

Dedman College Faculty Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2012

Dean Tsutsui called the meeting to order.

Presentation of Staff Service Award: Randy Phillips, Associate Dean for Administration in Dedman College was presented with his 40-year service award.

Approval of Agenda: Motion was made to approve the meeting agenda, seconded and passed unanimously.

Approval of December 6, 2011 Minutes: Motion was made to approve the minutes as written, seconded and passed unanimously.

Gambrell Motion: Motion was made to approve, seconded and passed unanimously.

Announcement of Devlin Prize Nina Schwartz read the following: The Laura Kesselman Devlin Instructorship is awarded for continuing excellence in the teaching of Written English as a course involving 1) the enhancement of students' skill in writing and thinking, and 2) the first-year student's introduction to the values of liberal education. Consideration is given to classroom accomplishment, as measured by appropriateness of goals and efforts toward their fulfillment; accessibility to students in conference and otherwise; collegiality and contributions to the quality of teaching in the Written English Program as a whole. The Instructorship recognizes the qualities of academic rigor, intellectual adventure, and human concern so fully embodied in Laura Devlin's engagement with her students. Eligible faculty are those whose major teaching responsibility is in Written English. This year's winner embodies these characteristics to a T: because time is limited, I cannot review the many encomia provided by her students in their letters of nomination. But here are just a few: "[this instructor] not only challenged my thoughts and writing, but remains my favorite professor at SMU, even as I approach graduation"; "She held each student accountable. We knew that this wasn't a class we could slack off in. Because everyone was reading, we were all able to participate in and create meaningful class discussions. . . . She set very high expectations for our writing[and] made me push myself as a writer"; and, "Even three years later, [she] checks up on me consistently, and her genuine interest in what I have to say shines through even just in her emails." Please join me in congratulating the 2012-13 Devlin Instructor, Vanessa Hopper.

Announcement of Perrine Prize In 1949, Perrine helped found SMU's Phi Beta Kappa chapter. In honor of Lawrence Perrine's retirement in 1981, the chapter founded the Lawrence Perrine Prize for Phi Beta Kappa which is given annual to a faculty member in the liberal arts who seems to the committee to best represent the "life of the mind." It is not a grant made on the basis of the person's research, publication or teaching record, but rather is awarded to someone who represents the highest quality of the life of the mind.

Dr. Caroline Brettell read the following for this year's recipient: "How many of our faculty colleagues are willing to admit that it was their mother who was instrumental in steering them toward their scholarly pursuits? I would venture to say not that many. But our Perrine Prize winner has often told this story-- that it was his mother, in order to get him out of the house one summer when he was 15, who convinced the project director of the Thunderbird Paleoindian site in the Shenandoah Valley to take on her son as part of his archaeological team. From this beginning emerged a passion for understanding the prehistory of North America that has led all the way to membership in the prestigious National Academy of Sciences. Our Perrine Prize winner received his Bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland in 1977 and his Ph.D. in 1984 from the University of Washington. Having tried both the snow of the east coast and the rain and gray skies of Seattle, he then moved south to the heat of Texas and to SMU where he has remained for his entire academic career. In graduate school he focused his interests in Quaternary sciences and the peopling of the New World. His work in this area has resulted in over 140 publications including a book *Search for the First Americans* (1993) and another, *Folsom* (2006). The Folsom book,

