

Academic Board Minutes of 21 February 2006

BG Donald Steven	COL Spike Metts
COL Dennis Fallon	COL Al Finch
COL Tony Johnson	COL Mark Bebensee
COL Bo Moore, Jr.	COL John Carter
COL Jim Leonard	COL Randy Blanton
COL Al Gurganus	COL Peter Rembiesa
LTC Paul Rosenblum	LTC Steve Nida
LTC Ken Brannan	LTC John Moore
Dr. Ray Jones	COL Angie LeClercq
COL Alan Ekrem	COL Kevin Frederick
MAJ Harry Davakos	MAJ Anne Beddingfield
MAJ Sylvia Nesmith	MAJ Virginia DeRoma, Guest
CPT DuBose Kapeluck, Guest	

BG Steven called the meeting to order at 3:18.

Item 1. Approval of Minutes of 17 January 2006 Meeting

It was moved LTC Nida and seconded by COL Finch that the minutes of the 17 January 2006 meeting be accepted as presented. There was no opposition.

BG Steven reported that he had discovered an error in the mission statement of the College that was being displayed across the campus. The mission statement being displayed is “To prepare Citadel graduates to become principled leaders in all walks of life by instilling core values in a disciplined academic environment.” The final mission statement approved by the BOV is “To educate and prepare graduates to become principled leaders in all walks of life by instilling the core values of The Citadel in a challenging intellectual environment.” BG Steven explained that he could see how, without “educate” and “in a challenging intellectual environment,” the mission of The Citadel could be interpreted as being quite narrow. BG Steven has pointed out these discrepancies to the President, and Lt Gen Rosa has agreed that the documents around campus must be replaced with corrected mission statements.

Item 2. Report of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee

CPT DuBose Kapeluck reported the support of the Committee for the following proposal from the School of Education:

All cadet teacher candidates formally admitted to teacher education after September 1, 2006 must take the relevant PRAXIS II specialty area exam, preferably by the end of their junior year but no later than the semester before their scheduled internship. A passing score—as determined by the South Carolina Department of Education—must be achieved prior to the internship. Cadets failing to achieve a passing score on the relevant PRAXIS II exam will not receive an internship placement, but may complete their degree by substituting two upper division courses (six credits) in their academic content area and as many other upper division courses as are needed to qualify for the baccalaureate degree. Cadet teacher candidates may complete their internship in subsequent semesters after achieving a passing score on the PRAXIS II specialty area exam.

It was moved by COL Bebensee and seconded by COL Gurganus that the proposal be accepted. In the discussions that followed, a number of issues and concerns surfaced. Since the internship in teaching is a part of every Education degree approved by the CHE, could we really award a BS in Education without the internship in teaching? What are other institutions doing? Since this is an accreditation issue, why not just make passing the PRAXIS II a prerequisite for the internship in teaching, and those few students who do not pass will simply have to

delay their graduation? COL John Carter raised concerns that the Department of HESS would have to develop additional professional education courses for these few students and that he was not sure how or when these students might “complete their internship in subsequent semesters after achieving a passing score on the PRAXIS II specialty area exam.” Consideration was given to tabling the motion until these issues could be addressed. BG Steven suggested that rather than tabling, the motion and the proposal be withdrawn until these issues could be settled. The motion and proposal were withdrawn.

Item 3. Faculty Council Motions on Evaluation of Instruction

MAJ DeRoma, Chair of the Committee on Evaluation of Instruction, and MAJ Davakos, Chair of Faculty Council, presented the following motions from the Committee on Instruction and approved by the Faculty Council.

1. Faculty should be consulted and participate actively, through appropriate committee(s), in any future process of establishing or editing procedures and guidelines related to Evaluation of Instruction.
2. Immediate suspension of campus-wide online evaluations, until procedures, set forth in the Faculty Manual, have been implemented.
3. Data from online administration of the evaluations for Summer Sessions I & II, and Fall Semester 2005 should not be included in faculty performance evaluations due to low response rate.

Acceptance of motion 1 was moved by MAJ Davakos and seconded by COL Leonard. There was no opposition.

Acceptance of motion 2 was moved by MAJ Davakos and seconded by COL Leonard. COL Metts reported that at present there was no way to revert back to the former paper process. The scanner on which the Cafeteria Software had run was no longer operating. Institutional Research has purchased a new scanner, but it is unlikely that the Cafeteria Software, that is well over 20 years old, can be loaded onto the new server. MAJ DeRoma reported that a survey of the faculty in November indicated that more than 50% opposed the use of on-line evaluation. Concerns expressed included low response rate, polarized responses, and inability to control the environment in which the evaluations are done. In the discussions that followed, a number of proposals for alternative processes for evaluating instruction were presented. MAJ DeRoma expressed concern that the Academic Board was discussing issues that are the responsibility of the Committee on Evaluation of Instruction. COL Gurganus called for the question. The motion passed by a vote of 13 yes and 2 no.

Acceptance of motion 3 was moved by MAJ Davakos and seconded by LTC Moore. The motion was unopposed.

Item 4. Inauguration Update

BG Steven reported that the inauguration of Lt Gen Rosa would take place on 20 and 21 April, 2006. The impact on classes on Thursday, 20 April, will be minimal, but classes on Friday, 21 April, will have to be cancelled to accommodate the events of that day. The faculty will be notified of the cancellation and will receive a formal invitation to the inauguration.

Item 4. Other Matters

COL Bebensee expressed concern with the current format for meeting prospective cadets on over-night visits. Meeting in Buyer Auditorium for 30 minutes and then heading back to the department/school area is not working. It was pointed out that the time for these department meetings had been changed from 4:00 to 5:30 to 4:00 to 5:00. COL Metts will look into why the time was shortened and see if the longer time can be reinstated and if the auditorium could be equipped with a wireless network to enable computer demonstrations without taking the students back to department/school areas.

Dr. Ray Jones presented a proposal that CGPS Commencement be held on Sunday immediately following Cadet Commencement. He indicated that this would allow graduate classes to begin at the same time undergraduate CGPS classes begin. Dr. Jones had received a number of complaints from both students and faculty about beginning graduate classes on the Wednesday after New Years. After some discussion, BG Steven indicated that he would discuss the matter with the President.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:53.

Respectfully submitted,
Isaac S. Metts, Jr.
Associate Provost