Plenary Meeting of the Faculty
International Conference Room, Baker Hall
May 14, 2010
10:45 a.m.

Agenda:

I. Presentation and Approval of Undergraduate Degree Candidates
II. Presentation and Approval of Undergraduate Honors
III. Presentation and Approval of Candidates for Advanced Degrees
IV. Year-End Summary of Faculty Senate Activities
V. Announcements
VI. Faculty Awards (Doré Commons, Baker Hall)
VII. Recognition of Retiring Faculty Members

I. Presentation and Approval of Undergraduate Degree Candidates

Duane Windsor, Speaker of the Faculty Senate, welcomed the faculty and stated that the purpose of the meeting was to certify the candidates recommended for undergraduate degrees and honors and graduate degrees, as well as receive a report regarding the Faculty Senate’s activities for the year. Windsor said that per President Leebron’s recommendation, a different method is to be used for recognition of teaching award winners, outstanding college associates, and retirees; these individuals will be recognized in the faculty luncheon immediately following the meeting.

Windsor introduced Carl Caldwell, Chair of Examinations and Standing (EX&S), and David Tenney, Registrar. Caldwell stated that EX&S recommends that the faculty approve one exception; a student in a complex degree program ended up without the required number of credits to graduate. Tenney explained that the student has satisfied the requirements for his major in Computational Physics (75 hours), but instead of the required 60 hours outside his major, he has completed 57, for a total of 132 hours. After a few questions, Professor Martin Wiener moved that the exception be granted; the motion was seconded, and approved by the faculty.

Caldwell presented the following candidates for undergraduate degrees:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended Undergraduate Degrees</th>
<th>May 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts  (BA)</td>
<td>451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science  (BS)</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS in Bioengineering  (BSBE)</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS in Chemical Engineering  (BSCHE)</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS in Civil Engineering  (BSCE)</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS in Computer Science  (BSCS)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS in Electrical Engineering  (BSEE)</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS in Materials Science  (BSMS)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS in Mechanical Engineering  (BSME)</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Music  (BMUS)</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Total (undergraduate degrees) ***</td>
<td><strong>695</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Architecture  (UP) *</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total (undergraduate degrees)</strong></td>
<td><strong>717</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Actual # of students: 654 undergraduates and 22 undergraduate professionals.

Caldwell stated that EX&S recommends the faculty approve the entire list of undergraduate degree candidates. The list was approved without opposition.

II. Presentation and Approval of Undergraduate Honors

Due to the confidential undergraduate academic honors information about to be presented, Windsor confirmed that no members of the press were present, including the *Thresher*. In addition, he asked that the honors information remain confidential until after commencement.

Caldwell and Tenney then presented the following candidates for undergraduate honors:
University Honors  (Dec 2009 and May 2010) | No.
----------------- | ----
summa cum laude (top 5%): (4.046 – 4.246) | 36
magna cum laude (next 10%): (3.923 – 4.045) * | 73
cum laude (next 15%): (3.774 – 3.922) | 110

Total Number of Undergraduates Receiving Honors   219

* There are 15 students with a GPA between 4.000 and 4.046

Tenney presented the following information regarding the minimum grade point average required for a student to be awarded the three categories of Latin honors during years 2000-2010.

During discussion of the honors candidates, Deborah Harter mentioned that the Senate had received a report from the Working Group on Grade Inflation/Academic Honors which indicated a desire to tie undergraduate honors to items beyond just a student’s grade point average, such as a senior thesis or portfolio.

The list was approved without opposition.

III. Presentation and Approval of Candidates for Advanced Degrees
John Olson, interim Chair of the Graduate Council, presented the list of graduate degrees.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended Advanced Degrees</th>
<th>May 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor of Philosophy (PHD)</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts (MA)</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science (MS)</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Architecture (MARCH)</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science in Environmental Analysis &amp; Decision Making (MEADM)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science in Nanoscale Physics (MNAPHY)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science in Subsurface Geoscience (MSG)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science Teaching (MST)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Music (MMUS)</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Bioengineering (MBE)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Chemical Engineering (MChE)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Computer Science (MCS)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Electrical Engineering (MEE)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Environmental Engineering (MENVI)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Mechanical Engineering (MME)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Statistics (MSTAT)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Business Administration (MBA)</td>
<td>294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Liberal Studies (MLS)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total (Advanced Degrees)</strong></td>
<td><strong>573</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Olson stated that the Graduate Council recommends the faculty approve the candidates for advanced degrees. The list was approved without opposition.

