

Faculty Senate Meeting
Friday, November 7, 2003
SC 214, 3:00 p.m.

- I. Call to Order: President Virginia Purtle
- II. Welcome Visitors
 - a. New University Registrar Lisa Duncan-Raines
- III. Approval of Minutes from the October 3, 2003 meeting
- IV. President's Report
- V. Committee Reports
 - a. Strategic Planning
 - b. Curriculum and Academic Life Task Force
- VI. Old Business
 - a. Resolution 2003-2004: 06 concerning faculty mentoring program (second reading – vote possible)
 - b. Resolution 2003-2004: 02 concerning university nondiscrimination statement (vote possible)
 - c. Student representative on Faculty Senate (new resolution?)
- VII. New Business
 - a. Faculty Development Grants (vote on order)
 - b. Faculty Social Functions (sense of senate)
 - c. Schedule for Distinguished Professors (resolution?)
- VIII. Other Items
- IX. Adjournment

Christopher Newport University
Faculty Senate
Resolution 2003-2004: 02

(Sponsor: Kidd for the Student Government Association)

Whereas, the Student Government Association, by a vote of 103-1, with 1 abstention, passed a resolution during the Spring 2003 semester calling for the university non-discrimination policy to be amended to include sexual orientation, and

Whereas, the Student Government Association has forwarded that resolution to the Faculty Senate asking for the body that represents the faculty to show support for the concerns of the students, and

Whereas, the Faculty Senate understands that the essence of a liberal arts institution is openness and affirmation of differences so that any hindrance to the pursuit of knowledge and higher learning, such as a fear of discrimination or prejudice on the part of students, faculty or staff, should not be accepted, and

Whereas the university is committed to "access and opportunity", and

Whereas, inclusive freestanding non-discrimination policies have never been challenged for providing more protections than state or federal anti-discrimination laws provide,¹ and

Whereas, Governor Mark Warner, Lt. Governor Tim Kaine, Attorney General Jerry Kilgore and nearly half of the members of the General Assembly have signed pledges or made policy statements stating that they will not discriminate in their legislative office on the basis of sexual orientation,² and

Whereas, of the 15 public four year institutions in Virginia, 9 currently include sexual orientation in their non-discrimination policies,³ and

Whereas, of CNU's 24 peer institutions across the country, 16 currently have sexual orientation in their non-discrimination policies,⁴

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Faculty Senate supports the spirit and objective of the Student Government Association resolution and recommends to the university community, including the administration and Board of Visitors, that CNU amend its non-discrimination policy to include sexual orientation.

Notes

1. Indeed, courts have ruled that just because such laws do not cover sexual orientation "does not mean that the University may not adopt regulations more protective than existing law, provided, of course, such regulation does not otherwise offend the state or federal constitution." *Doe v. University of Michigan*, 721 F.Supp. 852, 861 n.11 (E.D. Mich. 1989). In fact, the U.S. Supreme Court has recognized that "[e]numeration is the essential device used to make the duty not to discriminate concrete and to provide guidance for those who must comply." *Romer v. Evans*, 517 U.S. 620, 628-629 (1996)
2. The list of General Assembly members includes the following twenty members of the Senate: Thomas Norment R, Yvonne Miller D, Frank Wagner R, Benjamin Lambert D, John Watkins R, Stephen Martin R, Henry Marsh III D, Edd Houck D, Louise Lucas D, Roscoe Reynolds D, John Edwards D, Creigh Deeds D, Russell Potts R, John Chichester R, Patricia Ticer D, Mary Margaret Whipple D, Janet Howell D, Leslie Byrne D, Richard Saslaw D, and Toddy Puller D and the following forty-three members of the House of Delegate: Morgan Griffith R, Ward Armstrong D, Clifton Woodrum D, Jim Shuler D, Danny Marshall R, Allen Louderback R, A. Victor Thomas D, Preston Bryant R, Glenn Weatherholtz R, Vince Callahan R, Jeannemarie Devolites R, Kenneth Plum D, JC Petersen D, Bob Hull D, Vivian Watts D, Jim Dillard R, David Albo R, Tom Bolvin R, Kristen Amundsen D, Marian Van Landingham D, Brian Moran D, James Almand D, Bob Brink D, Karen Darner D, Harry Parrish R, Michele McQuigg R, James Scott D, Frank Hargrove R, Mitchell Van Yahres D, Fenton Bland D, William Barlow D, Franklin Hall D, Viola Baskerville D, Floyd Miles D, Terrie Suit R, Bob Purkey R, Leo Wardrup R, Bob Tata R, Thomas Rust R, Thelma Drake R, Kenneth Alexander D, Flora Crittenden D, and Harvey Morgan R.
3. College of William & Mary, George Mason University, James Madison University, Mary Washington College, Old Dominion University, Radford University, Virginia Tech University, University of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University.
4. California State University – Stanislaus, Central Connecticut State University, Ramapo College of New Jersey, Rutgers University – Camden, Sonoma State University, Southwest State University, SUNY College at Old Westbury, The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, University of Massachusetts – Dartmouth, University of Michigan – Flint, University of North Carolina at Asheville, University of Southern Colorado, University of Tampa, University of Wisconsin – Green Bay, University of Wisconsin – Park Side, Wilkes University.

Christopher Newport University
Faculty Senate
Resolution 2003-2004: 06
(Sponsor:)

(need language)