



**Meeting of Friday, November 18, 2005
USC Sumter, Arts and Letters Building**

Morning Session

- 1) The Senate Chair, Noni Bohonak, called the meeting to order at 10:04 A.M.
- 2) The USC Sumter Dean, Leslie Carpenter, welcomed the senators and introduced the guest speaker, G. Murrell Smith, Jr., South Carolina House of Representatives.
- 3) Representative Smith addressed the senate.
 - He reported that several representatives have been supporting the advancement of USC Sumter to a 4-year campus.
 - He reported that the Governor is expected to request once again the closure of the Union and Salkehatchie campuses and that the request is expected not to be endorsed by the general assembly.
 - He indicated the likelihood of approval of a Bond Bill to provide supplementary funds for higher education in South Carolina. The Bill is expected to be discussed during this fiscal year and to be approved in the following year.
 - He indicated the likelihood of reforms in Property Tax laws. The reforms will affect the USC regional campuses, which currently receive Property Tax funds. An expected raise in Cigarette taxes may offset the reduced income from Property Taxes.
- 4) The general meeting was recessed at 10:36 A.M. so that the various committees could meet.

Afternoon Session

I. Call to Order

The senate was reconvened at 1:36 P.M.

II. Correction/Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 9 meeting were approved by voice vote.

III. Reports from University Officers

A. Vice Provost and Executive Dean, Chris Plyler

I would like to thank Dean Carpenter and his faculty and staff for hosting this November meeting of the Senate and for providing such a deliciously prepared lunch.

Legislative: With the Legislature not in session, there is little to report. Johnny Gregory, our governmental liaison reports that the issues gaining the most pre-session attention are: 1) possibility of tuition cap legislation, 2) property tax relief and pressure to consider a bond bill—which no one seems to believe will happen next year.

Johnny also senses that the Governor's budget will once again target Salkehatchie and Union for phase-out. While we may be weary of the Governor's persistence in this matter, we cannot assume that this issue will not gain momentum. Those campuses in concert with their constituencies and the president will again strategize to counter the Governor's rationale.

Program: Our expectation is that the Bachelor of Liberal Studies will be approved by the USC Columbia Senate in its December session. Progress in installing the Palmetto College is on hold until the University receives assurances from SACS that what we are attempting to do fits within their approved guidelines. We remain confident that it does and will have more direction after the Provost visits SACS in February to present our case. I will also be traveling with the Provost to Penn State in two weeks to study the University College (formerly referred to as the Commonwealth College).

Efforts are now being made in the office of the Provost to ensure that the regional campuses receive not only the headcount and revenues for their enrollments in Palmetto College courses but the FTE as well.

University: The University is in the midst of a marketing research and branding study with the Lipman Hearne Group out of Chicago. The goal is to develop a comprehensive communications framework based on a distinctive brand concept to set the University of South Carolina apart in the marketplace. I have participated in two interviews so far.

B. Associate Vice Provost, Carolyn A. West

The Associate Vice Provost was not present at the meeting and did not submit a report.

C. Regional Campus Deans

USC Lancaster, John Catalano

STUDENTS

Fall 2005 registration numbers are up by 8.4% (FTE). Total numbers for the 2005 calendar year were up from 2004 by over 10%. Pre-registration for Spring 2006 has begun.

FACULTY

The search for a business professor continues. We have been approved to begin searches for tenure track faculty members in the fields of psychology (two positions), mathematics, exercise science, and biology. Several articles and two new books (Ron Cox and Walt Collins) have been announced for release this year by our faculty.

STAFF

We are currently searching for an assistant to the Financial Aid Director and a groundskeeper; both positions are replacement positions.

TECHNOLOGY

We have converted two more classrooms into smart classrooms and will attempt to add more this year. The campus (including outside) is now almost totally wireless accessible. The campus network has been extended to the Carole Ray Dowling Health Services Center. As a result of increased student demand for computer access, we have reopened HH108 for general use with 12 stations and hours from 7AM to midnight seven days a week. We will upgrade HH 206 later this fall.

