CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, AND REMARKS
President John Brazil called the meeting to order and offered some brief remarks. The full text of President Brazil’s remarks follows.

Congratulations
As has been the tradition, at the final faculty assembly last May we presented the annual awards for distinguished achievement – an altogether fitting and happy way to mark the close of the academic year. Re-recognizing and re-congratulating the recipients of those awards at the first assembly of this year, especially in the presence of our newest colleagues, is a good way to begin today. Please join me in expressing our admiration for those recognized with the Distinguished Junior Faculty Teaching and Research awards, Dr. Dennis Ugolini, assistant professor of physics and astronomy, and Dr. Yu Zhang, assistant professor of computer science; the Distinguished Advising Award, Dr. Richard Butler, professor of economics; the Distinguished Scholarship Award, Dr. David Lesch, professor of history; and the Distinguished University and Community Service award, Dr. Sarah Burke, professor of modern languages and literatures.

It’s also a pleasure to recognize again faculty whose promotions are effective this year. Those promoted from assistant to associate professor with tenure were Andrew Hansen, speech and drama; Jennifer Henderson, communication; Michelle Millet, library; and from associate to full professor Judith Norman, philosophy; and Thomas Sebastian, modern languages and literatures.

They’re not here today, but it’s still fitting we congratulate in absentia the four long-serving senior faculty who retired at the end of 2007-08. Our most recent emeriti: Walt Coppinger (geosciences); Larry Espy (biology); Bates Hoffer (English); and Guy Poitras (political science).

Among contract staff there were no retirements, but there were several well-deserved promotions. Please join me in congratulating:

- Joshua Beebe – to Coordinator of Greek Life and Student Programs
- Jeremy Donald – to Faculty Technology Liaison in the Library
- Twyla Hough – to Assistant Director of Career Services
- Christina Pikla – to Assistant Director of Financial Aid
- Ankita Rakhe – to Assistant Director of Intercultural and Diversity Issues
- Tony Salinas – to Assistant Director of ITS
- Ryan Takao – to Head Women’s Tennis Coach and Recruiter
- And Meredith Tamayo – to Associate Director of Financial Aid.

Jorge Gonzalez and Alida Metcalf
While I am on the subject of personnel changes, let me announce two other new assignments that will add considerable energy and fresh perspectives to important matters we’ll be working on this year and beyond. As many of you know, Professor Jorge Gonzales spent much of last year at
Pomona College on a prestigious American Council on Education fellowship, and Professor Alida Metcalf provided critical leadership in the development of implementation strategies for the quality enhancement plan that grew out of our SACS re-accreditation process. To capitalize on their experiences and the expertise that developed from them, and to inaugurate what we anticipate to be the beginning of an ongoing faculty development initiative, Vice President Fischer and I have asked each of them to take on additional part-time assignments assisting us on special projects that range from the capital campaign, community relations, and internal facilities planning, to involvement in our information literacy Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). They will continue with their teaching and research, but will also work out of our offices providing leadership on these and several other important matters. Thank you, Alida and Jorge.

Reaffirmation
Speaking of the QEP, the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools will vote in December on Trinity’s reaffirmation of accreditation. Its decision will be based on our lengthy self-study, the reports of the off-site and on-site peer review teams, and on our focused report. As far as we know, there are no outstanding issues. The off-site team gave us high marks across the board and in its own words, “accolades” for the quality of the common curriculum, for the manner in which we engage in decision-making and planning, and for sound financial management. It identified five minor items it thought needed further clarification, four of which we readily addressed before the on-site team arrived. The fifth had to do with creating a new form for student complaints, which was done. In any case, we anticipate a positive vote from the Commission in December – a gratifying outcome to an arduous, but generally beneficial process that, thank goodness, happens only once every ten years.

Class of 2012
Of more immediate interest Every year is the makeup of the incoming class. In May, Admissions reported it looked as though we would have a year-over-year decline of about 750 applications for the class of 2012. In all likelihood the smaller numbers were the result of a required second, or supplemental, essay from applicants. This decline is troublesome for several reasons, among which are the decreased flexibility we have in shaping the class, the safety buffer greater numbers provide in managing financial aid and appropriate enrollment levels, and the “market’s” perception that the size of a university’s applicant pool is equal to – or at least proportionate to – its quality and status.

