

## MINUTES OF THE HOLLINS UNIVERSITY FACULTY

April 7, 2009

- I. A regular meeting of the faculty of Hollins University was held on Tuesday, April 7, 2009. Nancy Gray, president, called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m. and presided. She announced that the value of the university's endowment dropped to \$96 million at the end of February, but that pledges for the campaign continue to be made and that the Hollins fund also is doing well. Ms. Gray reported for the admissions office that applications, admissions and deposits all are ahead of last year.
- II. Dan Derringer, chair of the faculty, invited faculty to brown bag lunches with Jeanine Stewart, vice president for academic affairs, to discuss issues of academic excellence and available resources. The Blackboard site for faculty discussion of these issues is now open.
- III. A motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes was approved.
- IV. Academic Policy Committee. Thorpe Moeckel, committee chair, presented the following for faculty approval:
  - Proposal for changes to the chemistry major with a business concentration (see agenda) ; approved
  - 14 new course proposals (see AcPol minutes for April 2); approved
  - 10 proposals to count new and existing courses for general education perspectives (see AcPol minutes for April 2); approved
- V. Faculty executive committee. Mr. Derringer presented two proposals:
  - A proposal to amend faculty handbook language regarding sabbatical leave (page I-47) to: "The university may grant a sabbatical leave to a tenured member of the teaching faculty for each six years of full-time service with the university." Approved with one abstention.
  - Approval to hold electronic elections this year for the diversity initiative advisory board and the human relations committee. Approved
- VI. Richard Alvarez, vice president for finance and administration gave a presentation on budget equilibrium, a summary of a report to the board of trustees on April 27, 2009. He presented slides on the approved budget for fiscal year 2008-09 and non-discretionary expenses and demonstrated a budget model, using revenues, expenses and assumptions. He concluded with a slide showing changes in the budget over a ten-year period. Discussion followed, including issues of recruiting, demographic changes in high school populations, interest rates and debt obligation, and faculty and staff salaries.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.