate. You can read the motion here, with the concern that if two students begin a
degree program, one at USC Columbia and one at a regional campus, they will be
treated differently once they apply to the degree program. I am going to defer any
questions about this to Robert Castleberry, who brought this to our attention.
Patrick Saucier: What’s HB?

Robert Castleberry: Typically when a student gets admitted on one of our campuses they can be admitted as “HB” which means they are admitted to a baccalaureate degree program, the same as a Columbia campus student. If they don’t meet those criteria they can be admitted on our campuses as “HR” which means Regional campuses. Traditionally an HR student before they could transfer to Columbia would need to meet certain requirements, a certain number of hours with a certain GPA. It would be roughly equivalent to the Provisional/Limited class in Columbia.

PS: Does it stand for something?

RC: Part of the mystery of admissions.

Danny Faulkner: What is the procedure for the classes? What’s the next step?

Chris Plyler: I believe we are the approving body for RCAM courses, so …

DF: Ok, so we approve this, you approve it, is it a done deal, or does it go on to somewhere in Columbia?

CP: That is my understanding. No, I don't think it goes any higher. As a courtesy we’ll let Dean Doerpinghaus know about it.

DF: But this course could be offered as soon as fall semester, 2012?

CP: To my knowledge, yes, but I’ll follow up just to make sure.

Fran Gardner: I'm not sure I understand the purpose or intent of motion 3. Can you give me some back story on this?

Robert Castleberry: Yes. Part of my report to this group is related to Courses and Curriculum, as your representative, relates to two events that have occurred during the last two meetings. Basically two departments, the last time it was Math and Statistics, most recently it was Environmental Science, sent through a change to their curriculum that involved transfer requirements. Basically what they feel is that a student who transfers into their degree program needs to have a particular background, and a particular grade point ratio. They do not want to accept students into their programs who do not meet those criteria. A student who started at USC Columbia does not have to meet those transfer requirements. So two students, one who started on one of our campuses, and one at USC Columbia, who took the same exact courses and have the same exact GPA, say a 2.46, our student would not be accepted into the program.

FG: Ok, so if this were to pass it goes to …
**RC**: Basically, anything we pass like this is a recommendation to Chris, who would presumably send it upstream.

**Carmela Gottesman**: Danny was asking what happens with the RCAM courses. So if we approve them they can begin to be taught, but we shouldn’t forget that we need to decide if we are going to include them in the associate’s degree and act accordingly on our individual campuses.

**Kajal Goshroy**: I have one more question about those two courses. So, if it is being offered for credit, and we are voluntarily or otherwise putting students in their who have a deficit in either writing or math, and let’s say they barely pass—because it’s a non-pass/fail course they get credit for the class, would they be qualified to take the higher level class?

**Blane DaSilva**: Ok, look at Motion One, at the last sentence of the creation of RCAM 106, it says, “In order to receive a grade C or better in RCAM 106, the student must pass the Math Placement Test with a minimum score of MA-1 or MB-1,” trying to address that issue here, to make sure they are now qualified, at least in the Math class.

[Inaudible]

Ok, sorry. I defer to my math colleagues here, because I didn’t know what half of these things were.

**Roberto Refinetti**: When I read this sentence here about 106—there’s no other course where we have an external form of assessment, and if I was a math professor I don’t think I’d be very happy about this.

**Danny Faulkner**: I think I can address that the goal is that the person taking this class can pass the test with a good enough score to take the most elementary credit class at USC offers. And even if you pass the class, you still have to pass the qualifying exam that the USC Math department gives. And that’s why we wanted to include that as part of the final exam here, because otherwise, if you take the class and you don’t pass the qualifying exam, what are you going to do? Well, presumably you’ll take RCAM 106 over again.

**RR**: Well now there’s a requirement—we don’t enforce it—but there’s a requirement to take the exam and make the score.

**DF**: We will start enforcing it.

**RR**: Ok, so what am I getting out of the course? That’s what I’m not getting. You are required to pass the test anyway…
DF: But the USC Math department says that you have to take the test anyway. The intent of the course is to get the student ready to pass the test.

Blane DaSilva: If they receive a D or an F in the class, doesn’t that allow them to retake the class, and if they receive a C or above, they don’t have the same procedures?