On the other hand, as anticipated, the second essay requirement apparently did deter less motivated applicants. In a year of enrollment uncertainties for many colleges, from the smaller pool we reduced admissions by approximately 140 from last year (a reduction of over 9%) and increased the yield rate roughly 3%, which is substantial under the circumstances. The resulting class we expect to be around 660, larger than the 640 we would prefer, but well within manageable parameters. It is an academically strong group of matriculants, with an average high school g.p.a. of 3.55, which is the highest we’ve ever recorded, a mean ACT of 29.3, the highest of this decade, and 72% are in the top 20% of their graduating class. This is, as well, a richly diverse group, with 34% from out of state, 27% students of color, and another very large number of international students representing 42 foreign countries.
**Vision**
When I visit with prospective students and their parents, I am often asked what is unique about Trinity, what special characteristic defines it, differentiating it from other colleges and universities. My response is that Trinity probably has no single attribute that is truly unique, that there is no single element of its identity that is not to be found at some other universities. Taken individually, our size, academic programs and standards, the strength of the faculty and the quality of students, our written mission statement and curricular mix, our resource base, advantageous location, even the broad outlines of Trinity’s institutional history can be found elsewhere – in fact, in some cases, many elsewheres (and, I should add, there are even more institutions that lay dubious claim to one or more of these qualities).

Even the individual elements of what might be referred to as Trinity’s institutional culture – our core values, mores, attitudes, personality, and the campus ambiance – are replicated individually or in varying subset combinations at some other very fine schools.

No, what I find singular and defining about Trinity is not some single attribute or quality; it’s the totality of the multiple elements of Trinity’s identity – it’s the combination, the mosaic of these elements that makes Trinity at once exceedingly rare and very special. And it is on that totality that we must continue to build. Rather than disproportionally emphasizing one or two aspects of our identity, just as we must continue to nurture and educate the whole student, we must not be seduced into focusing on a single dimension or narrowly focused selection of educational experiences, however intrinsically interesting or fashionable they may be. To be dedicated to specialized education is to emphasize parts above the whole and it is to limit understanding of the parts themselves because their reality is always determined by their relationship to one another.

No idea, no cognitive skill, no object of study or academic discipline is entire unto itself; an island of meaning with reference only to its own dimensions and substance. Understanding the instance involves understanding the pattern – or the lack thereof. It involves understanding the relations between the instance in question and other instances, all in context, including the multidimensional flows of causation. Realities are interconnected, which is why we at Trinity embrace in their full expanse the liberal arts, and why we are more than a collectivity of discreet, hermetically isolated individual liberal arts disciplines.

A Trinity education has long been characterized by a permeating sense of connectivity, by study of the relationships that emerge from rigorous interdisciplinarity – an interdisciplinarity that has manifested itself in individual courses, in the common curriculum, in disciplines and departments, including our professional programs, and in the warp and woof of co-curricular life, intentionally encouraged and enabled by the Trinity qualities we tend to talk about: our size, the personal attention students expect and receive, our rich diversities, our commitment to quality, breadth and depth, and our dedication of resources to support a Trinity experience that goes far beyond the more limited, utilitarian definitions favored by many.

**Reauthorization**
The value of a Trinity education is understood by many, and I don’t intend to imply we swim alone or always upstream. But Trinity is on a course less taken, as our new colleagues will
discover, and we do have to contend with powerful currents as we build on and strengthen that totality that makes it so special and so effective in what it does.

Of the numerous possible illustrations of this point, perhaps the most telling is what happened, and what did not, during reauthorization of the federal Higher Education Act.

More than five years late and after a staggering number of false starts and dead ends, Congress has passed and the president signed last week the Higher Education Reauthorization bill. The bill is over 1,000 pages long, dense with legalese and bureaucratic jargon, self-contradictory, and in the name of encouraging cost containment and ensuring student access, includes a host of new requirements that will drive up costs for colleges and make it harder for us to serve students.

