5-2-2012

Minutes, Arts & Sciences Faculty Meeting, Wednesday, May 2, 2012

Arts & Sciences Faculty
Rollins College

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholarship.rollins.edu/as_fac
Part of the Educational Administration and Supervision Commons

Recommended Citation
Arts & Sciences Faculty, "Minutes, Arts & Sciences Faculty Meeting, Wednesday, May 2, 2012" (2012). College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Minutes. Paper 14.
http://scholarship.rollins.edu/as_fac/14

This Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the College of Arts and Sciences Minutes at Rollins Scholarship Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Minutes by an authorized administrator of Rollins Scholarship Online. For more information, please contact wzhang@rollins.edu.
I. Call to order. The meeting is called to order at 12:30pm. Jill states that we will table the approval of the minutes from the April 26 meeting until the first meeting in the fall.

II. Awards and Recognitions

a. McKean Award. Carol Bresnahan presents the McKean Award. She explains the award. Hugh McKean served as Rollins President from 1951 to 1969. The jurors reviewed 17 applications this year. The winning proposal is very timely. It examines the political participation of previously excluded groups. In particular, the proposal asks if the increasing Hispanic population in the United States is leading to a political realignment in the United States on par with that which followed the Civil Rights Act. The winner is Don Davison from the Department of Political Science.

b. President’s Award for Diversity & Inclusion. President Lewis Duncan presents the award. Established in 2010 to recognize members of the Rollins community for their efforts to promote diversity awareness, representation, and inclusion in 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. The winner receives a beautiful glass memorabilia as well as a cash award of $1,000. The Rollins Diversity Advisory Council received nominations of many deserving individuals and, following careful deliberation, recommended today’s recipient. This faculty member has been a long-
standing proponent of diversity and inclusion, both on campus and off. This commitment is expressed through teaching, research, service, and advocacy. Issues of race, gender, and sexuality have always been central to this individual’s teaching and research, with numerous presentations and publications on homophobia and heterosexism. With a passion for solving social issues and bringing awareness to under-served populations, the award recipient is active in the local movement for an Orlando Anti-Discrimination Ordinance and the Equality Florida/Fairness for All Families movement, and has worked with the Apopka Farm Workers, Coalition for the Homeless, and many more. On campus, this faculty member has been involved in various diversity and social justice training efforts, not only focused on LGBT issues but also on the recruitment & retention of faculty of color and on racial and ethnic diversity. Motivated by the question of social justice and employing strong communication skills and creativity, our honoree shapes messages of social reform that reach broad audiences. A student said, “She is the most passionate, motivating, and inspiring professor I’ve had the privilege of learning from during my time at Rollins…. Under her guidance, I have gained the knowledge, skills, and confidence to speak up for under-served populations and to make my own movement. Her knowledge of the inner-workings of society and the sources of inequity is thorough, and she is able to break this knowledge down in ways that her students find interesting and engaging.” Please join me in recognizing this year’s faculty recipient of the President’s Award for Diversity and Inclusion: Dr. Lisa Tillmann.

c. Dean Bob Smither wishes to honor those faculty members who have been at Rollins for thirty years. He presents them each with watches in recognition of their time. He congratulates Dr. Barry Allen, Dr. Thomas Cook, and Dr. Steve Klemann. Furthermore, he wishes to honor Dr. Jim Small for achieving a rare milestone: forty years of service at Rollins.

d. Toasts to retiring faculty.

- Paul Stephenson congratulates Jim Small on his retirement. Paul states it is his privilege to speak on behalf of the Biology Department in honor of Jim’s retirement. Jim has given fantastic service to the Biology Department and Rollins for 40 years. I believe the only person to have served the college longer is Methuselah (I mean Erich Blossey!). To put this in perspective, 40 years means over 6,400 days spent in the Bush building without a window. He’s finally worn the building out and we are replacing it. On a serious note, Jim’s professional life started with a B.S. from the University of North Carolina (go Tar Heels!), followed by an M.S. & Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky where his research focused on freshwater ichthyology and he even discovered a new species of River Darter. He has had a distinguished career at Rollins. Together with Dave Richard (not our current Dean of the Holt School) he undertook an extensive survey of Central Florida’s lakes funded by the Florida Department of Natural Resources, monitoring fish species and assessing the ecological effects of aquatic weed control by fluridone [an aquatic herbicide]. One of my favorite quotes from Jim, comes from this period of time as he worked with students on the water….”Don’t worry about that Gator….that means there’s fish in
there!!” Jim is responsible for personally catching and categorizing many of the rare and endangered fish species in our collection. And as he has pointed out to me…many of these specimens are irreplaceable. Jim has served the college as the president of the faculty, and has served on almost every standing committee as well as many others. Note that he was on the search committee that brought Rita Bornstein to Rollins. He served for many years as our Health Professions advisor, writing countless letters of reference for students applying to medical school and health related professions. He has conducted hundreds of hours of mock interviews for students, and from working with Jim on these panels I learned there is one very important question students must be asked…and that is…“What will you do if you are not accepted to medical school?” And there is only one correct answer to this question: apply again. Jim’s expertise has helped so many of our students achieve their dreams of becoming physicians or practitioners in other health related professions. Jim was also the originator of our first classes in Marine Biology and led numerous field trips to Barbados, Jamaica, and Hawaii. His exploits driving vehicles in Barbados and Boats in Hawaii are legendary (and there are some noteworthy student stories as well…. ask him). Finally, Jim is also an expert Rosarian [cultivator of roses] and past President of the Central Florida Rose Society. Jim we wish you all the best in your retirement, you will be deeply missed, come back and visit us often. Please raise your glasses in toast to Jim.

