

## **MINUTES OF THE FACULTY MEETING,**

**April 22, 2003, 4:00 P. M., MCCLELLAN 100**

Charles Wright, Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs, called the meeting to order. Bill Downs led in prayer.

President Andy Westmoreland began his presentation by emphasizing that all of us at this time of the semester were probably feeling like he did when he rode the scrambler at the Independence County Fair: "If I ever get off this thing, I am never going to ride it again!"

President Westmoreland highlighted the 2003 American Association of University Professors (AAUP) compensation rankings and indicated that even though Ouachita had risen in the rankings over the past several years, his goal is for every rank to be at the second tier or higher. Improvement is needed at the professor and associate professor ranks. The President reported that in a compensation ranking of fourteen Baptist universities, Ouachita ranked second behind Furman.

Ouachita currently has 33 faculty and administrative committees. President Westmoreland presented the following three goals in reorganizing these committees.

1. Structure the committee system to eliminate redundancies associated with strategic and accreditation planning.
2. Reduce the number of committees.
3. Set aside and protect a time for committees to work.

Three ideas were suggested for accomplishing the goals:

1. Revise the university wide committee structure to include the following committees: Strategic Planning, University Committee, Teaching and Learning, Academic Resources and Development, Student Life, Judicial, Awards and Events.
2. Establish committees with eleven members (seven faculty, three administrators, and one student).
3. Dedicate the noon hour on Mondays for committee work and provide a box lunch for members. (Only five classes are currently offered at noon)

After the conclusion of President Westmoreland's report, a motion was made to approve as circulated the January faculty-staff planning meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and approved.

Registrar Judy Jones reported that there were 223 students eligible for 226 degrees. She indicated that 41 percent (91) of the candidates for graduation were honor graduates. Ray Granade moved that "Those certified by the Registrar as having completed all requirements for graduation, and those so certified between now and graduation, be approved." The motion was seconded and carried.

Bill Viser, Chair of the Student Life Committee, reported that the committee--other members include Wayne Bowen, Mark Miller, Sarah Huckabee (student member), Bill Dixon (ex officio), Keldon Henley (ex officio)--had dealt with items relating to the Tiger Handbook and considered a student appeal. The committee moved that the constitution of Pi Gamma Mu, the international honor society in social science which was active from 1930 to 1937, be approved. The motion carried. Ballots were distributed for the election of Ouachitonian Man and Woman.

The Chair of the Faculty Development Committee, James Philpot, (other members are Tona Wright, Timothy Hays, Kevin Brennan, Edwina Thedford, Doug Sonheim, and Charles Wright--ex officio) announced the recipients of 2003-04 growth plan grants: Eric Phillips, Terry Sergeant, Barry Bryan, Danny Hays, Ouida Keck, J. K. Hwang, James Taylor, Amy Sonheim, David Griffith, Marty Perry, and Mike Reynolds. David Griffith and Marty Perry were also awarded full year sabbaticals. The recipients were given a round of congratulatory applause.

James presented the following recommendation on behalf of the committee.

The Faculty Development Committee proposes the following re-write of the Faculty/Staff Manual, II. D. 1.:

#### II. D. 1. Sabbaticals

One-semester sabbaticals at full pay and two-semester sabbaticals at three-quarters pay are recommended to the President by the Faculty Development Committee. To be eligible for sabbatical consideration a faculty member must have completed at least six years of full-time service prior to the proposed sabbatical and since his/her last sabbatical awarded, if applicable.

Award criteria include: A) overall seniority; B) the ability of the department and the Interdisciplinary Studies program to serve students in the absence of the faculty member; and C) the worth of the proposed sabbatical activity to the faculty member, department, and University. Sabbaticals are awarded only to faculty members who will agree to return to teaching at Ouachita Baptist University the following year. The financial support which the University provides shall be in the form of a loan repayable within one year following the sabbatical. The interest rate shall be the lesser of seven percent per annum or the maximum allowable by Arkansas law, and a legally binding note shall be properly executed. The loan shall be forgiven in its entirety following one year of satisfactory post-sabbatical service.

The faculty member interested in submitting a sabbatical proposal shall contact the department chair and dean of his/her school prior to submitting the proposal.

A vote resulted in the approval of the recommendation.

Edwina Thedford, Chair of the Academic Standards Committee, recommended the acceptance of the following revision of the Covenant on Academic Honor statement for syllabi (the initial statement had been presented at the January, 2003 faculty meeting).

