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Minutes, Arts & Sciences Faculty Meeting, Thursday, Feb. 24, 2005

Arts & Sciences Faculty

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**Minutes of the Meeting
Arts and Sciences Faculty
February 24, 2005**

Members Present: M. Anderson; G. Barreneche, P. Bernal; E. Blossy; A. Blumenthal; A Boguslawski; W. Boles; R. Bommelje, D. Boniface; A. Carpan; B. Carson; R. Carson; J. Chambliss; M. Cheng; G. Child; G. Cook; R. Cowan; D. Crozier; D. Davison, J. Davison; N. Decker; S. Easton; J. Eck, H. Edge; L. Eng-Wilmot; R. Foglesong; J. Gorman; E. Gottlieb; Y. Greenberg; E. Gregory; D. Griffin; M. Gunter; J. Henton; J. Hewit; J. Houston; G. Howell; C. Hudspeth; M. Hunt; R. James; P. Jarnigan; J. Jones; D. Y. Jones; S. Klemann; M. Kovarik; H. Kypraios; S. Lackman; L. Laws; B. Levis; S. Libby; R. Lima; L. Lines; D. Mays; E. McClellan; C. McInnis-Bowers; M. McLaren; R.M. Mésavage; G Meyers; A. Moe; T. Moore; R. Musgrave; S. Neilson; A. Nordstrom; K. Norsworthy; M. O’Sullivan; T. Papay; A. Prieto-Calixto; J. Provost; J. Queen; P. Roach; S. Rubarth; M. Sardy; M. Shafe; J. Shivamoggi; P. Stephenson; K. Taylor; L. Tillman-Healy; R. Vitray; D. Wellman; G. Williams; Y. Yao; W. Zhang.

Guest: S. Agee; S. Fischer; L. Lloyd, Michelle Cicak, Phil Asbury.

I. Call to Order: Yehudit Greenberg called the meeting to order at 12:39 p.m.

II. Approval of the Minutes: The minutes from the January 27, 2005, meeting were approved as amended.

III. Announcements:

A. Celebration of Life for Sandy Bryant, February 25, 2005, 3:30 p.m., Chapel Garden. Les Lloyd proposed a resolution which was unanimously approved by the faculty:

“The Arts and Sciences faculty of Rollins College expresses its condolences on the death of Sandy Einsel Bryant to her parents, Barbara and Alan Einsel and her husband, Greg. Sandy’s gentle guidance and patience was greatly appreciated and her loss will be felt by the faculty and Rollins College, for a long time to come.”
Unanimously resolved by the faculty, February 24, 2005.

B. Search Committee, Dean of the Holt School (J. Provost) – The committee has applicants and are interviewing the candidates. There will be public gatherings to meet the candidate. Feedback is welcome.

C. Preliminary Report on Incoming Class (Michelle Cicak, Admissions, Phil Asbury, Financial Aid) –

1. Fall 2004 opening enrollment was 1,759; 2005 target is 1,725. Projected returning is 1,215; projected required new is 510 (465 first-year, 45 transfer). Cornell Scholars, 1434 SAT average, 3.8 average GPA; 53 will be coming to campus. There will be an offer of Cornell Scholarships to ten students, many others will decide to come to Rollins. The retention rate is around 85% this year.

2. Financial Aid: Budget for 2005-6 will be \$16.5 mil, \$12.3 is committed to returning students. About 35% of merit scholars will come, about 55% of need-based scholars will come. There is a drop in Federal aid has dropped quite a bit.

IV. Academic Affairs Committee (S. Klemann)

A. Health and Wellness Proposal – Klemann reviewed the genesis and evolution of a new Health and Wellness curriculum. R. Carson, Chair of the Task Force, responded to questions. Varsity athletes (those engaged in team sports at the College) will be required to take an activity course outside of the sport, in order to build a life-long wellness skill. The status and discussion of the BPE course is still under discussion in the task force. There are questions about what constitutes an athlete, and how long does the student have to participate to be an athlete. J. Davison added that there are out-of-season activities for athletes, and that the committee should consider that athletes are not limited to the activities solely connected to the sports. The activity credit will be part of the 140 required to graduate. Carson suggested that there should be a liberal education in activities courses; Roach commented that there should be a life-time activity component in the activity requirement. Klemann: The courses have been suggested to get credit in order to give them the prestige they should be due. We should embrace physical education as an academic component of the college. This change will not affect the costs to the College. B. Carson is concerned that the faculty must address the issue of BPE before deciding whether to give academic credit for activity courses. O’Sullivan commended the committee in taking on what is a national crisis; he noted few students fit into the pews at Convocation than ten years ago. R. Carson noted that other institutions are dropping the requirements, but at the same time there is a concern about the health of our students. Casey offered a friendly amendment to insert “Varsity” as descriptor of “Athlete.” Mésavage asked if the ballet classes could be counted as activity courses. The question was called:

The College should require two (2) activity courses to be graded credit/no credit for 1 semester hour each with an allowance for up to a maximum of four (4) activity courses taken credit/no credit for 1 semester hour credit each. Varsity athletes should take at least one (1) of the courses to complement the credit given for participating in their sport.