FINANCES

USCL is still officially the worst treated campus in the state according to a new report by the State Technical Board with only 37.1% of MRR being appropriated by the state legislature. Additional enrollment and additional county millage have helped the campus meet its financial commitments, but parity remains a critical issue for the campus.

FACILITIES

The renovation of the Health Services Building is nearly finished. Dr. Riner's exercise science lab, Cardiac Rehabilitation, Physical Therapy, and Diabetes Education clinics have already moved. Our new ball field should be ready by summer. God alone knows the completion date for the parking expansion of at least 150 spaces (but Thomas Fox says about two weeks). The Medford Library landscaping project will be completed for the second time soon and the Dowling landscaping project is in the works. Please remember that no campus money was used to purchase, renovate, or upgrade the CRDHSC. We would be in real trouble without the Lancaster County Commission for Higher Education, the Educational Foundation of USCL, the Lancaster County Council, and the City of Lancaster.

COMMUNITY

Our new Board of Visitors will meet for the first time on November 30. Bundy Auditorium is on track for renovations and a performance series that will begin in October 2006 and feature Newberry Opera House- style events. .

USC Salkehatchie, Ann Carmichael

Governor Robert E. McNair, a former resident of Allendale, has accepted our invitation to address the graduates at commencement on May 1, 2006.

Dr. Arthur Mitchell was selected as one of eight finalists from 38 nominees for the Governor's Professor of the Year award. He and the other nominees were honored at a luncheon in Columbia on November 3, 2005. Dr. Mitchell has a strong background in scholarship, recently having three books accepted for publication. This is the third consecutive year that Salkehatchie has had a finalist in this competition.

The Healthy Learners program, which works with local providers in giving health care services to children in K-12, officially opened their operation in Allendale on October 6. Their administrative office is housed on the Salkehatchie West Campus.

The Salkehatchie Leadership Institute recently received a \$228,000 Rural Business Enterprise Grant from the US Department of Agriculture. The grant is being used to develop an inventory of artisans and to provide a retail outlet for the artisans in the five-counties served by USC Salkehatchie.

A half-day forum was held between the Salkehatchie administration and the Student Government Association on November 3. The purpose of the forum was to develop stronger relationships with student leaders and to give them more formal avenues for presenting ideas and expressing concerns.

The 40th anniversary celebration continues with presentations by several Salkehatchie faculty members, an exhibit by nationally-known local artist Jim Harrison, and a concert by Carolina Alive, who was joined by Carolina mascot, Cockey. On November 2 USC Columbia professor and state historian Dr. Walter Edgar presented a lecture on the impact of rural communities on the economy in South Carolina. Events for spring include an alumni dance in March and appearance by the Charleston Symphony Orchestra as a kickoff event to the Colleton County Rice Festival.

The Student Government Association and the Salkehatchie baseball team recently held a carwash and bake sale for Hurricane Katrina relief. They raised over \$1000 for the relief effort.

A booster club has been created to provide financial support for the baseball team. Details about the "Dugout Club," as it is officially known, are available on the Salkehatchie web site.

Fall enrollment for 2005 is approximately 10% higher in FTE than in 2004 with a 1.87% decline in HC as compared to fall of last year.

Congratulations to Dr. Roberto Refinetti on the publishing of the second edition of his textbook, *Circadian Physiology*.

USC Sumter, Leslie Carpenter

Welcome: It is my pleasure to welcome all of you to USC Sumter for this meeting of the Regional Campuses Faculty Senate. We are pleased to be hosting this event during the Sumter Campus' 40th anniversary year.

Human Resources: Since my last report to this Senate in September 2005, USC Sumter has experienced several human resources actions. On September 16, 2005, Head Librarian Jane Ferguson retired. Ms. Sharon Chapman was named as Interim Head Librarian while a search is being conducted to fill the position on a permanent basis. Searches also are underway to fill three tenure-track positions in Sociology, Biology, and Speech Communication, effective with the 2006 Fall Semester.

