Minutes of the Faculty  
College of Arts & Science  

April 20, 2010

Dean Carolyn Dever called the meeting to order at 4:11 p.m. in Wilson Hall 103.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Faculty Meeting of March 23, 2010.

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

2. Memorial Resolution for Derek J. Waller, Professor of Political Science, Emeritus.

Erwin C. Hargrove, Professor of Political Science, Emeritus, presented a Memorial Resolution in honor of Derek J. Waller, Professor of Political Science, Emeritus. Faculty members paid their respects and signified their assent to the resolution by standing for a moment of silence. The Memorial Resolution is appended to these Minutes.

3. Memorial Resolution for C. Neal Tate, Professor of Political Science.

John G. Geer, Distinguished Professor of Political Science, and Mitchell A. Seligson, Centennial Professor of Political Science, presented a Memorial Resolution in honor of C. Neal Tate, Professor of Political Science and Chair of the Department. Faculty members paid their respects and signified their assent to the resolution by standing for a moment of silence. The Memorial Resolution is appended to these Minutes.

4. Review of the Minutes of the Faculty Council meeting of April 13, 2010.

There were no comments or questions.

5. Executive Motion Calendar.

A. From the AXLE Review Committee:
   i. E-mail ballot to rescind the AXLE version of Vanderbilt Visions. There were no comments or questions, and the faculty approved the motion to hold an e-mail ballot in September 2010 to rescind the AXLE version of Vanderbilt Visions.

   ii. Approval procedure to take courses out of AXLE. There were no comments or questions, and the faculty approved the new procedure by which proposals to take courses out of the AXLE curriculum must be approved by the AXLE Implementation Committee.

B. Faculty Senate reapportionment proposal. Professor Gregg Horowitz, Chair of Faculty Council, explained that Faculty Senators have been reapportioned among
Vanderbilt’s colleges and schools, and A&S will have four new representatives, which will be phased in over the next three years (and thus there will be 17 total A&S representatives as of fall 2012). Of the four new representatives, Faculty Council proposes that three will be evenly divided among the three academic divisions and one will rotate from division to division. Professor Ellingham asked whether Council considered making the new 17th A&S representative an at-large position. Yes, responded Professor Horowitz, but Council members were not persuaded by the arguments put forward for that suggestion, and the present 13th A&S representative is already a rotating position. Faculty Council members also supposed, Professor Marcus added, that with an at-large position a large department could control the nomination process and/or the vote, which would be unfair. The faculty then approved the Faculty Senate reapportionment proposal as recommended by Faculty Council.

C. From the Committee on Academic Standards and Procedures (CASP):
   i. Double-counting courses between majors. Professor Horowitz explained that at present there is a cap on the number of credits (6) that a student can double-count between an A&S interdisciplinary major and an A&S departmental major. The Committee on Educational Programs (CEP) faced a situation a short time ago in which the requirements for a proposed departmental major considerably overlapped with those of an existing departmental major and requested CASP to clarify whether the six-credit cap should apply to two departmental majors as well. CASP subsequently recommended to Faculty Council that the six-credit cap should apply to two A&S departmental majors, and Faculty Council has recommended that the six-credit cap should apply to any two A&S majors.

Several faculty members from the Department of Mathematics expressed concern about the negative effect this proposal might have on students who double major in mathematics and other disciplines, especially economics. The extent of the problem depends on a student’s specific program of study and the way in which “double-counting” is defined. Professor Simonett explained that one track of the mathematics major encourages students to take courses outside of the department that require the use of advanced mathematics, and these outside courses could also count toward a major offered by the discipline in which they were taken. Many students double-major in mathematics and economics (as many as ten per year), for example, and it appears that these students could double-count more than six credits between the two majors. Economics allows students to take two math statistics courses for its one course statistics requirement; 6 hours count for 3 in the major. The same applies to math; they allow math majors to fulfill a one course requirement by taking two economics courses. So math-economics double-majors have to take 12 hours to fulfill a 6 hour requirement. If we apply the 6 hour double counting rule, then these majors are at a disadvantage. From this we can understand that mathematics-economics double-majors can at present double count nine credits between the two majors. Associate Dean Bergquist suggested, as another way of resolving the issue, that instead of a cap on the number of credits that can be double-counted between two majors, perhaps there should be a minimum number of unique credits for any major, say 27, just as the rules for the fulfillment of a minor require at least 15 unique hours. Because of the concerns expressed by the Mathematics
department, the faculty voted to send the proposed six-credit double-counting cap between any two A&S majors back to Faculty Council for further consideration.