Students at Ouachita are obligated to uphold the Covenant on Academic Honor, which reads in part, "I will refrain from all forms of academic dishonesty, and I will act responsibly when confronted with the knowledge of such behavior." For the possible consequences of any violation of this covenant, please see *The Tiger Handbook*.

A vote was taken and the proposal was approved.

A second recommendation from the Academic Standards Committee was then presented.

The Academic Standards Committee also recommends that we return to the GPA standards for probation as set forth in the 2001-2002 catalog instead of the standards we later agreed upon which are now listed in the 2002-2003 catalog. There are a number of negative factors involved in using the current standards.

The current standard requires a 2.000 GPA to stay off probation at any level.

The previous standard required a cumulative GPA of 1.700 for students attempting 0-28.5 semester hours, 1.800 for those attempting 29-58.5 semester hours, 1.900 for those attempting 59-88.5 semester hours, and 2.000 for students attempting 89 or more semester hours.

During the discussion of the recommendation, it was pointed out that over half of Ouachita students are on Federal aid. To maintain their aid, they must make academic progress, defined as either the maintenance of a 2.000 GPA or the GPA requirements of the university.

Susan Hurst reported that the aid of 27 students was cancelled in the spring of 2001 while 25 students lost their aid in the spring of 2002. Under the 2.000 GPA requirement, these figures would have been 39 and 52 respectively.

After further discussion, the recommendation was approved.

Terry Carter, Chair of the Nominating Committee (other members include David Griffith, Sim Flora, Jim Dann, Steve Phillips, Tim Knight, and Randy Smith), presented the following recommendations on behalf of the committee:

Secretary	Eddie Ary
Parliamentarian	Doug Reed
<b>University Committee:</b>	
Danny Hays	Christian Studies
Roy Buckelew	Humanities

**Library Committee:**

Detri Brech	Natural Sciences
Johnny Wink	Humanities

**Athletic Advisory Committee:**

Freddie Jolley	Education
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**Student Life Committee:**

Rob Hewell	Fine Arts
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**Faculty Welfare Committee:**

John Cox	Business
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**University Curriculum Committee:**

Mike Reynolds	Education
Jan Duncan	Humanities

**Academic Standards Committee:**

Margo Turner	Education
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**International Studies Committee:**

Tona Wright	Education
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**Scholarship Committee:**

Amy Sonheim	Humanities
Jim Dann	Education

**Faculty Tenure Committee:**

Ray Granade	Social Sciences
Caroline Taylor	Fine Arts

**Faculty Development Committee:**

Eric Phillips	Fine Arts
Kent Faught	Business

**Honors Council:**

Barry Bryan	Business
Mark Miller	Social Sciences
Barabara Pemberton	Christian Studies

**Interdisciplinary Studies:**

Deborah Root	Humanities
Janice Ford	Education

After a request for other nominations resulted in none, a vote was taken and the recommendations of the Nominating Committee were approved.

A runoff vote was taken for Ouachitonian Man and Woman. The men involved in the runoff were Randall Stanley, Michael Tinker, and Michael Reddin; the women were Vinita Rijah and Tara Loyd.

Trey Berry, Chair of the University Committee, thanked the members of the committee--Glenn Good, Nancy Hardman, Patrick Houlihan, Mike Reynolds, Jim Rothwell, Preban Vang, Johnny Wink, Andy Westmoreland (ex officio), Charles Wright (ex officio), and Justin Harrison (student member)--for their service. He reported that the committee had dealt with belief, mission, and vision statements for the Center for Integrity (which were given to Byron Eubanks, the Director of the Center), the proposal to combine three committees (the Research Committee, the Faculty Enrichment Committee, and the Faculty Development Committee) into the Faculty Development Committee, internet cheating, committee restructuring (Trey is visiting schools to get feedback), and the new generation of students (the Millennials). Trey emphasized that there was no discussion of campus parking!

The following announcements were made as the meeting neared its conclusion.

Alpha Chi Reception--Thursday, April 24, at 10:00 a.m. on the Evans Student Center Bridge

Scholars Day--April 23 at 1:00 p.m.

Academic Awards Banquet--April 28

Athletic Banquet--April 29

Retiree Reception--April 30

Finals Week--May 5-9

Commencement--May 10 at 11:00 a.m.

Two Sessions of Early Registration--June 14

A round of applause was given to Terry DeWitt who completed the defense of his doctorate today.

Dr. Charles Wright was then given a standing ovation for his two years of service as Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eddie Ary, Secretary