

**College Assembly
September 21, 2000 Minutes (Revised)**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the College Assembly was called to order at 12:45 p.m. on Thursday, September 21, 2000 in room 332 of Bobet Hall. Dean Frank Scully chaired the assembly, secretary was present. Fr. Nicoll led the invocation.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Accepted.

4. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Kathy Gros and Michael Rachel introduced web-based registration to the faculty between technical difficulties. They listened to concerns and answered questions.

Dean Scully mentioned we have 21 new faculty and the largest and academically best freshmen class in 30 years.

Dean Scully mentioned that the issue of the Faculty Evaluation Committee would be tackled this year. This committee, chaired by Father Nicoll, has been in effect since last March. Dean Scully mentioned that he asked the same committee to develop a form to enable faculty to evaluate him.

Dean Scully mentioned that the Strategic Faculty Salary Committee (Bernie Cook, Gary Herbert, Laurie Joyner, Steve Rucker, Kurt Birdwhistell, and Earl Richard) has been developing a set of minimum expectations of faculty accomplishments in the areas of teaching, research, advising, and service. As outlined in the UPT document passed in April 1999, faculty who meet minimum expectations can be guaranteed a raise equivalent to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Faculty who meet criteria for "outstanding" will compete for a raise pool above the CPI that is a percentage of raises in all colleges.

Dean Scully mentioned that a Strategic Plan for the College of A&S will be developed this year (5-year plan).

Tony Ladd mentioned that the College had sent a motion to Father Knoth and had expected a timely response to this motion. He asked how we carry this forward? Dean Scully stated that the President appointed a faculty committee and had begun to address this issue. Laurie Joyner stated that she is on that committee and that the issue of administrative salaries **was not discussed at the first meeting**. Julian Wasserman stated this is not answering the question of how to get an answer for our formal request. Dean Scully stated that his guess was that Father Knoth felt that he was responding when he appointed a faculty committee. Dean Scully said that he would address a letter to Father Knoth saying that in the College Assembly the faculty was asking for a formal written response to the motion.

Dean Scully read DSAC recommendation #2. No debate. The question was called and seconded. All were in favor. All in favor of the Motion.

Dean Scully introduced two documents: *The Goals and Objectives of the Common Curriculum and Criteria for Common Curriculum Courses*. A Motion to return to discussion was made and seconded. Dean Scully stated that all Common Curriculum courses would be assessed by this criteria. Criteria for Introductory Common Curriculum courses are separated from those for the Advanced Common Curriculum courses.

Kurt Birdwhistell asked if we accept these Criteria for Common Curriculum Courses, then will all current Common Curriculum courses be reviewed with these points and if they don't meet these points will they be thrown out? Dean Scully stated there is no need to review all the courses all at once. It was an exercise to flesh them out and try to make them more specific in what the objectives of the Common Curriculum were.

Georgia Gresham stated when a course comes up for review, it doesn't mean it should be thrown out. It gives the department and/or the professor a chance to look at it after so many years on the books. It is good to take a look at some of these courses that have been around for a long time.

Mark Rubinfeld stated that the idea was to put in writing the understanding of what these Common Curriculum courses are, but "I think you're going to run into problems with the letter of the law vs. the spirit of the law" without flexibility to say all of these. We have to be careful of the language used.

Catherine Wessinger questioned the purpose of the fifth bullet point under the criteria for the Advanced Common Curriculum courses. Dean Scully stated that one of the biggest complaints that we're getting from other colleges, from within this college and from the Provost is that were filling courses with non-majors because they are Common Curriculum options. That's one issue this document is trying to address.

Vernon Gregson stated that with regard to the Criteria that we have introductory Common Curriculum courses that substantially achieve the items listed in the Criteria document. And, we have Advanced Common Curriculum courses that substantially achieve the items listed in the Criteria document. People need to justify if they are going to use a major course that also fulfills the kind of liberal and general knowledge we expect our students to have. If all of these elements exist as listed, with regard to Religious Studies in particular, it throws out substantial courses. Dr. Gregson made a Motion to amend the Introductory Common Curriculum courses document to insert "substantially achieve the following" in the opening statements of the criteria for both Introductory and Advanced Common Curriculum Courses. The Motion was seconded. Georgia Gresham stated that the criteria did not address what makes a Common Curriculum course. Dean Scully stated the issue is to be suitable for broadly educated non-major students, not whether or not it is suitable for majors. If you want build a core for your majors in Common Curriculum courses, that's one thing. But then it's not broadly suitable for broadly educated non-major students.

Father Nicoll stated that the Common Curriculum courses could be used by anybody.

Vernon Gregson stated the section that says "Are distinctive from major's courses" with regard to Religious Studies and others, would exclude certain courses because they are not distinguished from major's courses. They would fulfill the second part of that sentence, "and suitable for broadly educated non-major students". We have had courses

for 25 years that have been through their problems with the Common Curriculum because they are not distinctive from major's courses.

Craig Hood stated that if an amendment in broadening their satisfaction in Religious Studies with the language stated here is needed, let's call the question. The question was called and seconded. All were in favor of the question on the amendment. All in favor of amendment that adjusts reading to say "Introductory Common Curriculum courses should substantially achieve the following" and "Advanced Common Curriculum courses should substantially achieve the following". Thirty-two were in favor of the amendment. Eight were opposed. The amendment was passed.

Discussion on the Goals and Objectives and Criteria with the amended portion. Question called and seconded. Motion to accept the Goals and Objectives and Criteria for Common Curriculum courses. Motion passed.

Vernon Gregson introduced and discussed Proposal of Joint Majors document.

Julian Wasserman asked Dean Scully if he was going to write to Father Knoth. Dean Scully said yes that he was going to ask him for a formal response that he could bring to the College Assembly.

Vernon Gregson stated that the Proposal to SCAP and to Colleges and Departments to Authorize Joint Majors document would get departments into dialogue. Craig Hood questioned number 13 on same document.

Meeting adjourned 1:45 p.m.