dealing with one of the most famous archaeological sites in north America, is a masterful work of interdisciplinary scholarship that brings together data from archaeology, geology and paleoecology to advance our understanding of late Ice Age paleoindian bison hunters and to address the controversy over whether the first Americans arrived in the new world in Ice Age times. His most recent book, *First Peoples in a New World: Colonizing Ice Age Americans* (2009), uses the same interdisciplinary approach, drawing additionally on data from linguistics, genetics, and skeletal biology to pursue such questions as how the first American coped with changing global climates as well as whether a crashing comet obliterated the Pleistocene megafauna—as some have proposed. Thus, the big questions that he poses of the archaeological record center on the origins, antiquity and adaptations of paleoindians who colonized North America during the Ice Age, the impact of Clovis groups during the Pleistocene in faunal extinctions, broader issues of evolutionary ecology, and the history of climate change. He has a profound concern about the latter issue—clearly a topic of broader debate and one that many people stubbornly refuse to acknowledge. He draws on archaeological evidence to suggest that present day climate changes are putting the human species into uncharted territory, with fewer adaptive options than we enjoyed, as a species, in the past. Our Perrine Prize winner was one of 255 members of the National Academy who signed a letter to *Science* regarding “Climate Change and the Integrity of Science.” Thus he is not just interested in communicating with his colleagues in archaeology but also with the general public and has done so often through the pages of numerous popular science journals. He is also frequently called upon by the media to put new discoveries into perspective and help broader audiences to evaluate scientific evidence about the human past and to appreciate how a scientific understanding of the past can inform the present. As an individual engaged with the life of the mind, this year’s Perrine Prize winner is not afraid to take on scientific controversies. In the course he regularly teaches on the history of anthropology he discusses many of these controversies including those regarding race that put Franz Boas, the founder of the Department of Anthropology at Columbia University, at the very center of the eugenics issue in the 1920s. But he also focuses on those that occur in live time—something which leads me to the expedition to Chile that he instigated—with the help of someone in the Dallas area who donated his personal airplane to the cause. A group of archaeologists flew down to visit an important archaeological site at Monte Verde, which had a very early date of settlement in the new world. Were these dates accurate—because if they were it would mean some major reconsideration of the timeframe for the peopling of the New World. The Perrine Prize is awarded to an individual who contributes in broader ways to the “life of the mind” on campus and off. Our awardee this year has done this through his work on the Athletic Council—assuring academic standards—; his role in choosing the individuals who have received honorary degrees; and his role as a mentor. One of his most promising students noted: “When it comes to mentoring, he teaches us to be independent in all aspects of research so that our minds aren’t on the “life-support” of the graduate advisor. Another student, noting the many summers spent in the field with him, recalled discussions that switched easily from Altithermal droughts of millennia ago to random Civil War generals of this battle or that. He described his mentor as an “holistic academic, acknowledging and acquiring information from a variety of disciplines, answering questions from diverse perspectives and never being satisfied until he had addressed a problem from all angles.” A third student, remembering going in to talk to his mentor about his frustrations with what he thought was an impoverished data set about which he could not say anything interesting, stored the advice he got—that he needed to be more creative in his solutions to archaeological problems and that it is this creativity that gives scholarship its vibrancy and makes it worth doing and worth reading. One of his close friends with whom he has travelled and with whom he often spends his Saturday morning hiking and biking observed that “his humor spills out all the time, only exceeded by his curiosity. A humanities colleague reinforced this idea of intellectual curiosity. This colleague, who was himself thinking of buying a Kindle, once noticed that our awardee already had one in hand and proceeded to ask him about it. But what he was most struck, if not humbled, by was the discovery that stored on our Perrine Prize winner’s kindle were volumes of history and biography. This individual, he concluded, inhabits multiple cultures.

It is my distinct honor to present the 2012 Lawrence Perrine Prize to Professor David Meltzer, the Henderson-Morrison Chair of Prehistory in the Department of Anthropology at SMU.

Recognition of Retiring Faculty.

Dr. Nina Schwartz read the following in honor of C.W. Smith:

Charlie Smith
LAST CLASS OF MY LIFE
May 2, 2011

Later today I'll step into a classroom and hold the last class of my decades-long teaching career in universities. I want to thank all my students for being there over the years. People keep asking me how I feel about retiring from teaching, and I keep sorting through my inward responses to the question. What stands out, at last, is this: that nobody ever had a better job. When you teach in a university setting, you're your own boss; when you're fortunate as I have been to teach only what students want to learn (an elective, in other words), you get to presume that the chairs are filled by people who are present voluntarily; when you teach reading and writing, you get to discuss important things with smart young people, regularly, day in day out, week in week out; you feel respected and appreciated; you have the parental pleasure of sending "children" out in the world to make their lives, and often they keep in contact so that you're left with a sense of great continuity as they grow and change. But the most important thing I feel is that when my students are in my class they're on their best behavior and they are as smart as they can be, and when I'm there I'm on my best behavior, too, and I'm never smarter than when we're all together talking about something that matters. So for decades, I've had the pleasure of regularly immersing myself in situations a half dozen times a week where I and the people I'm with are at our very best. The result is that I feel that I've spent my life doing something honorable, something that has elevated me and those with me, something that has enriched us both. What better way could you spend your adulthood?

