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Minutes, Arts & Sciences Faculty Meeting, Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2005

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**Minutes of the Meeting
Arts and Sciences Faculty
December 7, 2005**

Members Present: B. Allen, S. Ager, V. Aggarwal, M. Anderson, G. Barreneche, E. Blossey, A. Blumenthal, A. Boguslawski, W. Boles, R. Bommelje, D. Boniface, E. Bouris, W. Brandon, A. Carpan, R. Carson, R. Casey, J. Cavanaugh, J. Chambliss, M. Cheng, D. Cohen, E. Cohen, T. Cook, D. Cummings, M. D'Amato, N. Decker, L. Duncan, J. Eck, H. Edge, M. Fetscherin, E. Friedland, J. Gorman, E. Gottlieb, D. Griffin, D. Hargrove, F. Harper, P. Harris, S. Hewit, J. Houston, G. Howell, S. Husband, R. James, Y. Jones, S. Klemann, H. Kypraios, P. Lancaster, C. Lauer, L. Laws, B. Levis, R. Lima, L. Lines, D. Mays, M. McLaren, R.M. Mesavage, G. Meyers, A. Moe, B. Moore, T. Moore, R. Musgrave, R. Newcomb, M. Newman, A. Nordstrom, T. Papay, J. Queen, R. Ray, D. Richard, D. Rogers, M. Ruis, M. Sardy, J. Schmalstig, B. Sherry, J. Shivamoggi, J. Small, R. Smither, P. Stephenson, K. Sutherland, B. Svitavsky, K. Taylor, A. Voicu, G. Williams, Y. Yao, J. Yellen, W. Zhang, E. Zivot

I. Call to Order: T. Cook called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m.

II. Approval of the Minutes: The minutes from the November 17, 2005, meeting were approved.

III. Announcements:

H. Edge provided an update on the new course evaluation. Approximately 80% of the student evaluations were completed online. The comments section of the form will be available online the day after grades are submitted, Dec 14, 2006. The evaluation forms that were completed on paper will be taken to UCF for scanning. Overall scores will be available in January. G. Barreneche inquired whether there is a way to determine which students did and did not complete the evaluation form and H. Edge affirmed that this information is available online. M. McLaren asked how the percentage of participation online compared with the traditional paper method. H. Edge indicated that there were no formal calculations of the paper method; however he estimated it was 90%. He stated that the percentage of student participation with the new method is somewhat lower, but it is a positive starting point.

T. Cook announced that Toni Holbrook requests that all grades be received by Tuesday, Dec 13, 2005 at 9:00 am, either online or paper.

A. Blumenthal invited faculty to the re-opening of the Cornell Fine Arts Museum, beginning with a special preview for faculty on Jan 17, 2006 at 12:30 PM. This will include a guided tour of the exhibitions by A. Blumenthal. The all-campus day will be on January 23, 2006 for students, staff and faculty. The formal dedication ceremony will be held on Friday, January 20, 2006 at 4:30 PM. A. Blumenthal emphasized that the Cornell Fine Arts Museum CAC is for all faculty and students. The renovated museum has meeting room spaces that are available.

Cornell Distinguished Scholars

President Duncan gave a description of the Cornell Distinguished Scholars award.

Each year up to three Cornell Distinguished Faculty awards are granted for exceptional professional accomplishments in at least two of the College's three primary emphases of teaching, research or service. Endowed chair holders are not eligible for these awards. Cornell Distinguished Faculty hold this title for three years. Each year of the award, the faculty member receives \$5,000, which can be added to salary as a stipend, established as a research account, or exchanged in \$2,500 increments for course release with no more than one course per semester, or in any combination. At the end of the three years, \$2,500 will be added to the base of the faculty member. After the first three years of the program, and henceforth, we will thus have up to nine active Cornell Faculty at any point in time. This is the second round of designations. Last year, Thom Moore, Kathryn Norsworthy, and Kenna Taylor were named Cornell Distinguished Scholars. The selection committee this year was chaired by Ed Cohen and included Jennifer Cavanaugh, Don Griffin, Margaret McClaren, Kenna Taylor, and Gary Williams. It is with great pleasure that we announce the 2005-2006 Cornell Distinguished Scholars:

A "man of all seasons", **Tom Cook** teaches 17th and 18th century philosophy, sings in the Bach choir, studies cognitive science, and writes on philosophical psychology. It is no wonder that he has an abiding interest in self-deception and free-will. His passion, though, is the Dutch Jewish philosopher, Baruch Spinoza, whom he has not only written on extensively but has taught a class about him in Germany (in German!). Tom says that the most exciting and rewarding part of his professional work is his teaching, and he has taught an extraordinary number of interdisciplinary courses in his 23 years at Rollins. Known for his pre-test study sessions and his ability to develop penetrating student discussions in class, Tom is a consummate teacher. And, in his spare time, he serves as President of the faculty. He will use the Award to complete a book on Spinoza for the Continuum Press.

