President Greene welcomed the “small but mighty crowd”.

I. Report of the Secretary
Faculty Secretary announced that the minutes for the December meeting were available online. Hearing no objections or corrections, they were accepted.

II. Reports from College Officers
A. Pres. Greene
Pres. Greene announced the names of newly tenured faculty and thanked the hard work of the Committee on Promotion and Tenure. Newly tenured faculty include:
- Dean Albritton in Spanish
- David Angelini in Biology
- Travis Reynolds in Environmental Studies
Pres. Greene concluded his brief comments on their respective scholarship by saying that “our college, our students, and their fields will benefit greatly by their work”. Congratulations were offered with enthusiastic applause.

B. Admissions Update
Matt Proto
- Outlined that he and his staff had visited more than 40 states and 40 countries. We are on the path of bringing exciting risk-takers, highly prepared students in ever larger numbers. We are approaching the ideal more closely every year.
- This year we have received 12,300 applications, up from 11,190 last year. (most of our peers received 6000 to 7000 applications).
- 31% of the applications received were from students of color.
- He noted that faculty routinely report that the most important thing is to bring the most talented students campus. We’re clearly on a path to accomplish that. He thanked everyone for their support.

C. Provost Margaret McFadden
Provost McFadden offered her congratulations to our new colleagues, followed by more applause. She made three brief announcements:
- She announced that they were keeping the Faculty-in-Residence application process open a bit longer.
- Faculty elections will use new software, but will be generally conducted the same way.
- Search for the new Director of Libraries is underway, very pleased with the pool of candidates.

III. New Business – none

IV. Committee Reports
Faculty Course Evaluation Committee - Bill Sullivan
Sullivan conveyed that the committee met four times during the fall semester. He reported that the (old and nearly obsolete) software we currently use for administering the evaluations needs to be replaced with something more modern. The change will be to a new platform, but will not involve any change in the questions included in the evaluation form. The new platform will of course be flexible and would
allow us to change our questions, if we decided in the future that we wished to do so. Have a more up
to date software package for implementing our course evaluations will have several advantages.

- Evaluations can be integrated into Moodle
- the Provost’s office will be able to handle everything, freeing up ITS resources
- The forms will be compatible with student use of mobile devices
- We can keep our myColby portal
- There are several tools that can help increase student participation
- One Con: we would have to learn a new software system

We looked at five vendors; choosing EvaluationKit - very user-friendly. The committee and ITS plan to
to make this change for the fall of 2018.

- Eight years of data will be migrated over.
- When implemented, there will be no substantive change in the evaluation form.

Questions:

**Jeffrey Katz (CHEM)** - when we changed the system last time, students wrote far less narrative.
Have you discussed this potential downside?
**Sullivan** – we’ve discussed it, but are not terrifically concerned. One of the reasons that we want to
change the questions is that we are universally unimpressed with the narrative.

**Adrian Blevins (ENGLISH)** - do they have tools to help with narrative?
**Sullivan** - they can help us with the response rate but not the narrative.

**Charlie Conover (PHYSICS)** - does it have to go through Moodle - who will manage the Moodle pages?
**Sullivan** - no you don’t need to use Moodle and you won’t have to set it up. On average, 50% of our
courses use Moodle. Nothing will change with the myColby access.

**Greg Drozd (CHEM)** – does EvaluationKit do anything with the data?
**Sullivan** - no, we still own the data, not EvaluationKit. If we terminate the contract, they’ll delete our
data.

**Carol Hurney (Learning Center)** – tell students how important the narrative is, rather than just the
numerical data. It will encourage them to write more.

**Erin Sheets (PHYCH)** - Qualtrix offers a nudge, asking respondents if they’d like to add narrative when
the box is left empty.
**Sullivan** - that’s an interesting idea.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Dan Cohen**: Final touches are being made on Faculty Noontime Talks. There are still a couple of
vacancies in the spring. Please let me know if you’re interested in filling 1 of the 2 open slots.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bevin Engman

Faculty Secretary