Minutes, All Faculty of Rollins College Meeting, Wednesday, April 27, 2016

All Faculty
Rollins College

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I. Call to Order
II. Approval of Minutes from 4/7/2016
III. New Business
   a. Approval of Candidates for Graduation
IV. Awards and Recognitions
   a. President’s Award for Diversity and Inclusion (Grant Cornwell)
   b. McKean Award (Craig McAllaster)
   c. Recognition for Advising (Tiffany Griffin)
   d. Years of Service Recognitions (Jennifer Cavenaugh)
   e. Toasts for Retiring Faculty: Dick Gregor, Joe Siry, Tom Lairson, Carol Lauer, Bob Moore
V. Adjournment
Call to Order
President Dexter Boniface called the meeting to order at 12:35 pm.

Approval of Minutes
The assembled Arts and Sciences faculty approved the minutes from 4/7/2016 by voice vote.

Approval of Candidates for Graduation
The assembled Arts and Sciences faculty voted to approve the candidates for graduation by acclamation.

Awards and Recognitions
President’s Award for Diversity and Inclusion (Grant Cornwell)
The Presidential Award for Diversity and Inclusion was established in 2010 as a means
of recognizing and honoring students, faculty and staff for their efforts aimed at promoting diversity awareness and inclusion within the Rollins workplace and student community. The award is granted annually to a student, faculty and staff member whose contributions and actions over time best exemplify the principles and ideals of diversity and inclusion, as evidenced by efforts to:

- Advance diversity awareness, knowledge and skills within the Rollins community
- Promote institutional policies and practices that invite and reinforce inclusiveness
- Serve as an advocate for the interests of under-represented populations
- Champion recruitment and retention efforts aimed at improving diversity representation on campus
- Develop or lead diversity programming and other diversity and intercultural engagement efforts

This year the Rollins Diversity Advisory Council solicited and received nominations for many deserving students, faculty and staff and following careful deliberation has recommended to me one individual to recognize as this year’s faculty recipient of the award.

For almost 30 years this faculty member has long served Rollins with her commitment to cultural diversity, religious inclusion, and the intersectionality of religion, gender, and culture.

She has served on the Taskforce on Spirituality on Campus, the Taskforce on Campus Ministry, the Internationalization Committee, the Asian Studies Program Committee, the Rollins Interfaith Living Learning Community, Dean of the Chapel faculty advisor, was a founding member of the Middle Eastern and North African Studies Program (MENA), and advised the Jewish Student League (Hillel). Currently she serves as director of the Jewish Studies Program, which she founded, and as co-director of the Center for India and South Asia.

She advances the College’s mission of global citizenship and responsible leadership through not only her own scholarship and publications, but as a representative of Rollins nationally as a scholar in residence for Transformative Interfaith Education at Georgetown College and internationally as a two-time Fulbright Scholar teaching in India and Romania.

She has helped students achieve the College’s mission by leading them on multiple international travel experiences to India, Spain, and Israel and introduced them to new religious and cultural traditions locally with events such as visits to Buddhist and Hindu temples and meditation with Jain nuns.

One alumna stated, “[S]he inspired me to learn more about who I was and take pride in where I came from…all without forcing or guilting religion upon me. As a student, she helped me on a personal level. Then as a professional, she modeled her own version of advocacy and lifelong learning. I am so thankful she was a part of my Rollins experience.”

Please join me in recognizing this year’s faculty recipient of the Presidential Award for Diversity and Inclusion, Dr. Yudit Greenberg.

**McKean Award (Craig McAllaster)**

Through the generosity of Hugh and Jeannette McKean, the McKean Grant was established at Rollins in 1982 to provide a “once-in-a-lifetime” opportunity for a faculty
member to accomplish what would otherwise be deemed impossible in a single professional career. President McKean served as president of Rollins from 1951 to 1969.

Proposals are evaluated by a review committee of Rollins alumni who are professors and scholars at other colleges and universities.

The selected proposal involves a 15-year project that began in 2010. The goal of this project is to establish a sustainable model for rural education. The project is ambitious, and requires development of structural features such as electricity, wireless Internet, clean water, and food, as well as intensive education.

This year’s recipient joined Rollins in 1994 and is a member of the Education department. It is my privilege to present the 2016-2017 McKean Grant Award to Dr. Scott Hewit.

**Recognition for Advising (Tiffany Griffin)**

Good Afternoon… So this is a bittersweet time of the year for me it is bitter because I will miss you as much as the students during the summer, well at least almost all of you. It is sweet because I get to say Thank you for all your hard work with advising which is why I am here today.