Please congratulate Tom Cook

Also this year, it is a pleasure to announce as a Cornell Distinguished Scholar, **Elise Friedland**. Elise's passions are ancient statues of the Roman Near East and education. Along with Scott Rubarth, Elise resurrected the Classical Studies major into a vibrant and high-quality program, assuring its centrality in our liberal arts curriculum. Her approach to her classes incorporates high expectations of the students with specific instructions on how to achieve these expectations. A leader in integrating technology as a teaching tool, Elise offered online courses for the ASC Virtual Classics program, and she will install an archeological site museum for students in the ASC. A classicist and art historian, Elise is dedicated to museum work, having curated several shows for the University of Michigan. She will use the Award to publish a revision of her dissertation, to complete a collaborative project with a Jordanian colleague in sampling marble statues discovered in Jordanian sites, and write a book on her archeological research in Jordan.

Please congratulate Elise Friedland.

And finally, it is a privilege to announce as a Cornell Scholar, **Barry Levis**. From the time he walked on campus in 1968, Barry Levis has been committed to interdisciplinary teaching, starting out in the Humanities Foundation course. He later developed the Humanities major, as well as the Introduction to the Liberal

Arts course in the Hamilton Holt School. Helping to create the Masters of Liberal Studies program, he served as its first Director, and has been editor of the *Journal of Graduate Liberal Studies* for a dozen years. He has been a tireless servant in campus governance, serving as President of the faculty and director of the Honors Degree program. His academic specialty being church history, he has now almost completed transcribing and annotating the diary of John Thomlinson, “an eighteenth-century clergyman, which covers his dissolute years as an undergraduate at Cambridge and his wearisome early years as a clergy in Northumberland.” With the Award, Barry will complete this exciting project, as well as dedicate himself to helping create interdisciplinary programs at Rollins. Please join me in welcoming as our third Cornell Distinguished Scholar for the 2005-2006 year, Barry Levis.

P. Lancaster announced that on Monday, the meeting of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools reaffirmed our SACS accreditation with no qualifications. According to Jim Eck, compared with some of our sister institutions, we had fewer recommendations both from the off-site and on-site reviews. P. Lancaster extended gratitude to all who were a part of the re-accreditation process. The Quality Enhancement Plan steering committee has been meeting monthly to ensure that funding for the various initiatives outlined in the plan move forward. Bill Svitavsky, a member of the steering committee has updated the QEP website. A report on the Fall term activities of the plan will be forthcoming in January. On a personal note, P. Lancaster stated that it has been an honor and privilege to be the Provost during this exciting time. At the end of May 2006, P. Lancaster shared that she will end her duties as Provost and rejoin the faculty of the Modern Languages department. There is much to do in the Spring especially with the strategic plan and identifying the most important priorities and actions for the next few years. P. Lancaster expressed great appreciation in the confidence the faculty has shown her, the encouragement from President Duncan, and the pleasure that it has been in working with her administrative colleagues. With the exception of one year, P. Lancaster has served as an administrator since 1983.

IV. Academic Affairs Committee

T. Cook recognized M. Anderson who brought forth a proposal to eliminate the European Studies major. M. Anderson stated that SACS raised the issue with the European Studies major in terms of the number of students and its cohesion. The faculty members who are directing the major and the Dean of the Faculty together have submitted a proposal to eliminate the major.

A motion was made and seconded for discussion.

S. Carnihan asked for a faculty member from European Studies to speak on why this is a good idea.

N. Decker stated that SACS expressed that the number of students in the major was minimal. The major was instituted in 1999. During the first five years, there were 3 majors. In May 2006, 4 European Studies major will be graduating. There is simply not enough critical mass to continue the program.

R. Lima pointed out that the major has depended on other departments to contribute courses and thanked the faculty members who have been involved.

The question was called.

The motion of eliminating the European Studies major was unanimously passed by voice vote.

V. Adjournment: There was a motion to adjourn and the motion was passed at 1:07PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Bommelje
Vice-President/Secretary