DF: If they receive an A in the class, in 106, and still can’t get a high enough score on the test, you can’t go on to the next level.

Sally Boyd: Might you consider rewording the last sentence in this, so it reads “passing this class does not substitute for a minimum score on the math placement exam”?

DF: I might let the math professors respond to that.

Sarah Miller: Excuse me, I think we’ve entered into some discussion, as opposed to just questions, so I’m going to rule these non-substantive, so we’re going to vote on them, and we can discuss them under New Business. Executive Committee?

Chris Nesmith: Executive Committee met on October 28th, and discussed the committee charge. We also met during the breakout sessions today, and discussed the possibility of altering the senate agenda in the future. But we’ll talk about that with the senate at a later date.

Sarah Miller: Committee on Libraries. Professor Maureen Anderson could not be here today, but she has not report. Curricula and Courses—Professor Castleberry?

RC: The committee meets on a monthly basis to consider changes to the curriculum. We have met twice since my last report to you. I usually send out an electronic copy of the agenda before each meeting. If you would like to receive a copy of this please email me and I’ll add you to the list. If any of the contact people have concerns about these changes contact me and I can bring these concerns to the committee. The committee changes are merely recommendations and are not final until the faculty senate votes on them. I would point out one particular item. In October Math and Stat had, and in November Environmental Science added transfer requirements for their major. A student from one of our campuses, an HB student, would be required to meet the transfer requirements, even if they had declared the major as their “intended” major. It is my understanding our students cannot declare majors but can declare intended majors. This seemed unfair to me, and when I pointed it out at the meeting I got support from the committee to pursue it.

SM: Thank you. Faculty Welfare: Prof. Fernandes?

Pearl Fernandes: No report.
SM: Faculty Board of Trustees Liaison Committee: That’s me. As Chris reported the BOT did approve the changes that were sent up to them.

Regional Campuses Productive Scholarship Committee?

Patrick Saucier: No report.

SM: RC Provost Advisory Council met Oct. 21. Thanks to all who came. The provost is looking into hosting a meeting for all the regional campuses faculty.

Conflict of Interest committee? We’ll go with no report.


Danny Faulkner: Motion number one dealt with confirming the action of the Executive Committee recently in approving or confirming the Vice Provosts descriptions of administrative offices.

Sarah Miller: All in favor? Opposed? [Motion passes]

DF: Motion two dealt with the change to manual where you have cases where you have fewer than five members from a campus on a local T&P committee. This was ruled substantive so will be voted on next time. Any questions or discussion?

Ok, going on the third motion, which was ruled non-substantive. The sheet was handed out earlier has it on there, concerning the language deleting the one paragraph in the manual and deleting the one word in the paragraph above that. Any discussion?

Sarah Miller: All in favor? Opposed? [Motion passes]. We have no new business coming out of Welfare, so System Affairs?

Blane DaSilva: We have three motions, all ruled non-substantive, and there was a friendly amendment changing “MA-1” to “MA-2,” correct?

Sarah Miller: We also have a motion to change the last sentence of the paragraph as well.

Sally Boyd: I’m not a senator, so that wasn’t a motion.

Blane DaSilva: Ok. Motion one, creation of RCAM 106, Foundations of College Algebra. “Course description: Operations on real numbers, linear equations and inequalities, quadratic equations, factoring and absolute value equations, exponential and radical expressions, graphs and functions. Additional topics may include math study skills, logarithms, exponential functions, probability, statistics, systems of equations, polynomial division, and mathematical modeling. In order to receive a grade of C or
better in RCAM 106 students must pass the math placement test, MPT, with a minimum score of MB-1 or MA-2.”

Sarah Miller: Coming from committee it requires no second, do we have any discussion. All in favor? Opposed? Motion passes.

BD: Ok, motion two, creation of RCAM 104, Foundations of Composition. Course description: A course in writing skills with practice in composing essays, including intensive review of punctuation, grammar and mechanics.”

SM: Coming from committee this motion requires no second. Any discussion? All in favor? Opposed? Motion passes.

BD: Motion three, “Reclassification of Regional HB students. Students from the regional campuses with a declared/intended major will be treated academically as if they had done all their major coursework as if on the USC campus granting the baccalaureate degree (i.e., would not be treated as a transfer student).”

SM: Coming from committee this motion requires no second. Any discussion?