IV. Year-End Summary of Faculty Senate Activities

A. Change in Senate Leadership
Windsor stated that the Speaker and Deputy Speaker are elected to one-year terms. Windsor (Business) is the outgoing Speaker, while Jim Young (Electrical and Computer Engineering) is the outgoing Deputy Speaker. The incoming Speaker is Susan McIntosh (Anthropology) and the incoming Deputy Speaker is Tom Killian (Physics & Astronomy). Windsor noted that the Senate membership (to be updated this summer with the names of the new members), meeting minutes, approved policies, and meeting schedules can all be found on the Senate web site.

B. Special Thanks
Windsor recognized the following individuals for their service to the Senate and to the faculty during the past year: Don Morrison (Chair of the Faculty Merger Review Committee), Deborah Harter (former Speaker), Jim Young (Deputy Speaker), Randy Stevenson (former Parliamentarian and current Convener of Appeals and Grievances), chairs and members of the various University Committees and Senate Working Groups, all Senators, including the Executive Committee and the Nominations and Elections Committee, and the Senate Assistant, Sharon Mathews.

C. Actions of the Faculty Senate 2009-2010

Recommendations from Graduate Council (GC), Committee for the Undergraduate Curriculum (CUC), EX&S:
- Approved change in name of Ph.D. in Management to Ph.D. in Business (corresponding to changed name of Jones Graduate School from Management to Business)
- Approved Candidacy Master of Arts (MA) in Business
- Approved change in “Graduation Date of Record” from January to December
- Approved GC document for “Creating and Changing Graduate Programs”
- Approved new Ph.D. in Sociology
- Endorsed CUC approval for departmental Minor in Anthropology
- Approved interdepartmental Minor in African Studies
- Approved restructuring of Biosciences curricula
- Approved earlier deadlines for “readmission after suspension”

Senate Working Groups (WG) 2009-2010 and Works in Progress
- Honor Council WG presented findings and two recommendations to the Senate. One recommendation was sent by the Senate to the Graduate Council and to the Honor Council proposing design of a separate process for graduate students.
- Grade Inflation / Academic Honors WG presented findings and recommendations to the Senate.
Brown Teaching Awards WG (a subcommittee of Teaching WG) presented findings and recommendations to the Senate Executive Committee.

Draft of document concerning “Faculty Senate Oversight of the General Announcements” remains under discussion.

Draft of document concerning “Creating, Administering, and Eliminating [Undergraduate] Majors and Minors at Rice University” remains under discussion.

Second Committee on Rice Undergraduate Program (CRUP II) report provided to Senate: Dean of Undergraduates Robin Forman explained the process.

Annual faculty salary analysis report provided to Senate.

Athletic Admissions report (2-year comparative analysis) requested for September 2010 Senate meeting.

Policy Review and Revision
Request from Jim Coleman (VP Research) concerning:
- Research Misconduct Policy
- Conflict of Interest Policy and Form
- Data Retention Policy (non-existent)

Senate has instructed the Vice President for Research to work with an existing research advisory committee, the Senate liaison, and any relevant University Committees on recommendations concerning the Research Misconduct Policy, the Conflict of Interest policy and form, and a possible Data Retention Policy.

New Working Group 2010-2011
Working Group on Senate Governance (Charge Adopted April 2010)
Chair: Tom Killian

After five years of existence and striving to provide Rice the best possible governance, the Rice University Faculty Senate would like to reflect on this past experience, future directions, and what changes in form and function would help us to better serve the faculty we represent. The Speaker of the Senate would charge a Working Group on Senate Governance to consider both the achievements and the challenges we have faced as a Senate over the past five years, and to provide to the larger Senate, at the conclusion of its deliberations, recommendations it might have for future changes.

Possible New Business for 2010-2011
- Teaching effectiveness
- Enhancing faculty input to curricular change, including impact of budget cuts and expansion of student body on quality of undergraduate education
- Request by the Humanities Senators that writing at Rice needs to be on the docket for next year’s Senate business
- Grade Inflation / Academic Honors

D. Outlook for 2010-2011
Tom Killian, incoming Deputy Speaker, said he wished to strengthen the tie between the Rice faculty and the Senate in the future, and he welcomed input from everyone. He asked
that faculty become involved with the Senate in its efforts to provide the best representation and leadership possible.

