

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES**  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2003**  
**SC 214, 3:00 PM**

Senators Present: Purtle, Doyle, Underwood, Grau, Knipp, Whiting, Doughty, Berry, Gray, Hicks, Winder, Kidd (arrived @ 3:55).

Guests in Attendance: Bill Thro, Michelle Moody, Tim Marshall, Noel Womack, Melissa Bell, Chanelle Layman, Representative from the Gay Straight Student Union

Note Taker: Kathy Byars

- I. Minutes from the September meeting were approved with no changes.
- II. Faculty Senate President Virginia Purtle called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm and welcomed all visitors.

She then asked if there would be any objections to altering the agenda, so that Michelle Moody and Bill Thro would go first. No objections were noted. It was decided that Resolution #2 would be presented first.

RESOLUTION 2003-2004 #2 – Change in current text of the university non-discrimination policy.

Floor was immediately opened for questions addressed to Bill Thro. Bob Winder asked what Bill Thro's overall views were about the policy. Bill Thro stated that from a legal standpoint there were errors in the resolution and that in his view it was extremely symbolic. There is currently nothing in the state of Virginia law regarding sexual orientation.

If the resolution were passed, CNU would have to violate the policy in such instances as the ROTC, domestic partner benefits, etc. All of these would be in violation of discrimination resolution.

QUESTION: If adopted would it open CNU to more legal ramifications: BILL THRO: He did not think so, and it could not be enforced thru the court, so it could not be pursued. Also, CNU contracts between students and faculty state that they cannot bring upon a "Breach of Contract" suit against CNU

QUESTION: If adopted, would the policy pertain to all students and faculty? Example: Consensual opposite sex visitation is allowed at present. If someone of the same sex wanted to have room visitation, would his/her roommate be able to oppose that. It was noted by Harry Grau that the handbook states that a student can always object to visitors by their roommates. Michelle Moody noted that no type of harassment will be tolerated by CNU and that something like this has never come up before. Most complaints are pretty general. Harry Grau still worried that students may lose their rights. Bill Thro states that a student will never not be given their rights. To date at CNU there has never been a report of sexual orientation. If any question arises it should be directed immediately to Michelle Moody, no matter what type of harassment it is.

QUESTION: Is this actionable or not? BILL THRO: no it is not actionable by State/Federal Laws.

QUESTION: Can a chair or a dean not hire someone because of his or her sexual orientation? BILL THRO: CNU would take the position that this would be offensible.

QUESTION: from SGA representative. If CNU doesn't adopt this policy, will individual clubs have to adopt. BILL THRO: No

GAY RIGHTS REPRESENTATIVE: This is very important to them and even if it were just "symbolic" they would feel more comfortable with the wording changed.

BILL THRO and MICHELLE leave meeting.

Motion brought up for vote. Peter Knipp makes motion to eliminate the last WHEREAS, seconded by Cathy Doyle. Motion to amend approved.

Lengthy discussion between all senate members on their views of the wording of this proposal. Motion was brought forward by David Doughty to table this resolution for now and relook at later. Seconded by Harry Grau. Motion was carried by a vote of 7.

### III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- President Purtle announced that there still had been no decision on across the board or merit raises. It was discussed that there is a large imbalance in salaries and that this would have to be adjusted before raises were distributed.
- President Purtle also met with the Provost in reference to Start Up Week as promised in the September meeting. She stated that the letter that will be sent out this year will be different than last year and the Provost will look at the over-all scheduling of that week for faculty.
- On September 12, 2003 President Purtle attended the Board of Visitors Retreat.
- Encourages all to attend Strategic Planning Sessions.
- October 17, 2003 meeting with President Tribble at 3:00 in SGA 214.

### IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. FACULTY MENTOR PROGRAM Tom Berry presented an outline of the new mentoring program on behalf of the committee that looked at this issue. The committee felt that it should be handled through the Dean's Office, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. School of Business should also be included in the mentoring program. Dean's office will be responsible for heading up, scheduling and follow up. This will be brought up as a motion of 1<sup>st</sup> reading under new business.

B. FACULTY SENATE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE - Harry Grau reported that senate positions are not in balance. Much discussion throughout the Senate members on how to fix this. Shortening terms was discussed as well the possibility of changing the constitution from 16 to 15. The Senate's by-laws can be changed by with a 2/3 vote. It was decided

at the suggestion of President Purtle that this needs to go back to the committee for re-working and be presented again.

C. The following resolution was passed by the Senate:

1. RESOLUTION 2003-2004: 05 (sponsor: Senator Grau - first reading; second reading waived by voice vote)

Whereas the Constitution of the Faculty Senate calls for a composition of fifteen members (Univ. Handbook Sect. XVII.B.3.b),

Therefore Be It Resolved that line 28 (U.H. XVII.B.3.d) shall read "Elections shall be held each spring by March 15. **Seven** (not eight) members shall be elected in odd-numbered. (change in italicized bold).

