Minutes of the Faculty
College of Arts & Science

February 19, 2008

Dean Richard McCarty called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. in Wilson Hall 103. Approximately 50 faculty members were in attendance.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Faculty Meeting of January 29, 2008.
There were no comments or questions, and the Minutes were approved.

2. Review of the Minutes of the Faculty Council meeting of February 5, 2008.
There were no comments or questions.

3. Executive Motion Calendar.

From the Committee on Educational Programs (CEP):

i. Proposed revision of the Women’s and Gender Studies major.
There were no comments or questions, and the revision was approved.

ii. Proposed revision of the Physics minor.
There were no comments or questions, and the revision was approved.

iii. Proposed revision of the Spanish and Portuguese major.
There were no comments or questions, and the revision was approved.

iv. Proposed revision of the Spanish major.
There were no comments or questions, and the revision was approved.

v. Proposed revision of the Spanish minor.
There were no comments or questions, and the revision was approved.

4. Original Motion Calendar.
No issues were raised.

5. Good of the College.

Dean McCarty stated that he had several important points. First, Dean Frank Wcislo and his colleagues at The Commons are soliciting faculty members to serve as faculty VUceptors next year for the Vanderbilt Visions program. Vanderbilt Visions is planned to be a one-semester program in fall, 2008, shortened from the one-and-a-half semester long program that it has been for the past two years. Dean McCarty requested faculty members to consider becoming a faculty VUceptor. Associate Dean John Sloop added that next year should be a very interesting year for Vanderbilt Visions. It will be the first time that first-year students will be housed in The
Commons, with which the Vanderbilt Visions program is a natural fit, and the twelve-week schedule of the Vanderbilt Visions program should work well.

Second, faculty members in the Department of History are nearing a deadline to submit major changes to the Catalog for next year, Dean McCarty explained. They are proposing, for good reasons, to renumber their courses, and they need faculty approval by next week for their renumbering system. The proposed renumbering system does not include any changes in course description, but only a renumbering of their courses. An e-mail ballot to vote on the proposed course renumbering system for the Department of History will be distributed to all faculty members later this week.

Third, Dean McCarty continued, Associate Provosts Dennis Hall and Tim McNamara will present at the next A&S Faculty Meeting the procedure by which we will ensure that Vanderbilt is fully compliant with federal regulations on effort declaration and certification with respect to federal grants and contracts. Federal regulations require that faculty members who are working under federal grants or contracts certify that all of their scholarly efforts during the relevant time period are devoted to work funded by that grant or contract. No part of the federal funding can be used to pay for departmental (or other academic unit) administrative work, grant proposal writing, or vacation. Only the scholarly efforts expended toward the work funded by the federal government can be validly funded by or charged to that federal fund or contract. If, for example, a faculty member expended 75% of his or her scholarly efforts toward the federal grant or contract during a given period of time, then only 75% of his or her salary can be charged to that grant or contract in that time period. Dean McCarty stated that a memo will be distributed on this issue shortly.

Fourth, Dean McCarty announced that Associate Provost Susan Barge will present a plan for two residential colleges on the Kissam-quad side of campus at an upcoming A&S Faculty Meeting. The preliminary concept plans are amazing, he said.

6. Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marshall C. Eakin,
Secretary of the Faculty