V. Announcements

A. President Leebron read aloud the names of faculty members who have died during the past year, including the numbers of years of service at Rice, followed by a moment of silence:

- Lisa Meffert, Former Assistant Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, 8 yrs.
- Edith Wyschogrod, Professor Emerita, Religious Studies, 11 yrs.
- Henry Bourne, Jr., Professor Emeritus, Electrical and Computer Engineering, 11 yrs.
- Elton Bernard Hale, Professor Emeritus, Accounting, 16 yrs.
- William E. Gordon, Professor Emeritus, Space Physics and Astronomy; Electrical and Computer Engineering, 20 yrs.
- Carl Wischmeyer, Former Rice Faculty Member, Electrical Engineering, 29 yrs.
- James R. Sims, Professor Emeritus, Civil Engineering, 43 yrs.
- Walter Isle, Professor Emeritus, English, 45 yrs.

B. Keith Cooper, Chief Marshall, gave instructions for commencement and encouraged the assembled faculty members to attend the Ph.D. hooding ceremony scheduled for 2 p.m.

Harter thanked Windsor for his year of service as Speaker. (Adjournment of plenary meeting; group moved to Doré Commons.)

VI. Faculty Awards (Doré Commons)

President Leebron expressed his desire to increase recognition of the award recipients by hosting a special luncheon ceremony in their honor each year. He encouraged faculty to attend in order to celebrate these important awards. Leebron announced the following individuals as award recipients, while Duane Windsor presented each person attending with a certificate.
A. Teaching and Mentoring Awards

George R. Brown Prize for Excellence in Teaching
Michelle Hebl, Associate Professor of Psychology

George R. Brown Awards for Superior Teaching
Mark Embree, John and Ann Doerr Professor of Computational and Applied Mathematics
Marcia Brennan, Associate Professor of Art History
Robert Englebretson, Associate Professor of Linguistics
Bridget Gorman, Associate Professor of Sociology
Eugenia Gorges, Professor of Anthropology
Matthias Henze, Watt J. and Lilly G. Jackson Chair in Biblical Studies and Associate Professor of Religious Studies

Nicolas Salgo Outstanding Teacher Award
J. Bernardo Perez, Associate Professor of Hispanic Studies

Charles Duncan Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement
Robert M. Raphael, Associate Professor, Bioengineering

Presidential Award for Mentoring
Alexander X. Byrd, Associate Professor, History

Sarofim Teaching Award
Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, Lecturer, Center for the Study of Languages

Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Business Award for Excellence in Teaching
Utpal Dholakia, Mackey/Simons Distinguished Associate Professor of Management, Jones MBA for Professional (Evening) Teaching Award for Excellence
Prashant Kale, Associate Professor of Strategic Management, Jones Full-time MBA Teaching Award for Excellence
Al Napier, Professor of Management, Jones MBA for Executives Teaching for Excellence
James Weston, Associate Professor of Finance, Jones Alumni Teaching Award for Excellence
Phi Beta Kappa Teaching Prize  
Lisa Balabanlilar, Assistant Professor, History

Faculty Teaching/Mentoring Award  
Margaret E. Beier, Assistant Professor, Psychology

Ramon Gonzalez, Assistant Professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

B. Outstanding College Associates

Baker College: Margaret Beier, Assistant Professor, Psychology
Brown College: Christopher Johns-Krull, Associate Professor, Physics and Astronomy
Hanszen College: Klaus H. M. Weissenberger, Professor, German Studies
Jones College: Bridget K. Gorman, Associate Professor, Sociology
Lovett College: G. Daniel Cohen, Assistant Professor, History
Martel College: James Young, Professor, Electrical & Computer Engineering; Deputy Speaker, Faculty Senate, and Cecily Young
Sid Richardson College: James Disch, Associate Professor, Kinesiology
Wiess College: Vivek Sarkar, Professor, Computer Science and Ratna Sarkar, Associate Dean, Global Initiatives
Will Rice College: Mark P. Embree, Professor, Computational and Applied Mathematics

VII. Recognition of retiring members of the faculty

President Leebron recognized the following retirees and thanked each for her or his service to Rice University.

Maria-Regina Kecht  Associate Professor, German Studies  13 yrs.
Robin Forman  Professor, Mathematics; and Dean of Undergraduates  24 yrs.
George Smith  Professor of Visual and Dramatic Arts  29 yrs.
Clyde Holloway  Herbert S. Autrey Professor of Music  32 yrs.