The Dean of A/S, Dean of CPS, Rcompass offices came together in order to honor Academic Advisors. About 3 weeks ago we simply sent an e-mail to all A/S & CPS full time students asking them to recognize truly extraordinary faculty advisors and mentors. We did not give the students any incentive to do this, in fact we just simply sent the request twice by e-mail and gave them less than 7 days to respond and yet they nominated 48 advisors for recognition of excellence in Advising.

To guide the nomination we asked 4 questions, first we asked them to identify what role you play in their lives (Major/Minor/Informal Advisor), 83% of the nominations were either a major or Rcc advisor. The other 17% were informal advisors.

Then we asked the student for a narrative of what made their advisor worthy of recognition. I would like to share two examples of those narratives with you…..

Dr. Riley
I remember when Dr. Riley was 9 months pregnant, days away from her due date, she was emailing me back and forth at all hours of the night with new revisions of my personal statement for medical school. This was not a part of her job that she was required to do. She didn’t have to revise my personal statement and help with something that was totally unrelated to the class I was taking with her, but she chose to. And that was so important to me. When I was stressed out during certain times in college, Dr. Riley was always the person I wanted to talk to because I knew she would help put my stress in perspective and search for ways to relieve the stress for me. Along my pre-med journey, she helped at every step of the way by letting me bounce ideas off of her and by providing her professional and personal advice on
what opportunities would be best for me. I find it very honorable that I didn’t have Dr. Riley as a professor until second semester of my junior year, yet she was one of the most impactful professors in my time here at Rollins because of her dedication to me outside of the classroom. When I had an important decision to make, she was the person I’d turn to for advice. When I needed someone to talk to about what is best for me, she was the person to go to. Dr. Riley has always been my go-to person at Rollins, and I will miss her for that. If it is possible to access the course evaluation I gave her after taking Biochemistry, you will see that my comments have not changed since I had a class with her. In fact, that may be an even more accurate description of the type of professor she is. Dr. Riley is not just an outstanding professor; she is an outstanding person.

Dr. Kupetz
Throughout my experience at Rollins, Professor Kupetz has been a great asset in ensuring my success in whatever it is I was trying to achieve. First, Professor Kupetz was very helpful for me during my internship application process. My application process was very complicated because I was doing it abroad over the summer and I needed to reduce the duration from 9 to 7 weeks. Professor Kupetz helped me by putting me in contact with different individuals within the Career Services office and even reached out on my behalf to help me out. Second, Professor Kupetz helped me a great deal during my process of applying to Crummer Graduate School. He provided me with advice on test-taking skills, interview tips, and with the overall application. Professor Kupetz was also very helpful in providing me with a recommendation letter, which I am sure contributed enormously to strengthening my application. Professor Kupetz was very supportive throughout the application process and was always willing to provide me with any help I need, be it advice or reassurances. Professor Kupetz is a great advisor and mentor and I am very lucky to have had his help during my time at Rollins.

We also asked them to identify key characteristics we know from Advising Literature makes advising effective. The top three words students identified were Knowledgeable, Good Listener, and Supportive with a 90% or above rating.

In addition I am happy to report that a 100% of the advisors who were nominated were identified as very supportive of both the students’ educational goals and their goals after graduation.

The names that you see behind me are those advisors. The list includes:

Sharon Agee      Denise Cummings      Dana Hargrove      Socky O'Sullivan      Eric Smaw
Mark Anderson    Alice Davidson       Fiona Harper       James Patrone        Zeynep Teymurogl
Chuck Archard    Donald Davison       Jill Jones        Jay Pieczynski       Jessica Vargas
Amy Armenia      Kim Dennis          Allen Kupetz       Jennifer Queen      Susan Walsh
Gabriel Barrenche Margot Fadool       Andrew Luchner     Kasandra Riley       Tonia Warnecke
William Boles    Marc Fetscherin     Jana Mathews       Dawn Roe            Tricia Zelaya-Leon
Rick Bommelje    Todd French         Amy McClure        Emily Russell        James Zimmerman
If you would join us in saying, Thank you to those advisors on behalf of their advisees.

On behalf of the Dean’s office and R compass office thank you for all that you do to help your advisees achieve their goals.

**Years of Service Recognitions (Jennifer Cavenaugh)**
When you think about the people that have influenced your life, many people can name 2 or 3 people; teachers have influenced hundreds. When we think about the people named here, think about the collective wisdom and impact represented.

