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SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY FACULTY ASSEMBLY

Minutes of the Meeting of February 2, 2007 O'Hare 260

Carol Gibbons, Speaker of the Executive Assembly, presided.

- 1. **Call to Order and Minutes.** The meeting was called to order at 1.15 p.m. The revised minutes of the November and December meetings were approved by Unanimous Consent.
- 2. **Treasurer's Report.** Sr. Lisa Zuccarelli as Treasurer reported that 57 faculty have paid their dues. The balance in the Assembly's account is \$2,891.19, although \$1,043 is about to be paid out, leaving a balance of \$1,848.10.
- 3. **Committee Report: FACSB.** Lois Eveleth was unable to present the recommendations of the FACSB due to illness. She did, however, submit a report to the Speaker outlining FACSB's recommendations to the President.

The recommendations the **FACSB** will present to the President address six points. First, faculty salaries should not fall below the median of the schools used as a comparison and should gradually rise above the median. Second, the number of sabbaticals available in any given year should be doubled. Third, the contract year should be reduced from 10 months to 9 months. Fourth, the ongoing effort at workload reduction should continue, as the opinion of the FACSB is that workload at Salve Regina is on the more demanding end of the continuum of the comparative schools. Fifth, FACSB will recommend that faculty workload language consider 'contact hours' as a more honest description of workload than 'credit hours'. The sixth recommendation is for an increase in Professional Development funds.

Discussion ensued concerning the way the list of comparative institutions is constituted. The Assembly will request a written summary of the criteria for inclusion and exclusion of schools from the group.

Dean de la Motte indicated that the Faculty Responsibilities Committee has acquired data regarding numbers of sabbaticals at other institutions, and offered his assistance in sharing those data with the FACSB.

- 4. **Committee Report: Valedictorian Preparation.** The Speaker reported that an *ad hoc* Valedictorian Preparation Committee had met with the VPAA concerning this issue, which the Assembly has considered at length this year. The VPAA will meet with the Valedictorian to help him or her prepare the speech. Revised wording concerning the selection of the Valedictorian is in preparation for inclusion in the new catalogue.
- 5. **Announcement: Letter from Stephen Myslinski.** The Speaker read excerpts from a letter sent by Stephen Myslinski, who retired last summer. Stephen thanked the Assembly for its gift of a Barnes and Noble gift card, and reported that he and Ursula are settled comfortably in North Carolina.
- 6. **Announcement: Winter Social.** The Speaker thanked Khalil Habib and Tim Neary for organizing a very well-received Mid-Year Winter Social.

- 7. **Announcement: VPAA Survey.** The Speaker offered the Vice President for Academic Affairs the opportunity to urge members of the Assembly to complete the surveys distributed at the meeting of 25 January. The VPAA's office will be sending a reminder soon.
- 8. Announcement: Minutes of the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils. The Speaker reported that following a request from the Assembly, minutes of the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils will soon be posted on the website.
- 9. **Announcement: Faculty Responsibilities Committee.** The Speaker announced that the Faculty Responsibilities Committee is nearing completion of its report and recommendations to the President. As the report contains extensive data, an Executive Summary will be distributed to the Assembly soon.
- 10. **Announcement: The Assembly and curriculum changes.** The Speaker reported that Thomas Day, John Greeley, and other members of the Assembly are working on procedures that would clarify the way the Assembly considers changes to the Core Curriculum. This would involve amending the *Protocol for Requesting the Faculty Assembly's Involvement in Changes Concerning Curriculum and Educational Policy* (approved in 2000). Those interested in assisting in this effort should conduct Tom or John.
- 11. **Announcement: Antone Award.** Dean de la Motte, on behalf of Peter Liotta, announced that the deadline for the Antone Award is March 1, 2007. Members of the Assembly may propose projects or nominate others for the award. A brochure was distributed describing the nomination and application processes.
- 12. **Announcement:** *Matters of the Heart.* Myra Edelstein announced that as part of the American Heart Association's efforts to raise awareness concerning women and heart disease, she and Pat Hawkridge are producing a dramatic reading titled "Matters of the Heart" on Tuesday, February 13th at 8.00 p.m. in the Bazarsky Lecture Hall.
- 13. Motion: Change to the "Options for Core Complement" (Visual and Performing Arts). Paula Martasian presented this motion, which removes the restriction that students in the Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) must fulfill the VPA Core Requirement by completing a course outside their chosen major. The motion was made and seconded. By paper ballot the motion succeeded, 48 votes to APPROVE, 3 votes to REJECT, no votes to ABSTAIN.
- 14. **Presentation: Proposed Minor in Neuroscience.** Sr. Lisa Zuccarelli, as Chair of the Department of Biology and Biomedical Sciences, presented a proposal for a new minor in Neuroscience. Proposals for three new courses were also made at this time. The matter will be put forward for the Assembly's recommendation at the March meeting.

There was no new business from the floor.

On a motion made and duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 1.50 p.m.