Mark Anderson congratulates Larry Holt on his retirement. Mark states that Larry Holt graduated from Rollins in 1975 with a BA in Mathematics/Science. He went on to get a master’s degree at the University of Central Florida in Computer Science. While working at the Space Coast, Larry started teaching as an adjunct at the Rollins Brevard campus in the Computer Science program. He loved teaching and wanted to do it full-time, so he went on to obtain a doctorate at Florida Institute of Technology. He directed the highly successful computer science and computer information systems majors. Each year senior CS and CIS majors took part in a senior project that provided real computer programs for clients such as aerospace companies and local governments. Students held “Doc Holt” in high esteem and appreciated his dedication as a teacher and mentor. While at Brevard, Larry hosted Internet Forum 2000, which discussed the impact the internet has on society, with speakers from computer industry, education, and the media, and experts in law and telecommunications. The forum was so much a success that NASA requested that it be presented again at the Kennedy Space Center. When the Brevard campus closed, Larry came to head the new Computer Science major in the Holt school. Many local people, working in the computer science industry have been able to study evenings and get their degree and thus move up at their jobs. The department and his students will miss Larry Holt. Cheers!

Don Davison congratulates Dick James on his retirement. Don states that he is honored to give this tribute to Dick James upon his retirement. He is leaving Rollins too early. Dick and I have been friends during most of his tenure at Rollins. Often we hold extended office hours late Friday afternoons at our alternate office site a few blocks up Fairbanks Ave. I know you are familiar with the location because we see
many of you there, too. When there, I have found Dick to have a very good sense of humor—he appreciates a good joke. You might be surprised at his sense of humor, erroneously concluding that a computer scientist and mathematician is ‘geeky’—unlike political scientists. For example, a good joke which a computer scientist and political scientist can both enjoy is . . . “George Bush was giving a speech to a group of distinguished Algerian mathematicians. Bush exclaimed how happy he was to be meeting with them and wished he could talk to them in their own language, but said he did not know algebra.” I want to pay tribute to what I believe is Dick’s greatest quality—he is ‘ordinary.’ Before Dick reconsiders our friendship, let me explain. I believe ordinary individuals go about their work, making extraordinary contributions and doing extraordinary things. They are unpretentious and their ambition is to help their students, not personal recognition. Those qualities too often are unnoticed and under-appreciated. I will identify three. Dick came to Rollins after a career in private industry. He worked as a software consultant to a variety of firms including various national security offices in the United States government. Dick was able to share his applied experience in the private sector with his students as well as advise them about potential careers after graduation. At the same time he is committed to the liberal arts. He taught in the RCC program and cultivated the ability of his students to think critically and creatively. His industry and government experience did provide him with an alternative perspective regarding organizational decision-making. Coming late to Rollins he was fond of saying about our decision-making method—“what a way to run a railroad!” Dick is committed to the educational mission of Rollins. He held a variety of service positions in faculty governance as well as ad hoc task forces. Dick approached these jobs with professionalism and integrity. His view is how do we advance the educational mission of the College and further the professional development of faculty, which in turn, is how we benefit our students. Finally, Dick is eminently ‘student centered.’ He is a popular teacher in both A&S and Holt reflecting his enthusiasm for teaching computer science. Everyone has seen his robots moving around portions of the campus. Working in the Dean’s Office, one often encounters issues and problems that have some seriousness or urgency. An issue emerged with one of Dick’s students. I called Dick on the phone, explained the situation, and his immediate response was—“how do we help the student?” Several weeks later (and I do not believe Dick knows this part of the story), that student returned to my office to express appreciation for working with her. I asked if she spoke to Dr. James. She responded, “Dr. James genuinely cared about me. I don’t know how to explain what a difference he made for me at that time in my life.” These are the every-day, ordinary, stories that Dick (and you) do for Rollins students that are often unnoticed by some, but have an extraordinary influence on the lives of our students. Please raise your glasses to toast Dick James who is retiring too soon.