The following citations were read into the record:

JOHN A. MAGUIRE

John A. Maguire, Professor of Chemistry in Dedman College, earned his B. S. in Chemistry at Birmingham Southern College, Birmingham, Alabama in 1958 and his Ph.D. in Physical-Inorganic Chemistry at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois in 1963. He joined the faculty of SMU in 1963 as Assistant Professor. In 1967 he was promoted to Associate Professor, in 1973 to Full Professor. He served as Associate Dean, University College from 1976-1979 and as Dean from 1979-1980. From 1980-1981 he served as Dean for General Education, Dedman College and in fall 1984 as Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. He served as Acting Department Chair from 2000 - 2001 and as Department Chair in 2008. As a dedicated teacher and student mentor he taught more than 14 different Chemistry classes including General Physical and Advanced Inorganic Chemistry. He consistently received outstanding student evaluations and was loved by his students. He received the University Distinguished Teaching Professor Award and Perrine Prize. John's major research focus is on structural and bonding studies of metallacarboranes and their application to nanomaterials, which was recently summarized in a book. He published 180 peer-reviewed articles and presented 40 papers at international conferences. He retires as Professor *Emeritus* of Chemistry.

MOGENS MELANDER

Mogens Melander, Associate Professor of Mathematics in Dedman College, earned his Master's Degree in Engineering and Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics at Technical University of Denmark. After spending five years at the University of Pittsburg as a post-doctoral associate, research assistant professor, and visiting assistant professor, he joined the SMU faculty in 1988. His research focuses on theoretical fluid mechanics, specifically vortex dynamics and isotropic turbulence. Topics include vortex interactions and identification of the underlying mechanisms, topological description of three dimensional viscous flows in terms of global bifurcation analysis of the vorticity field, and construction and analysis of shell models for turbulence. Professor Melander has published more than 40 peer reviewed research journal papers. He has served on many M.S. and Ph.D. committees and the Dedman College Graduate Council. He was awarded the Betty McKnight Spears Endowed Teaching Excellence Award in Mathematics. He retires as Professor *Emeritus* of Mathematics.

Office of Research and Graduate Studies: Alicia Brossette, Assistant Vice President for Research Administration and Technology Management spoke about some recent changes in federal regulation as regards financial conflict of interest for grants filed with the NIH. A handout with general questions and answers were distributed and are attached as Attachment A. The Office of Grant Accounting and Research Administration will be conducting training sessions on August 8, October 10 and February 6. Faculty members were encouraged to contact their office with any questions. As of this date Dedman College has received 68 awards totaling 9.5 million.

University Curriculum Update Dean Tsutsui thanked the faculty as well as Dr. Cordell and Dr. Hill on their continued work on the creation and implementation of the University Curriculum. Dr. Hill thanked all of the faculty again who have worked on submitting proposals, revising proposals, etc. The Council on General Education spent the fall working on the Foundations, primarily on quantitative reasoning, personal responsibility and wellness courses, discourse and discernment as well as policy issues. In the spring, the Council approved courses and followed the undergraduate trajectory for Fall 2012 first year students, as well as focusing on pillars, primarily level one pillars. The Council has also started reviewing Ways of Knowing Courses and letters to faculty who submitted those course proposals should be going out next week. Dedman College remains the centerpiece of general education at SMU and will remain that way. For Fall 2012, Dedman College will be offering at least ninety-three different courses that satisfy University Curriculum Pillars courses. Of these ninety-three courses, seven are “double counting”. It is possible that that number will double by the end of the semester. For information on course proposal submissions, the university curriculum website will provide that information.

Approval of Dedman College Slates. Motions to approve the Slates for Advisory Committee for Promotion to Full Professor, Faculty Council, Undergraduate Council and Graduate Council were seconded and passed unanimously.

Graduate and Undergraduate Council Reports. Associate Dean Peter Moore thanked the undergraduate and graduate council members for their work this past year. With respect to the graduate council a new M.S. program was instituted in Statistics, as a stand alone program, and a revised M.A. program in History. The undergraduate council approved a new Law and Legal Reasoning minor which will be offered jointly with the communications department in Meadows, approved a new course called Consolidated Math which covers what Calculus I and Calculus II do in one year, an individualized studies major was approved in Women’s Studies, and the council did quite a bit of work in approving some new courses in linguistics for the Spanish major.