Enrollments: Official enrollment figures at USC Sumter for the 2005 Fall Semester indicate a slight headcount enrollment decrease compared to last year, as well as a slight FTE enrollment decrease compared to last year. USC Sumter faculty and staff continue to work hard on several new initiatives intended to improve recruitment and retention of students. Several of these initiatives were borrowed as "best practices" from other campuses in the USC System.

Students: After an absence of several years, I'm pleased to note that USC Sumter's students are building a float this semester to enter in the Sumter Christmas Parade.

Invitation: For those who can stay for a few minutes following this Senate meeting, you are cordially invited to join us a reception honoring Dr. Terri Smith's appointment as the inaugural Julian T. Buxton Professor of Business Administration, and Dr. Eric Reisenauer's appointment as the inaugural Williams-Brice-Edwards Professor of Humanities. The donors of these two endowed professorships also will be honored during this reception.

USC Union, Jim Edwards

Dean Edwards was not present at the meeting. He was represented by the assistant dean for academic affairs, Hugh Rowland.

D. Assistant Vice Provost for Continuing Education, Sally Boyd

The Assistant Vice Provost was not present at the meeting and did not submit a report.

IV. Reports from Standing Committees

A. Rights and Responsibilities, Danny Faulkner

The committee discussed the issue of external peer review of Tenure and Promotion files. The main goal at this time is to identify peer institutions from which evaluators can be recruited.

B. Welfare, Fran Perry (now Fran Gardner)

The committee continued work on a workload survey that will be available on-line shortly. It also worked on the annual salary report.

C. System Affairs, Chris Borycki

The committee continued work on the implementation plans for Palmetto College.

V. Report from the Executive Committee, Roberto Refinetti

The executive committee met previously on November 4. The meeting was called to order at 1:35 P.M.

In attendance were: Chris Plyler, Vice Provost
Carolyn West, Associate Vice Provost
Noni Bohonak, Chair
Kate Fritz, Vice Chair
Roberto Refinetti, Secretary
Sal Macias, Member-at-Large
Fran Perry, Welfare Committee
Chris Borycki, System Affairs Committee

The Vice Provost, the Associate Vice Provost, the committee chairs, and the representatives of the various units presented their reports.

The Vice Provost initiated a discussion of the issue of external peer reviewers for Tenure and Promotion files. Further discussion of the issue was charged to the Rights and Responsibilities committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 P.M.

In today's meeting, the issue of external peer review was discussed again.

VI. Reports from Special Committees

A. Committee on Libraries, Bruce Nims

The Faculty Committee on Libraries met November 4, 2005, in the mezzanine conference room of the Thomas Cooper Library. A light luncheon was served and Chair Harriet Williams called the meeting to order about 12:00 noon.

Thomas McNally, Director of Thomas Cooper Library, briefed the committee on the completion of the Main Level/Level 5 renovation project, which has greatly increased seating space on the main level. He also reported that the new Integrated Library Services and PASCAL Databases projects are now fully implemented and that library's 24-hour access to students during the exam period was a success and will be continued. This fiscal year the library's budget received a special one-time infusion of funds from the President to address the ongoing problem of inflation in the cost of serials.

Dean Paul Willis reported on the progress of the new wings for the Modern Political Collection and the Rare Books and Special Collections. Funding has been obtained, architectural drawings have been prepared, and the project should begin soon. The Rare Books Wing will be on the Sumter Street side of Thomas Cooper Library and the Modern Political Collections Wing will be on the Russell House side.

Dean Willis also reported that initial planning has begun for a 30 million dollar renovation of Thomas Cooper Library. The library administration will seek input from all parts of the University community for recommendations on the renovation

Mr. McNally conducted a tour of the new Main Level/Level 5 space for the committee members after the meeting

The meeting adjourned at 1 p.m.