- Jonathan Miller congratulates Edna McClellan on her retirement. Jonathan states that Edna McClellan joined the library at Rollins in 1984 as a cataloger. When she retired in 2011 as the Head of Technical Services we lost our last personal link to the Mills Library. We now only have retired staff and faculty who remember the days when the library at Rollins was where we are meeting today. Edna began her career as an elementary school teacher in Vermont in 1965 and became a librarian in 1972. Pretty
soon after coming to Rollins from her position as Head Catalog Librarian at Arkansas State University we moved into the Olin Library and Rollins acquired its first online library catalog. This was just the beginning for Rollins (and academic libraries in general) of a great period of change and Edna saw and cataloged it all: Rollins membership in the shared bibliographic utility, OCLC; the acquisition of films on VHS tapes; the gradual acquisition of CD-ROM based indexing and abstracting services; the arrival of Information Technology and the Archives & Special Collections in the Olin building; the rise of information literacy; the arrival of the World Wide Web and the migration of resources, services, and our users from print to online; the migration from our first Library Management System to our current system; the acquisition of film on DVD; the Bookmark Café and food and drink in the library; the closing and eventual dismantling of the paper shelf list; the automation and out-sourcing of many aspects of acquisitions and cataloging; 24 hour access during exam time; the rise of the library as a vital center of community and collaboration at Rollins; and the advent of web scale discovery services in libraries. Throughout her career and all these changes Edna was an indefatigable making sure that library materials were processed, accurately cataloged, and made available to our students, faculty and the world. This is a difficult number of uncover because the work of catalogers is usually created and shared without credit. But Edna is responsible, with her staff, for the cataloging and processing of around 100,000 titles and is personally responsible for the original cataloging of thousands of titles in the Olin Library. The organization and description of materials are fundamental aspects of the profession of librarianship. The work that Edna did in those 27 years is the foundation upon which we all build our work as students, faculty, and librarians. This is reflected in Edna’s writing as well, with articles on “Subject Headings for OCLC rare Book Records: a case study” and “The Cataloging Internship in Academic Libraries.” Ever at her retirement she was still working on another article about the changing nature of specialized training for cataloging staff. This last project highlights one of Edna’s most important characteristics. She really cared for her staff both professionally and personally. So on behalf of all the staff and librarians of the library, and everyone at Rollins thank you for all you have contributed over the last 27 years.

- Jill Jones congratulates Larry Van Sickle on his retirement. Jill states that she is going to say a few words about her colleague, Larry Van Sickle, whether he is here or not (he’s not) and whether he likes it or not (he won’t.). Her words are as follows: I think there’s something to be learned from Larry’s year career at Rollins. Larry did not go to endless meetings. He did not do endless service. He taught. He read. He thought. He met with students. He was a professor first. I had heard for years from students that Van Sickle was “hard,” “tough,” “brutal.” I also heard that they felt that they learned and grew a great deal in his classes. When I team taught with Larry I learned a number of things. 1. He graded harder than I did. 2. He requires a great deal of writing from the students. He collects it ON TIME, reads it PROMPTLY, and gets it back to them with feedback pretty much IMMEDIATELY. 3. He takes the time to allow the students to do much of the work in his classes. (Anybody who has done this knows it takes more organization and time than doing it yourself.) 4. He is in his
office hours for students: always. After teaching with Larry, I tried to walk away with many lessons—one was, be a teacher. Be a professor. Quit running around doing this and that and service and blah and be a thinker and a teacher. You can all see that I didn’t succeed . . . YET . . . in learning from Larry. But I admire how he did his job. He did it really well. He didn’t get distracted from the most important thing we do which is our work with our students. So I’d like to toast to my respected friend and admired colleague, Larry Van Sickle—whether he likes it or not.

III. Business.

1. Jill Jones motions that Ashley Kistler be approved to the Internationalization Committee by acclamation. The motion is seconded and approved.

2. Announcement. Jill Jones wishes to clarify her previous statement about INB accreditation. She states, again, that INB did not lose accreditation. However, she wishes to clarify her previous statement about the nature of the review. She states that, in fact, this was not merely a mid-term review as she stated at the previous meeting. Jill reads from the official AACSB letter. AACSB has expectations for improvement in a number of areas which will take place during a sixth year review. Barry Levis asks Jill if she can elaborate on the issues that AACSB wishes to see addressed. Jill states that AACSB expressed concerns about the INB’s mission statement and strategic plan, sustainable resources and budgeting, program quality, and curriculum. Margaret McLaren asks if the new hires in INB and the addition of three new lines in the department address the AACSB’s concerns about resources. Jill states that she does not know the answer to Margaret’s question and she is still seeking clarification about some aspects of the AACSB letter and its meaning, including with Dean Wellman.

3. General Education Implementation Committee. Gloria Cook, speaking on behalf of AAC, presents a slate of candidates which would form a working group to begin the process of implementing the recently approved general education system. The slate is as follows: Jana Mathews (Humanities & AAC); Mark Anderson (Science and Mathematics); Don Davison (Social Science); Gloria Cook (Expressive Arts); Judy Schmalstig (PR Steering Committee); Gabriel Barreneche (RCC); James Zimmerman (Christian Johnson Institute); Robin Mateo (Registrar); Dorothy May (Library); Honors Program (Ryan Musgrave); Jennifer Cavenaugh (Office of the A&S Dean); Ashley Kistler (Internationalization); 2 students chosen by SGA; and Tonia Warnecke (CPS Curricular Committee). Jenny Queen moves that we approve the slate. The motion is seconded. The slate is approved.

4. Eileen Gregory motions that we approve the list of students for graduation. The motion is seconded. The motion passes.

IV. Adjournment. The meeting adjourns at 1:15pm.