Lisa Hammond: Shouldn’t this be worded as a resolution?

Robert Castleberry: I’ve had to look this up recently in Robert’s Rules of Order, and it says that technically there is no difference between a resolution and a motion. Resolutions tend to be wordier and use flowery phrasing.

Patrick Saucier: What do we hope this will actually do?

BD: To push this up the line. To get this resolved, Robert, you said from here this would go to…

RC: It is my understanding that everything we do is a recommendation. It goes to Chris and he would then choose to act on it, I would hope, which would be to talk to other powerbrokers that be.

PS: Should what we want to happen be part of that motion?

RC: I would say that certainly is an acceptable thing to do, but I would argue that by our very nature, that’s implicit. Because someone will be asked about it at our next meeting anyway.

Roberto Refinetti: It should be “i.e.” not “e.g.” “E.g. is “for example.”

Blane DaSilva: Ok, so a friendly amendment, changing it from “e.g.” to “i.e.”
Ron Cox: We were discussing earlier, the College of Arts and Sciences currently has a rule that half of the major coursework must be done on the Columbia campus. If I’m reading this correctly, we are insisting that they treat our students as if they had done all of their major coursework on the Columbia campus. I just wanted to point out I don’t think that is going to be met very favorably.

Robert Castleberry: That may very well be the case. All we can do is pass our particular recommendations forward. My concern is not that particular rule, but in the case of Environmental Sciences, I don’t think any of our campuses offer major courses for that degree anyway, but then a student transfers to Columbia and does a change of campus and is then treated as a transfer student. And that is my primary objective. If we can raise their consciousness about this, make them think about it, we will have met our objective.

Sarah Miller: Any more discussion? All in favor? Opposed? Motion passes.

SM: Moving on to announcements. Professor Junes.

Leandro Junes: We want to announce that we had another successful meeting of our Carolina Math Seminar. We had two different talks this time. Dr. Lai prepared the student who gave a presentation about a solution to a proposed problem from the journal the [inaudible] Quarterly. So this student submitted a solution to the journal. We also had presentations from professors on their research from USC Columbia, The Citadel, and the College of Charleston. We understand that our mission is teaching so we are working with the students doing research. It is worth mentioning that our students have already submitted solutions to 8 problems in this journal. Also, one of our students had a presentation accepted at an international conference in Cuba.

SM: Any other announcements? Seeing no other announcements, the meeting is adjourned. Have a safe trip home.

/cln
**Motion 1: Creation of RCAM 106: Foundations of College Algebra**

Course description: Operations on real numbers, linear equations and inequalities, quadratic equations, factoring, absolute value equations, exponential and radical expressions, graphs, and functions. Additional topics may include math study skills, logarithms, exponential functions, probability, statistics, systems of equations, polynomial division, and mathematical modeling. In order to receive a grade of C or better in RCAM 106 students must pass the math placement test (MPT) with a minimum score of MB1 or MA2.

**Motion 2: Creation of RCAM 104: Foundations of Composition**

Course Description: A course in writing skills with practice in composing essays, including intensive review of grammar, punctuation, and mechanics.

**Motion 3: Reclassification of regional HB students**

HB students from the regional campuses with a declared/intended major will be treated academically as if they had done all their course work as a major on the USC campus granting a baccalaureate degree (i.e., will not be treated as a transfer student).
The final bulleted point on p. 30 of the RCF Manual reads:

Only faculty of equal or higher rank may vote on those applying for that rank. All tenured faculty may vote on applications for tenure. The minimum number of faculty necessary for voting on a candidate is five. Campus tenure and promotion committees will request the participation of faculty from other regional campuses if necessary to form a quorum. In the event that a campus cannot provide at least three members for its local Tenure and Promotion Committee, additional members shall be appointed by the Regional Campuses Faculty Senate Executive Committee, in consultation with members of the local committee and the Vice Provost and Executive Dean for Regional Campuses and Extended University. Faculty holding administrative positions (such as chair, dean, provost or President) which enable them to make recommendations on a candidate may not vote on those candidates. Emeritus professors may not vote. A faculty member on leave may vote only upon written notification to the unit chair or dean of a desire to do so before beginning the leave. This faculty member must attend the meetings of the committee to cast a vote.

RCFM pp. 66-67

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