ii. **Articulation of honors program requirements**. Professor Horowitz explained that the CEP also asked CASP whether honors programs within a major that are not a separate track within the major should be bound by the recently-approved 48-credit maximum limit for A&S majors. CASP members, however, surveying the *Catalog* could not determine the number of credits required for several honors programs and consequently recommended that A&S departments and programs clearly specify in the *Catalog* the exact number and type of hours required. Faculty Council, Professor Horowitz further explained, did not approve CEP’s recommendation that honors programs that are not a separate track within the major be bound by the 48-credit limit. But Council did approve CASP’s second recommendation that A&S honors programs should clearly specify their requirements. He emphasized, in response to questions from faculty members, that the list of honors program requirements can specify a range of credits for a type of requirement (e.g. 6-9 credits for honors thesis research) and that completion of the published requirements does not guarantee that a student will receive honors. Several faculty members expressed concern about the proposal. They stated that it might be difficult to articulate their honors program requirements and that students might expect to receive the honors designation automatically if they have fulfilled all of the listed or published honors program requirements. The **faculty then approved the recommendation that A&S departments and interdisciplinary programs clearly specify in the *Catalog* the exact number and type of hours required for their honors programs**, with two faculty members voting against and three faculty members abstaining.

D. From the Committee on Educational Programs (CEP): Proposed revision of the **Ancient Mediterranean Studies major and minor, and name change to Classical Civilization**. There were no comments or questions, and the faculty approved the revision and name change.

6. **Original Motion Calendar**.

No issues were raised.

7. **Good of the College**.

No issues were raised.

8. **Adjournment**.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn H. Anderson,
Secretary of the Faculty
Derek John Waller

Derek Waller, who was a member of the Vanderbilt Political Science Department from 1969 to 2001, died on December 31, 2009 in Monteagle, Tennessee. He was living in Monteagle with his wife Gayle, who is a member of the faculty of the University of the South.

Derek was born on September 9, 1937 in England. He kept his British citizenship, of which he was very proud, and was thereby able to travel to countries holders of American passports may not visit, such as North Korea.

He was a scholarship boy at Dulwich College, a prestigious Public School in London. It is hard to imagine Derek in the large round collar that the boys wore. He performed his National Service and then went on to the London School of Economics and Political Science from which he graduated in 1962. He received an M.A. from the University of Indiana in 1964 after which he studied at the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London, receiving his doctorate in 1968. He joined the Vanderbilt faculty in 1969 as an Assistant Professor and was appointed Associate Professor in 1974.

He taught East Asian Politics at Vanderbilt throughout his career. His book The Government and Politics of Communist China, 1970, was published in several languages, and was continually revised until 1981. He wrote and contributed to books comparing Communist China and the Soviet Union, including Comparative Communist Political Leadership and Stasis and Change in Revolutionary Elites. He also wrote a number of scholarly articles. In 1990 he published The Pundits: British Exploration of Tibet and Central Asia, which was about the “great game” for the control of South Asia among the British and the Russians. He won a number of research grants for his work,
including awards from the Ford Foundation and a Fulbright fellowship.

Derek served the College of Arts and Science as director of the East Asian Studies Program, Director of Vanderbilt in England, and as Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Science from 1989 to 1995, during which time he directed all of Vanderbilt’s overseas academic programs. He was the founding director of the Humanities and International Studies program in London in 1989 and directed that program until 1994. He also directed the College Honors program and was Administrator of the McTyeire International House.

He was adventurous, for example traveling the entire Silk Road in China to its Middle Eastern terminus. He traveled with Gayle all over Asia. When one asked “where are you going this year” it was always a new country. Derek ran a sideline business on rare books on Central Asia, which helped pay for his many trips. He was a cosmopolitan person who enjoyed travel, talk, and fine food and excellent wine.

Above all he was a person of good cheer who accepted his final illness with courage and equanimity.

Erwin C. Hargrove
Emeritus Professor of Political Science
April 20, 2010
C. Neal Tate

C. Neal Tate, the Alexander Heard Distinguished Service Professor, Professor of Political Science, and Professor of Law, passed away last September. His passing has been a severe loss for many people in this room, around the country, and around the world. Neal’s contributions were many and while we will no longer have the benefit of his kindness, keen intellect, and fine sense of humor, we will continue to benefit from his many legacies.

Neal built a prominent scholarly career, publishing visible and important research in two related areas: international human rights and the workings of judicial institutions around the world, including those in East Asia, Europe, Latin America, and Africa. These contributions have added greatly to our understanding of the law and how legal institutions advance the prospects for democracy and the freedoms associated with such a system.