B. Committee on Curricula and Courses, Robert Castleberry

The committee has been following the progress of the approval process for the BAIS degree (Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies).

C. Committee on Faculty Welfare, Fran Perry (now Fran Gardner)

The committee examined proposed changes in health insurance coverage and a proposed reduction in tuition for children of USC faculty and staff.

D. Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee, Noni Bohonak

No report.

E. Research and Productive Scholarship Committee, Todd Scarlett

The committee chair resigned because of a conflict of interests. A new chair will be elected in **VIII New Business**.

F. Regional Campuses Research and Productive Scholarship Committee, Noni Bohonak

The meeting was held on November 11 via the Palmetto College Bridge, with the following members in attendance:

Continuing Education Credit Programs: Barbara Oswald

USC Lancaster: Noni Bohonak, Chair, Regional Campuses Faculty Senate; Danny Faulkner; Lisa Hammond Rashley

USC Sumter: Steve Bishoff; Hayes Hampton

USC Union: Deborah Hudson; Denise Shaw

Prof. Bohonak called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30. She then read the *Faculty Manual* description of the committee and its charges, as voted on by the Regional Campuses Faculty Senate at its 9 September 2005 meeting:

Regional Campuses Research and Productive Scholarship Committee. This committee advises the Vice President for Research and Health Sciences on strategies to encourage and support research and productive scholarship performed by faculty members of the Regional Campuses. The committee will be comprised of up to two members from each Regional Campus and from Continuing Education and Credit Programs. The members will be elected by the faculty organizations of the individual campuses for staggered two-year terms. The regional campuses representative to the Research and Productive Scholarship Committee will also be a member. The Vice Provost and Executive Dean for Regional Campuses and Continuing Education, as well as the Vice President for Research and Health Sciences will be ex officio members. The committee will submit reports to the Regional Campuses Faculty Senate.

Proposed charges for the committee to consider

(to be submitted to the committee when formed, but not included in the *Manual*)

- To determine needs to better facilitate research and productive scholarship opportunities for regional campuses faculty
- To support regional campuses faculty in pursuit of funding, either for course release or for grant funding
- To develop grant writing workshops for regional campuses faculty
- To work for support for research by faculty as well as faculty supervised research by students
- To build relationships between all USC campuses, fostering mentoring relations and extending research opportunity through collaborative work
- To improve the campus climate within each regional campus for promoting scholarship
- To educate faculty about research opportunities and expectations

Profs. Hampton and Rashley were elected co-chairs.

Discussion turned to ways to begin implementing the committee's charge. Determination of faculty needs regarding research was agreed to be a logical first step; **it was agreed that this process could begin in the afternoon session at the next Regional Campuses Faculty Senate meeting, by asking senators for their input and asking them to gather data from their respective campuses. It was suggested that senators ask faculty to estimate their research costs for a definite time period, e.g., the next academic year.**

Co-chair Rashley asked committee members for their impressions of faculty needs. The following observations were made:

- Many faculty members have said they need a course reduction in order to pursue research adequately and in an expeditious manner.
- Some faculty members, especially in the sciences, are pursuing research with students who are taking advanced independent-study courses (399 courses). At present, these 399 courses are

taught as overloads; they do not count towards the regular 4-4 load. Credit in one's teaching load for 399s would expedite research and allow faculty to offer more and higher-quality advanced courses.

Discussion turned to the establishment of a separate fund of competitively-awarded regional campuses Research and Productive Scholarship grant money. The committee's initial discussions suggested that that such a separate pool of money dedicated to the regional campuses would be an effective way to fund such research needs as course reductions, research trips, lab equipment, etc., but it was agreed that further discussion of this with faculty on our campuses would be required.

