Col. Bebensee called the meeting to order at 3:17 p.m. in Bond Hall 295 on Tuesday, 20 October 2009

ITEM 1: Approval of Minutes of 15 September

Col. Knapp pointed out that in Item 5, line 14, the minutes should say “...such as 25 to 32” rather than 28; the minutes were approved with that correction.

ITEM 2: Revised Promotion and Tenure Policy for the Department of English

Col. Allen explained the development of the English Department’s latest Promotion and Tenure policy had involved both tenured and untenured faculty. A question was raised about how to count work done by a candidate prior to first hire, such as articles published in graduate school. The consensus of the group was that it’s a holistic view of a person’s work that department/school and college-wide committees consider, but in the unlikely event that new hires were totally inactive in the area of scholarship during their first five years, they would be unlikely to receive the support of their department/school for tenure and/or promotion. Col. Rosenblum moved, and Col. Blanton seconded, that we approve the English’s Department’s Promotion and Tenure Policy, and the motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 3: Revised Promotion and Tenure Policy for the Department of Psychology

Col. Politano explained that the Psychology Department’s policy was actually in pretty good shape before this revision, but that the primary object of the changes being made now was to better align the Department’s policy with General Order No. 4. Col. Nida moved and Col. Rosenblum seconded, that we approve the Psychology Department’s Promotion and Tenure Policy, and the motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 4: Proposals from the Graduate Council

A. Proposal for a New Course: PSYC 570. Col. Nida explained that this course was primarily developed for non-Psychology Master’s students. After a short discussion, the new course was unanimously approved.

B. Proposal to Change Three EDUC Course Titles

The School of Education proposed the following three course title modifications:

EDUC 634: Practicum in Student Affairs and College Counseling;
EDUC 655: Internship I in Student Affairs and College Counseling;
EDUC 656: Internship II in Student Affairs and College Counseling
These changes were motivated by licensing and accreditation concerns, and all three were unanimously approved.

Item 4: (Continued)

C. Proposal to Accelerate Extant Master of Arts in Teaching Biology (9-12) and in Mathematics (9-12) to Address the Critical Need for Qualified Science and Mathematics Teachers in South Carolina.

Dean Johnson explained that, because of critical needs in these areas, there needs to be a way for “career changers” to become certified teachers more quickly. After a short discussion, the Board unanimously approved the proposed program changes.

Item 5: Length of Time for completing “Incomplete” Grades

The Board discussed the fact that some confusion did exist because our day undergraduate program gives students only 4 weeks into the Fall or Spring semester to make up work in a course for which they have received a grade of “Incomplete,” while CGC rules allow students to have until the end of the next Fall or Spring semester. After discussing pros and cons of extending the time we allow day undergraduates to have, the Board agreed that special cases could continue to be handled on a case-by-case basis by the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, so no change in policy was recommended.

Item 6: Cadets Missing Class for Guard Duty

Col. Bebensee pointed out that current White Book regulations specify that a cadet will not miss a previously announced Test or Quiz because of Guard Duty, but that students might have to miss a regular class from time to time because of Guard responsibilities. Col. Blanton said he thought that the rule also stated that students could not miss their one-time-a-week laboratory classes because of Guard Duty. He subsequently researched that point and provided the following quotation from the online White Book: “Assigned tests and laboratories are mandatory and take precedence over all other duties or activities.”

Item 7: Authorized Activities during Evening Study Period

Col. Bebensee reported that the Commandant’s Office and the Provost’s Office are working together to try to minimize the number of activities that compete for cadets’ time during Evening Study Period. Departments and Schools were encouraged to plan group activities for cadets so that they can end no later than 7:50 p.m. unless there are unique circumstances that might merit an exception to this approach.
Item 8: Uniform issues for off-campus activities

The School of Education initiated a discussion about off-campus activities for cadets for which the appropriate uniform for authorized junior and senior cadets might be the Blazer uniform rather than a military seasonal leave uniform. For example, in cases where cadets are working in secondary school classrooms in a role closely aligned with the role of a faculty member at that school, the Education faculty feels strongly that the Blazer sends a more appropriate message to students about the professional role of the cadet in that setting than a military uniform would. The rationale is that the Blazer uniform gives cadets a physical appearance which is similar to the appearance of professional faculty and staff at the school, whereas the military leave uniform announces to the younger students that cadets are students, too, rather than an extension of the professional faculty. The School of Business Administration pointed out that they have encountered similar situations with cadets working in Internships; for example, cadets working at an Internship in a stock brokerage firm are more appropriately dressed in a coat and tie to interact with the firm’s clients than they would be in a military uniform because that uniform accentuates the fact that they are students. The Commandant’s Office has recently been disapproving Special Orders requests which specify the Blazer Uniform, offering the rationale that our students should always be proud to “advertise” that they are from The Citadel. Since our new Commandant, Col. Mercado, will be visiting an Academic Board meeting in the near future, a decision was made to discuss this matter with him and to present our point of view to him at that time.

Item 9: Faculty Advisors for Veteran Students in January

Because we are opening our daytime undergraduate programs in January to Veterans whose military service meets our definition of a “Veteran,” departments and schools were asked to identify at least one faculty member to serve as the “chief advisor” for this particular group of students. Our expectation is that some of these students may have transfer credit from other institutions, special needs of various kinds, and other issues we don’t ordinarily see among most of our cadet advisees. For that reason, it seems desirable to make certain that our more experienced and capable faculty advisors are working with our new Veteran students as they begin to enter our daytime program.

Item 10: Faculty Practices concerning Saluting

An interesting discussion was held concerning the contrast between normal saluting practices for officers at military installations compared to historical practices of Citadel faculty who hold rank in the South Carolina Militia. One important difference pointed out was that there is no real “rank structure” among faculty at any college or university; for example, Associate Professors do not supervise Assistant Professors; instead, each group considers the other as colleagues. The historical practice at The Citadel is that when faculty are outside on our campus, they return salutes from any of our students; but they do not initiate salutes to other faculty members or to active duty or TAC officers, even if those other adults are of higher military rank than the faculty member. The one exception to this policy has
historically been that faculty members often do choose to salute the President when they encounter him outside on the campus.

Item 11: Parents’ Weekend Schedule

Col. Bebensee reminded the Board about the major events of the upcoming Homecoming Weekend, particularly the Academic Open Houses on Friday afternoon.

Item 12: There being no other matters to bring before the group, there was a motion to adjourn the meeting; motion was approved and seconded.

Respectfully Presented,

Mark A. Bebensee, Ph.D.
Associate Provost for Academic Affairs