When Neal embarked on his academic career, his ambitions were on a grand scale. Political science had developed a keen appreciation for the importance of the judiciary within the United States. But we knew little about how judicial systems worked comparatively, especially in less developed and less democratic nations. Yet judicial institutions can shape in important ways the quality of life enjoyed by people who reside in these countries. Neal corrected this imbalance by collecting new data that would shed light on these vital processes. Neal, as a result, gave life to a new subfield known as “comparative courts.” Younger scholars in fact often referred to Neal as “the Godfather” of the field. The term was uttered with both respect and affection.

This area of scholarship proved to be his life’s work and it continued to the day he died. Prior to his death, Neal had just received additional funding from the National Science Foundation to study the judicial systems in Latin America. He was working on two books as well. And he had just published an article in one of our leading journals.

Neal’s interest in advancing the quality of people’s lives also led him to study directly the advancement of human rights. As someone who believed that context matters, he hypothesized that domestic disputes in a country would shape the prospects for human rights. His instincts proved sound, showing that repression, for instance, did indeed have serious effects on human rights for people around the globe. The finding itself is not surprising in many ways, but the
fact that Neal was able to estimate its effect is impressive and significant. Neal then started to explore whether international agreements affected human rights. Many thought that such agreements are not worth the paper on which they are written. But Neal thought otherwise. The new evidence he marshaled demonstrated yet again that his judgment was on target.

Neal’s research career is a wonderful testimony to the tireless efforts of a scholar interested in unpacking the workings of fundamental legal processes that touch on the prospects for democratic government. His work will continue to be cited and his data will continue to be analyzed. His scholarly legacy, in short, will endure.

Neal did far more than just secure grants, write articles, and publish books. He took, for example, the task of teaching very seriously, sharing his excitement about research with all his students. He had much success as a teacher. One need only consider his role as a mentor of graduate students as evidence of his dedication to teaching. He worked to make sure his students identified important problems and then developed skills to pursue these questions with the latest social science methodology. As a result, his students went on to great careers. A prime example is Dr. Stacia Haynie of Louisiana State University. Dr. Haynie not only now holds an endowed chair, but is Vice Provost for Academics and Planning at LSU. Just within the last year, two of Neal’s students found tenure track jobs at Wheaton College, Jenna Lukasik, and University of the South, Rae Manacsa. These successes in such a tough job market speak volumes about Neal’s role as a teacher and the value of being a “Tate student.”

Of course, for all of us at Vanderbilt, we also know of Neal as a gifted administrator. He spent most of his professional life on the faculty of the University of North Texas, where he had gained considerable experience both as a department chair and dean of graduate studies. He needed that experience when he arrived in Nashville. The department was in disarray, shriveling from nearly twenty faculty members to fewer than ten and whose graduate program was in real trouble.

Neal was given the support and the resources to rebuild, and he used both with care, shrewdness and Neal’s own special style that is best characterized as understated aggressiveness. Neal faced a serious challenge, having to overcome a bad reputation that confronted the department within the College, the University, and the discipline.
His approach was to rebuild in a systematic way, focusing on a unified vision. In his years at the National Science Foundation, Neal had developed a very keen sense of where political science was headed in theory and in method. He used that knowledge to develop and present to the Department and the administration a plan to regain national visibility as a top department, a position it had long held prior to the difficulties it faced a decade ago. This meant he was going to rebuild by hiring state-of-the art faculty, and to do so by creating the conditions that would both attract and keep them.

And so he did. By the time Neal was so prematurely and tragically taken from us, the Department had growth far larger than it had ever been in its history, with 26 faculty and nearly 40 graduate students. Not only had we grown in size, we had grown in spirit and unity. Neal had the highest professional standards, but was among the least confrontational of people. He had the unique ability to be able to take a stand, push for excellence, but never had to fall back on the strategy of “breaking eggs to make an omelet.” Rather, the “omelet” he made involved no breaking of eggs (or anything else), only building and nurturing, finding a way of persuading others of the correctness and wisdom of his well formulated and professional standards.

Our only regret is that he left us far too soon. Neal had unanimously been reelected by his colleagues to a second term as chair of the Department, but he fell ill while on a well deserved sabbatical researching the judiciary in Latin America. He faced personal adversity in the same way he enjoyed the many successes and accomplishments in his life, quietly, without public displays of emotion. He looked forward to returning to the Department full time, continuing the search for the best and brightest. Alas, that was not to be. But his spirit, generosity, and standards have given rise to a new and powerful set of norms that will govern the life of the Department for years to come.

His loss is a profound one for his beloved wife Carol, daughter, Erin, and son-in-law Scott, his many students, friends and colleagues at Vanderbilt, North Texas, around the world, and in the profession of political science. We are all lessened by his absence, but strengthened immeasurably by his involvement in our lives. Vanderbilt is simply a better place because of his time spent on our campus and in our community. He will be missed.

Submitted by John Geer and Mitch Seligson, 4/20/2010