- 30 years: Nancy Decker, Pedro Bernal, Yudit Greenberg
- 35 years: Susan Lackman, Richard Lima, R. Matilde Mesavage
- 40 years: Tom Lairson

Cue the champagne!

**Toasts for Retiring Faculty**
Cavenaugh: We have some faculty retiring today who are not here today. Joe Siry has already begun his new adventures in California; we wish him well with a round of applause. We also want to recognize long-time lecturer Dick Gregor.

**Tom Lairson (Mike Gunter)**
#1 Take walk back in time with me…
#2 The Year was 1976
or as Tom calls it…the year of the dragon  
[START “Play that Funky Music”]

#3-7 Things were different back then  
[Series 1976 images with music in background]
#8 And Tom came to Rollins College  
[END music]

Having decided against pursuing a life of luxury in banking
#9 Tom quickly settled in to the hard working ethos of our department

When he wasn’t sharpening his keen intellect…
#10 …or starting revolutions…
#11 Tom honed other constructive skills
#12 Both close to home with our Cornell Social Sciences building
#13 And…in a more serious vein…from lands literally other side of the globe

Indeed if limited to highlighting only 2 admirable characteristics about Tom
Characteristics have come to deeply appreciate

1. Would say…For one, deeply committed to internationalization on our campus
   a. Designed our International Relations major as young professor in 1970s
   b. Leading force in creating Sustainable Development program
      -- which pioneered the linking of courses with intl field studies at Rollins
   c. Instrumental in developing first our Shanghai program in China
   d. & most recently Jindal program in India (with Dr. Raj Kumar)

2. Secondly, deeply passionate about his work…sometimes scarily so
   a. BUT despite his tough guy reputation…both inside and outside classroom
   b. If given chance…as Barry Allen contends…actually plays very well w/others
      -- as aside, baby here actually NOT Barry Allen, but rather, random Chinese child
      -- from collaboration with former student Dr. David Skidmore (professor at Drake University in Des Moines) on Intl Political Economy textbook now entering its 4th edition
      -- to aforementioned Sustainable Development program
      along with colleagues Dr. Barry Allen and Dr. Lee Lines

#14 Without further ado,
As token of our deep appreciation
for your 40 years of service
Please join me in thanking Tom

Carol Lauer (Ashley Kistler)
Picture a lobby roped off by crime scene tape and a floor scattered with bones, broken bottles, empty cigarette packs, and bullet casings, strewn about next to a chalk outline of a body. Was it a late night party that got out of hand? A grade dispute that ended with murder? No, just business as usual in the Anthropology Department, and the setting for a colorful assignment in one of Carol Lauer's most popular courses, “Forensic Anthropology,” in which students analyze the evidence in a mock crime scene. Throughout her thirty-nine-year career at Rollins, and in classes ranging from Human Evolution to Global Health, Carol has used assignments like this one to highlight the importance and relevance of the discipline of anthropology to the real world.

It is because of Carol that our students have gone on to illustrious careers in public health, forensics, and at USAID. But in addition to her distinguished teaching, Carol has made countless valuable contributions to Rollins. In the 1980s, as one of the few women faculty members on our campus, she led the charge to infuse the study of women and gender into our curriculum, founding the Women’s Studies program and
serving as a mentor for innumerable women faculty over the years. When Carol’s daughter Meryl was born, Rollins did not have a maternity leave policy for faculty, so Carol fought to develop one. Carol’s service resume is impressive and too long to list here, but highlights include acting as chair of the Anthropology department for longer than any other member of our department, serving on the Presidential Search Committee, and founding the Global Health program, which has become one of the largest minors on campus in just four years.

Carol has always been a dog lover, as anyone who has been to her beautiful house and met George, Katy, or Pete can attest. In fact, she loves her dogs so much that she even let one of them drive her car. Yes, seriously, ask her about it. Yet it wasn’t until she became A&S faculty president for the second time that she gained experience in herding cats. Unlike dogs, cats are value their independence, change their loyalties, and chase after the latest shiny new toy, whether it’s a laser pointer, online blended learning or bird flu preparation. As president, she led us through what you might call a difficult time. Many of us will never forget her memorable take-down of a certain senior administrator during a faculty meeting. And we were all impressed by Carol’s ability to engage in calm and measured dialogue with college stakeholders, even in the face of adversity. Suffice it to say, the College is in a much better place of her work.