The committee then discussed other known issues regarding faculty's ability to conduct research. Because of recent actions taken by the Provost in response to suggestions from the Regional Campuses Academic Advisory Council, regional campuses faculty now have access to many more high-quality online databases than before. Areas that still need improvement are:

- Availability of lab space: some campuses have no real research laboratory facilities.
- Staff support: faculty on some campuses have research support in the form of staff assistance (e.g., photocopying) or work-study research assistants; other campuses do not make such help available.
- Support from all levels of administration: local administration at times does not place enough emphasis on creating an atmosphere in which scholarship can be pursued (e.g., several committee members were surprised to learn that there is a regional campus sabbatical application process); upper administration at times do not seem to recognize the non-research demands unique to regional campus faculty.
- External corporate funding: Prof. Bishoff mentioned a research project he is involved in that is being funded by a Sumter company, and reminded the committee that this kind of external funding is available, though not always immediately apparent.

The committee will meet again Friday, November 18 during the Regional Campuses Faculty Senate meeting at USC Sumter.

**Regional Campuses Research and Productive Scholarship
Committee Membership
2005-2006**

Continuing Education:	Barbara Oswald (2005-2007) Joe Pappin (2005-2006)
Lancaster:	Lisa Rashley, Co-chair (2005-2007) Danny Faulkner (2005-2006)
Salkehatchie:	Arthur Mitchell (2005-2006) Hussein Zeidan (2005-2007)
Sumter:	Hayes Hampton, Co-chair (2005-2007) Steve Bishoff (2005-2006)
Union:	Deborah Hudson (2005-2007) Denise Shaw (2005-2006)
Regional Campuses SPAR/RPS Representative	Hayes Hampton, Sumter (2005-2006)

G. Provost's Regional Campuses Advisory Council, Noni Bohonak

The committee met and discussed the issue of external peer review of Tenure and Promotion files.

H. Other Committees

1. Conflict of Interest Committee, Dave Bowden

No report.

2. Manual Review Ad Hoc Committee, Lisa Rashley

The ad hoc *Regional Campuses and Continuing Education Faculty Manual* Revision Committee met on Friday, 28 October. Members present were Noni Bohonak, Lisa Rashley, and John Logue. The committee recommends the following:

1. The Vice Chair of the RCFS is already responsible for forwarding all motions passed by the Senate to the Office of the Vice Provost for Regional Campuses and Continuing Education. We recommend the RCFS Vice Chair submit all motions affecting the *Manual* in the normal procedure immediately after they are passed. We further recommend that all motions affecting the *Manual* be held after all other administrative reviews are completed to be submitted once a year to the Board of Trustees. In this manner, appropriate administrative review can progress during the year, and at the end of the year, all changes approved at levels below the Board of Trustees may be submitted together. This will result in an annual revision of the *Manual* in years that any changes occur.
2. We recommend the translation of the *Manual* from Microsoft Word format to a fully online html document. The present format of the *Manual* includes a number of formatting codes making easy use and printing of the document difficult, and as print copies are no longer being distributed (except to maintain copies for each campus library and administrative offices), a web version of the *Manual* will be easier for faculty to use and will be simpler to maintain. The committee will work with the Regional Campuses and Continuing Education office to ensure a smooth transition to the new format.
3. Once the new format of the document is established, the committee recommends that the maintenance of the actual electronic document be handled by appropriate staff members at the Regional Campuses and Continuing Education Office. The Vice Chair and Chair of the Senate will need to coordinate closely with staff members to ensure that changes are incorporated smoothly on an annual basis.
4. The committee is working with staff members at the Regional Campuses and Continuing Education Office to create a website with archived electronic versions of the *Manual* from 1995 to the present. Earlier editions of the *Manual* are not available in electronic format.

VII. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

VIII. New Business

Hayes Hampton was elected as the regional campuses representative to the system-wide Research and Productive Scholarship Committee.

IX. Announcements

There were no announcements.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 P.M.

Minutes prepared by the Senate Secretary, Roberto Refinetti