Final Exams/Posting and Grading. Because diplomas are handed out to seniors at May Commencement, it is most important to make sure grades for seniors are posted timely.

State of the College (Bill Tsutsui). The Dean thanked the faculty and staff for all their hard work this spring. There have been many grants, fellowships, books, articles and prestigious recognitions for faculty this year. The college had an excellent year in faculty hiring this year – it hired a number of senior faculty from such prestigious institutions such as UT, A&M, Washington State and Ohio State. Dedman College students continue to be amazing garnering national fellowships and admissions to top flight graduate schools.

The Dedman Recruiters are in the process of recruiting an outstanding entering class for Fall 2012 as well as 14 new Dedman College Scholars whose statistics include 7 male, 7 female, 8 from Texas, 6 from out of state, average SAT score of 1443, which is 20 points over what the entering class was last year, average high school GPA of 3.88, with intended majors including 3 in Biological Sciences, 2 in English with Creative Writing, 2 in English, 2 in International Studies, 1 in World Languages, 1 in History, 1 in Chemistry, 1 in Psychology and 1 in Physics.

Additionally, the College has been given over \$500,000 for classroom renovations to take place over the next three years, primarily in Dallas Hall and Hyer Hall. Carpeting will be replaced in some of the Fondren

Science Lecture Halls. Umphrey Lee 241 should be renovated this summer and those faculty who office in the basement of McFarlin Auditorium will be moved to better offices.

Dean Tsutsui also thanked Courtney Corwin and Sharon Gambulos for all of their efforts in Dedman College development in maintaining contact with Dedman College donors and building the case for Dedman College over many years. The College has received major gifts for Embrey Human Rights Program in the amount of \$1 million split between Lauren Embrey and an anonymous donor to establish an endowment for the Center; the Clements Center received \$500,000 also from an anonymous donor to establish a senior fellowship; a number of smaller gifts are intended to restart the Richard B. Johnson Center in Economics to be used for conferences, public programming, seminars, etc.; and to fund an important new initiative for the Tower Center, the Tower Center Scholars headed by Jeanne Phillips, a program that hopes to raise \$10 million over the next few years. Dean Tsutsui also announced that Stephen and Kathryn Arata have endowed the Jeremy duQuesnay Adams Centennial Professorship in Western European Medieval History for a total of \$1.25 million. Dedman College will be making a presentation to the Board of Trustees at its meeting on Thursday about the Interdisciplinary Institute as well as a proposed Center for High Performance Computing. There will be a significant announcement regarding the Interdisciplinary Center later this week and there will be programming in the fall. Dean Tsutsui introduced Jennifer Dickerson, the new Director of Marketing. Jennifer comes to us from Nokia and has extensive experience in branding.

Dean Tsutsui gave an update on the branding study that was worked on with the Richards Group last year. After many meetings with various constituencies, the tagline for Dedman College evolved into "Minds Moving the World." The College is now working on establishing its visual identity by using people and not buildings. Various presentation boards were shown to the faculty present at this meeting which used faculty and students to promote Dedman College's research and community service. A final board was presented to the faculty explaining the use of marketing tools such as an iPhone App, T-shirts, etc. The Dean asked Jennifer to talk about the rollout. The first rollout will take place in the Fall and be directed at prospective students and their families, undecided students on campus, and our alumni and donor base. Signage will appear in each of the Dedman College buildings, and a new website will be launched, possibly along with print, radio and web advertising.

Dean Tsutsui indicated that budgets may continue to get tighter as public pressure builds to keep down tuition increases.

Question was posed regarding the reappointment of the Provost. Dean Tsutsui announced that the provost has been reappointed for another five years. Question was posed as to whether or not Dedman College will have a presence in the new sophomore dorms. Peter Moore indicated that they are looking for 12 faculty members to live in the dorms next year to work out some of the glitches. However, there are classrooms in almost all of the dorms, so it possible that Dedman College classes could be taught there. Question was posed as to how departments can gain website assistance. It is anticipated that there will be website assistance once a new website is launched.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.