When I interviewed at Rollins in 2008, Pedro Pequeño told me that if I got the job, I needed to know one thing about Carol. She might be hard to win over, once I did, she would become like a mother to me. This statement could not be truer. Carol has been like a mother to me, and to all of us in the department, advising us on how to deal with hard issues with students and other colleagues and helping us to achieve good work/life balances. Carol’s knowledge goes beyond academia to many practical matters, including where to get the best deal on organic produce or how to handle that student who regularly uses your two pm class for an after-lunch nap. One colleague shared that when a chicken pox epidemic hit on Fox Day 1992, Carol organized and took the first turn at rotating among faculty parents “the infectious but well enough to play children.”

Carol worked hard to protect us from taking on too many obligations and instead showed us how to be engaged and committed teachers and dedicated scholars. She is kind and generous, not just professionally, but personally as well. Carol’s daughter Meryl, shared, “Dr. Lauer as a mother meant I never turned in homework late, I read my syllabi religiously, and I learned to value difference from childhood—a value that continues to inform my everyday life.” Meryl’s statement captures our sentiments exactly: the lessons we’ve all learned from Carol extend beyond our professional careers and have made a lasting impact on our lives.

While we are sure that Carol is looking forward to retirement and to having time to spend working in her yard, playing with her dogs, drinking wine, and enjoying her husband’s fantastic cooking, we will miss her very much. So please join us in raising our glass to celebrate our dear colleague and friend, Carol.

Bob Moore (Rachel Newcomb)
You may have heard that Dos Equis has decided to retire the iconic Most Interesting Man in the World, famous for his James Bond-like exploits in exotic locations.
If they’re searching for the next person to fill his shoes, we have a good candidate, who is about to retire right here at Rollins. He’s been to Cuba and Albania, smoked hookahs with college students in Izmir, Turkey, and prowled the bar scene in 1974 South Korea, when the country was under a strict dictatorship and he had to hide Korean students in his room after curfew to save them from arrest. He speaks Mandarin, Cantonese, Spanish, and a little bit of French, Russian and Arabic. Just last year in Iran, our candidate for the most Interesting Man in the World ditched the government guide who was reporting on his every action, took forbidden photos of the old US Embassy and celebrated the Iran-US nuclear deal by posing in a crowded bazaar with a rifle and a newfound Iranian brother. People’s diplomacy, indeed.

The Most Interesting Man in the World, Bob Moore, has been an intrepid traveler and international man of mystery since his days as a young anthropologist. During his first fieldwork in Hong Kong, following Bronislaw Malinowski’s advice to step “off the veranda” and live among the people, he found himself in a seedy hotel in Kowloon that turned out to be a brothel owned by the Chinese mafia. (The answer to any resulting questions, Bob has informed me, is “no.”) Since then, he has worked hard to avoid cultural misunderstandings and spent years getting to know Chinese society in particular, where he has researched youth culture, slang, and romantic love. He is also an expert on coolness, and for a time, his article in *American Speech*, “We’re Cool, Mom and Dad Are Swell,” was one of their top three downloaded articles of all time.

Bob has involved his students with his research in China since long before we even had an official faculty-student collaborative program. His own articles have been published in numerous academic journals and books, and he even has an edited volume slated for publication post-retirement. In the classroom, he has tirelessly offered RCC’s year after year, keeping wayward freshmen on course in their first semester, and his class on love and marriage has converted many students to the anthropology major. It’s no wonder that he has won the Most Dedicated Faculty award, given by the students, as well as the Arthur Vining Davis Award.

The most interesting man in the world is also a public intellectual. He has written over three hundred articles for Florida periodicals over the past thirty-five years, regularly fills his blog with musings on politics and society, and is proudest of the work he has published in Chinese periodicals such as the Xinhua News Agency and, if this isn’t enough to put him on government watchlists, in Iran’s *Shahrvand*.

When it comes to faculty service, Bob is no slouch either. He’s been on numerous governance committees, chaired Finance & Services, run the Holt International Affairs program for years, and served as department chair, but all of this, we believe, is just a cover to fool us into thinking he leads a normal life, when the evidence from his travel tales indicate otherwise.

We’re not sure what Bob has up his sleeve for retirement (South Sudan, anyone?) but we’re certain he’ll find interesting ways to spend his time. But in the anthropology department, we are going to miss immensely his easygoing and unruffled sensibility, his wry sense of humor, and yes, his coolness. It will not be easy to fill the shoes of the Most Interesting Man in the World.

Adjournment
Dexter Boniface adjourned the meeting at 1:13 pm.