

CALS FACULTY ASSOCIATION
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2000
113E Engel Hall

Members present: Dan Eversole, Larry Foy, Leon Geyer, John Hess, Peter Kennelly, Don Mullins, Dixie Reeves, and Dean Andy Swiger

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:19 AM
2. The minutes of the January 21, 2000 were approved.

3. College update:

Dean Swiger reported that news regarding the budget was not good. He did not know details regarding the budget, but had heard that higher education had received few additions to the budget in either the House or Senate. He had heard nothing about the capital budget or the Plan to Serve Virginia. The current situation is disappointing, because the General Assembly is usually more active in improving support for items under-funded in the Governors budget.

The Dean indicated that a recent proposal to convert some of the pasture land currently used for the equine program was on a fast track. Due to the attentiveness of some CALS Faculty, the Dean learned of the plan and has been able to slowdown the planning process. The Provost apparently was unaware of the plan, and it appears that a plan to develop new space for the equine center should be financially supported by the money generated by horse racing interests.

The Dean reported that the first two days of the College Promotion and Tenure were completed, but he had nothing yet to report regarding the outcome.

4. Treasurer's report:

January:

The balance for savings was \$ 1274.98

The balance for checking was \$ 291.88

The total balance was \$ 1566.86

An expense debited in January was for

December CALS refreshments \$ 6.54

An additional 12 persons have sent in their annual dues

We have had 3 contribution totaling \$ 110.00 for the Alumni Scholarship Fund

5. Governance system:

The possible reorganization of the CALS governance system was revisited. It was suggested that perhaps an effective way to reorganize the system would be by increasing the membership and representation of other interest groups in the Commission on International Program Policies. This could include representation from the Commission on Academic Program Policies, as well as representation from faculty who would normally sit on the two Commissions that might be eliminated in the reorganization process: (Commission on Extension Program Policies and Commission on Research Program Policies). There was general agreement that reorganization should be examined further and the findings shared with the CALS Faculty Affairs Commission. Dan Eversole proposed that an *Ad Hoc* committee be formed and charged to investigate reorganization of the CALS Governance System. This proposal was accepted. The committee is to be comprised of:

Peter Kennelly, Chair (Representing the CALS Faculty Association Executive Committee

Dixie Reeves, representing the CALS Commission on Faculty Affairs

Judith Jones (or someone designated by her) representing the Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs

Bobby Swain, representing the Commission on Classified Staff Affairs

Larry Foy, (or Dan Taylor) representing the Commission on International Program Policies

The *Ad Hoc* Committee should prepare a proposal that will be sent to the CALS Commission on Faculty Affairs for their action.

Dean Swiger indicated that he saw no reason why the College Council membership could not be expanded to include several representatives from CALS Commissions remaining after reorganization. This would provide greater representation to the Council by the faculty. If the Commissions on International Affairs, Research and Extension and CAPS are combined, it will be important to select individuals to serve on this Commission that will truly represent all of the missions.

6. Celebration of the Faculty:

The date for the Celebration of the Faculty has been scheduled for May 4, at 7:00PM. Dean Swiger will develop the program with assistance from Peter Kennelly.

7. Elections:

Leon Geyer reported that it was time to develop plans for election of officers for the upcoming year. He indicated that he will formulate and circulate a ballot. Dixie Reeves will be the CALS representative on the University Commission on Strategic Planning. We will need to fill the Secretary/Treasurer position in order to ensure the traditional movement of that individual upward through the CALS Executive Committee offices.

It was proposed that we hold the election using electronic balloting, since it appears to work fairly well. The plan will include: 1) a call for nominations until March 3rd, 2) Develop a ballot by the week of March 10, and, 3) circulate a ballot to the CALS faculty the week of March 20.

8. Commission Reports:

Commission on Faculty Affairs: Dixie Reeves delivered a recommendation for action regarding parking around Price Hall to the CALS Faculty Association Executive Committee. The recommendation resulted from a study of parking and pedestrian safety around Price Hall. Specific action items included: 1) that a pedestrian walkway be created along Grove Lane. (the street that leads up the hill beside Hillcrest Hall); 2) that the need for spaces in the lot be re-assessed and consideration be given to a reduction in the number of spaces reserved for service vehicles; 3) that faculty be made aware of the procedure (if any) for short-term parking opportunities for unloading vehicles; and 4) that illegal parking be dealt with strictly.

During the discussion of the recommendation, it was noted that there is a similar parking problem associated with the Hutcheson Hall lot. It was moved John Hess) and seconded (Don Mullins) that the Executive Committee accept the recommendation but expand it to include the Hutcheson Hall parking lot. It was then determined that the recommendation should be submitted to the College Council, and a copy sent to the Director of Parking (Steve Morris) and copied to Ray Smoot (Building and Grounds).

9. Senate activity:

The Provost recently presented the Academic Agenda which was similar to what was presented during her visit with the CALS Faculty Association.

The Student Government had made a recommendation that the number of emergency call boxes be increased on the campus. In addition, more public phones, not pay phones, be made available for emergency communications.

Discussion of this issue led to a similar safety concern regarding the need for emergency telephones along Plantation Road. John Hess suggested that the Executive Committee request that the Commission on Faculty Affairs and the Commission on Faculty Affairs look into the matter of providing more emergency call boxes and/ or access to emergency telephones on campus. It might be helpful if they could go on record in support of the students concerns and request more emergency telephones on campus including installations in academic buildings, and access to telephones in farm buildings west of the 460 bypass.

10. Other:

Peter Kennelly suggested that faculty examine the new proposed changes that are being examined regarding the Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Policies. The proposed changes involve revision of the signature forms that will allow for appointment of a proxy to act on behalf of the graduate. The current option for limited web access may be eliminated by default after 3 years. If these changes are instituted, it may cause serious problems for some researchers and their programs.

The meeting adjourned at 9:36 AM

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 24 at 1:15 PM

These minutes respectfully submitted by D. E. Mullins, CALS Secretary Treasurer

These minutes were approved at the March 24, 2000 meeting