Notes to this resolution follow:

According to the Constitution (as changed by this resolution), 7 should be elected in odd year cycles, and 8 elected in even year cycles. Also, within each area of CLAS (S&T, LA, SSPS), it would be desirable to have 2 senators elected in each cycle in order to maintain some continuity within the Senate as a whole, and within each area, from year to year. Currently, all 4 S & T seats are due up for re-election in '05. Similarly, 3 of the 4 LA & SSPS seats are up for re-election in '04.

The following adjustments in the Spring 2004 Senate elections should be made to ensure compliance with the Constitution and provide for a balanced rotation of Senators within each area of CLAS:

To change an odd election to even year: current odd-year senator gives up one year on current seat, so his/her seat comes up for re-election in '04. The seats can be selected by

Senator Purtle asking for volunteers to reduce current term to 1 year, or by drawing straws for who will reduce his/her term to 1 year.

To change an even year election to an odd year: The seat coming up for election in '04 would be a one year term, so that the seat is now up for election in '05.

Any senator electing to reduce his/her current term to one year, or elected to a one-year term, would be eligible to be elected to a total of 2 two-year terms within a five-year span. We recommend treating these 1 year terms as a term-replacement position, as we have done in the past.

1. LA – seats scheduled for election

Doyle: '04 , Schwarze: '05, Underwood: '04, Wheeler: '04

Action: In spring '04, hold 3 elections: 2 two-year terms, and 1 one-year term (a seat which would come up for election in '05). The latter would mean that LA would have 2 senators elected in even years, and 2 in odd years.

2. S&T – seats scheduled for election

Grau: '05, Knipp: '05, Whiting: '05, Doughty: '05

Action: In spring '04, ask 2 S & T senators to volunteer to reduce their current term from 2 to one year, enabling us to get 2 seats on an even year cycle. Hold 2 elections: 2 two-year terms. This would yield S & T with 2 senators elected in even years, and 2 in odd years.

3. SSPS – seats scheduled for election

Cartwright: '04, Kidd: '05, Purtle: '05, Berry: '05

Action: In spring '04, ask 1 SSPS senator to

volunteer to reduce their current term from 2 to one year, enabling us to get 2 seats on an even year cycle. Hold 2 elections: 2 two-year terms. This would yield SSPS with 2 senators elected in even years, and 2 in odd years.

4. Proposed election outcome by year

	Odd	Even
LA	2	2
S&T	2	2
SSPS	2	2
<u>BUSN</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Total:	7	8

D. UNIVERSITY ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE -

Corrections will go out per Cathy Doyle and nominations will be sent to her for committee members.

V. OLD BUSINESS CONTINUED

A. RESOLUTION 2003-2004: 01 (Sponsor: Senator Kidd, Second reading)

Motion to approve with changes brought forward by Senator Kidd, Seconded by Senator Knipp. Passed with no abstentions.

NEW WORDING: Given the increasing number of formal academic ceremonies taking place during the academic year, the Faculty Senate recommends that all are expected to attend May graduation and each department and school be required to be represented by at least 50% of its faculty at each formal academic ceremony.

B. RESOLUTION 2003-2004: 03 (Sponsor: Senator Grau).

Senator Grau withdrew resolution.

**C. RESOLUTION 2003-2004: 04 (Sponsor: Senator Gray). Seconded by Senator Underwood.**

***Whereas information technology has become indispensable to the conduct of commerce, research, and scholarship and***

***Whereas information technology now plays a critical role in education and classroom instruction in some disciplines and courses, and***

***Whereas information technology may be expected to play an increasingly pervasive and critical role in education and classroom instruction in all disciplines, and***

***Whereas SCHEV requires that we soon be prepared to demonstrate our students' competence in the use of information technology, and***

***Whereas, for these reasons, it may be assumed that information technology management, planning, and implementation (1) may have a significant impact on the day-to-day instructional and scholarly activities of faculty and students alike, (2) will be an essential element in the development and implementation of the university's strategic plan, and (3) will be of critical importance to all members of the university academic community,***

***Therefore Be It Resolved that***

- 1. The university should form a standing Academic Computing Advisory Committee consisting of the Director of Information Technology Services and members of the university faculty, such committee to work with the Director of Information Technology Services and his or her***

***Associates in a consultative and advisory capacity regarding information technology services and policies and academic needs, the technological impact of changes in academic requirements, and vice versa, and in the development of long-range, strategic plans affecting the academic community***

***2. Upon the Provost's approval, the Senate will appoint a task force to work in cooperation with the Director of Information Technology Services and other members of the administration as may be deemed appropriate to develop a charter for the proposed committee.***

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Faculty Mentor Program will be resolution 2003-2004:06 and will be brought up for a vote at next meeting.

VII. No other Items

VIII. Meeting was adjourned at 5:37 pm