The motion passed. Gregory requested the task force re-consider the language that says “athletes *should* . . .” This does not indicate the activity course is a requirement.

B. Foreign Language Requirement – Klemann outlined the reasons for the proposal. The concern is about placing the students where they ought to be based on their skill level; if the student is placed at the appropriate level, s/he may indeed continue in the language started in high school. There was a side discussion on the 140 credit hours required to graduate, but this requirement is in no way related to this discussion. There was a question raised about financial implications of this proposal; Casey responded that a few sections of Spanish will have to be added, through a lecturer line (upgraded from adjunct). In order to have a second year of Latin as required, a

visiting Classics line may be able to cover the added sections. A student who is not capable of speaking in a foreign language can take a course about culture. Lima reviewed the problem of translating the skills and experience learned in high school to the experience in a college-level course: the experience is not the same. Edge pointed out that there has not been a placement exam in several years, but Lima said the exams have not been supported financially; some students purposely did poorly in order to get placed into a lower level. The question was called.

(F) Foreign Language: Foreign Language study has an intimate and necessary connection with the educational goal of learning about oneself and one's relationship to the world. Language is not just the primary vehicle for the communication of culture; it is culture. As such, foreign language study offers a unique window of perception regarding non-English speaking cultures, a window through which students can learn to communicate in a language other than their native tongue, learn how other people live and what they value, or, in the case of ancient languages, delve into our rich culture and philological heritage. Second language study also provides insights into the nature of language and its power to shape ideas and expression.

The Foreign Language Requirement ('F') is a one-semester requirement at the intermediate (200) level.

Only the following students can be exempted from this requirement:

- 1. Foreign Students who have been admitted to the College based on their TOEFL ("Test of English as a Foreign Language") score.**
- 2. Students, who transfer to Rollins, who have completed the intermediate level of a foreign language from an accredited institution of higher learning. Students who have taken the SAT-II or AP or IB exams, regardless of their performance on these exams, are not exempt from this requirement.**

Students are allowed to enroll at any level of the language they deem appropriate based on their previous preparation in secondary school. They will receive semester-hour credits for all successfully completed courses. They may choose to enroll in elementary courses even though they have taken four years of high school study of a particular language. Nevertheless, students will fulfill the 'F' requirement only when they have taken at least one course at the intermediate (200), and/or advanced (300) level.

The motion passed (77 ayes), opposed (5), abstain (2).

Edge asked when the policy goes into effect. Sardy asked if this requires more courses in the major if the Major requires language. Casey said the program will take effect in the fall. Lima reviewed the required language courses, and pointed out it would not make a difference because of the level of language required.

Foglesong made motion to adjourn. A voice vote indicated the meeting should continue.

V. Report from the Health and Wellness Task Force (B. Carson) – Carson reviewed the assignment from AAC. The task force attempted to use current resources, but the result seemed piecemeal and would not enable the object of a healthy campus. The committee first proposed an HWRCC (Health and Wellness RCC) to follow the RCC semester; however some students would take the course in the Spring of freshman year, the other half in fall of sophomore year. There was no money for this proposal, but the task force is looking for a grant to fund a three-year trial. This grant would be evaluated every semester to see if this would be viable. The task force would like a health and wellness curriculum, and that all freshmen would take this course. After examination of sister institutions and other similar colleges, Rollins falls somewhere in the middle; many schools have a swimming requirement. (Ironically, Rollins does not have a swimming requirement.) Carson forcefully pleaded for an expansion of health and wellness curriculum as a positive force in the community. Klemann reported that there will be a health and wellness course that be taken by all students (Spring, first year/fall, second year). The course has to be designed, but may be based on the current Health and Wellness course. Is health and wellness something we truly believe in? Does the faculty agree we should try this on a trial basis? J. Davison advocated that tenure-track faculty staff these courses. Klemann responded that this is an important issue to discuss, and that we should consider this. Provost suggested we could offer a way similar to multi-cultural awareness to infuse the health and wellness into the students' academic and residential environments. Klemann noted this is the beginning of a hard, serious conversation.

VI. Motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Cohn Lackman, Ph.D., M.B.A.
Vice-President/Secretary