Minutes of the Faculty
College of Arts & Science

November 13, 2007

Dean Richard McCarty called the meeting to order at 4:17 p.m. in Wilson Hall 103.

1. Presentation by Lyn Fulton-John, Director, Office of Honor Scholarships.

Ms. Fulton-John explained that the Office of Honor Scholarships helps Vanderbilt students apply for any of the nationally-competitive scholarships, such as the Fulbright, Marshall, and Truman scholarships. She was grateful, she stated, that Dean McCarty appointed a faculty adviser to the Office this year, who helps guide students through the application process and interviews students for the scholarships. Ms. Fulton-John said that she also coaches students on how to submit scholarship applications. Not enough students, and especially not enough graduate students, she continued, are applying for the scholarships, even though Vanderbilt students have done well in these national competitions. Of the 21 applications this year for the Fulbright Scholarship, for example, only 2 are from graduate students. Yet, the Fulbright Scholarship is typically known as an ideal way to start dissertation work. On the other hand, 12 of the 24 Vanderbilt students who applied for a Fulbright two years ago received one, which is a high success rate. Ms. Fulton-John is concerned that information about these scholarships is not being received by students. She requested assistance from faculty members to spread information and to notify her if they think a student is well-qualified for a scholarship. This would be very helpful, she said, particularly in cases where students would be strong candidates for the award even though they might not think that they are qualified for it. She stated that she sends e-mail messages to faculty members, especially DGS’s and DUS’s, about scholarship opportunities and that she also sends scholarship information directly to students. Ms. Fulton-John distributed a handout that includes a list of the major scholarships and their deadlines, detailed information about some of the major scholarships, and advice to faculty members regarding letters of recommendation for scholarship candidates (the handout is attached to these Minutes).

Professor Harrington commended Ms. Fulton-John for the great work she is doing for the Office of Honor Scholarships. Since she has been appointed to that Office, he stated, Vanderbilt’s number of scholarship recipients and success rate in national scholarship competitions has significantly increased.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Faculty Meeting of October 16, 2007.

There were no comments or questions, and the Minutes were approved.


There were no comments or questions.
4. Executive Motion Calendar.

(A) From the Committee on Educational Programs (CEP):

Study Abroad Proposals:

i. A new study abroad program in Paris, France.
ii. A revision to the study abroad program in St. Petersburg, Russia.
iii. A new study abroad program in Shanghai, China.
iv. The termination of study abroad programs in Nanjing, China and Taipei, Taiwan.
v. A new study abroad program in Cairo, Egypt.

There were no comments or questions, and the Faculty approved the five study abroad proposals.

(B) From the Faculty Council:

A motion to congratulate Gary Gibson, the University Registrar, for creating the online grading system:

Whereas the University Registrar’s office led the effort to provide a utility for submitting grades online, engaged faculty in planning, prototyping, and testing the new service, and has created a convenient, well-designed, and effective tool; Be It Resolved that the Faculty of the College of Arts and Science congratulates Gary Gibson and the capable staff of the University Registrar’s Office and at Management Information Systems for a job well done.

There were no comments or questions, and the Faculty approved the motion to congratulate Mr. Gibson.

5. Original Motion Calendar.

No issues were raised.

6. Good of the College.

Dean McCarty congratulated three A&S faculty members for their recent accomplishments: Professor Molly Miller for being awarded the Chancellors’ Cup; Professor Rosanne Adderley for being awarded the Wesley-Logan Prize from the American Historical Association for her book, “New Negroes from Africa: Slave Trade Abolition and Free African Settlement in the Nineteenth-Century Caribbean;” and Professor Mel Ziegler for the opening of his exhibition, America Starts Here, at the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati.

7. Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marshall C. Eakin,
Secretary of the Faculty