Through a coalition of higher education groups that engaged in protracted, intense lobbying, we were, however, able to eliminate multiple provisions that were deeply troubling, provisions that would have enforced institutional uniformity, seriously eroding our autonomy, and requiring institutions of higher education to put more emphasis on “applied” learning and on courses of study that their authors think will create jobs and stimulate the economy. Proposed provisions also included the imposition of federal price controls and the expansion of the role played by the Secretary of Education in determining curricula, mandating assessment, and managing the accreditation process – all of which were at times perilously close to passing. After numerous, complicated compromises, the final bill fell well short of the great positives it could have promoted, but if it achieved little, at least it avoids the profound negatives it could have incorporated. Many people worked very hard to realize these modest victories, and we should commend their efforts, if for no other reason than the continuing and contrary cross currents with which we have to contend are not much worse than before and we are not appreciably less able to influence our own future and pursue our own vision.

**Campaign**

Our ability to follow the course we chart for ourselves will be determined by many factors, not the least of which is money. It is, consequently, gratifying to report that Trinity is in very good fiscal health, and this despite the softness in the economy and the gyrations of financial markets. In part we benefit from the strength of our enrollments and the strategic application of financial aid, in part from the fiscal discipline exercised at all levels of the University, and in significant part from the success of our campaign.

The impact of the campaign is evident in virtually all aspects of University life, from the strength and multiple diversities of our faculty, staff, and students to our ability to have no increase in employee healthcare premiums; from the near certainty that for the foreseeable future we will have annual merit salary pools that exceed inflation to our superb facilities and grounds, including such strategic additions as the Mabry Tennis Pavilion, the new artificial surface on the intramural field, and the renovations of Leitner and Thomas this summer and our commitment to LEEDS certification for these and other buildings.

If less immediately apparent, the campaign’s success is also present in a digital KRTU, in Millennium, the new library system, and in the “proleptic,” such as planning for what will surely be a massive, multiyear series of projects to do for our science facilities what the Smith and
Dicke buildings did for music and art. It will be felt this year as we conduct more than 30 searches in academic affairs, in an unprecedented 12 newly created faculty lines, and when we are joined by those who come to us through these searches. As do the new members of our Trinity community who will be introduced today, these new hires will bring with them strengths and diversity that will enhance our academic majors and the common curriculum, will increase interdisciplinary range and opportunities, enhance student access to critical offerings by further reducing class sizes and increasing the number of sections of over-subscribed classes, and will become valued colleagues in the Trinity sense of that word.

At the Board of Trustees meeting last May, we announced that at that time we had raised more than $165 million in gifts and pledges, slightly more than 80% of the campaign’s $200 million goal. There has been meaningful progress since then, and we are now in the crucial closing stages of what we hope – and fully expect – to be the campaign’s final year.

Hundreds of new and potential donors have been identified, cultivated, and convinced they can and should make a difference at Trinity. We will continue this process. We have held some 20 campaign receptions throughout the country, and we will hold more. During the campaign, we have established more than 50 new endowments, and we will establish more. We have created new faculty positions, received gifts or grants to support existing and emerging academic programs, generated support for teaching innovation and for research, for academic infrastructure, and for equipment, technology, and the library. And in the remaining year of the campaign we will add to all these things. In short, we have been and will continue to secure support both to strengthen what we already have and to enable innovation.

The coming year promises to be exciting, a year of continuity and a year of progress and innovation consonant with our essential identity. During the year we should be able to finalize plans for our science and engineering faculties, the next stage of which awaits a final report from the facilities program consulates this fall. We will continue refining crisis management protocols at all levels, and fine tune coordination with emergency responders, area colleges and universities, and with government agencies. And we will advance initiatives designed to fulfill our commitment to sustainability, aided by the good work of the Sustainability Task Force that has, within the last two weeks, sent me an outline of the final report it anticipates completing in the next month or two.

Continuity and innovation are part and parcel of the new, web-based calendaring system, of the new facilities reservation system, of the Sophomore College, of the creation of a class marshal and alumni sponsors for the class of 2012 (respectively Dr. Angela Breidenstein and Mr. Dave Mansen), of the new electronic classroom in the Witt Center, the first of its kind on lower campus, and of the Reading TUgether program – the expansion of the summer reading program for first year students to now include returning students, faculty, and staff. This year’s book is Three Cups of Tea, a good read about Greg Mortensen and his mission to build schools in the heavily Muslim and desolate tribal areas of northern Pakistan. I hope everyone will be able to read the book, participate in the campuswide discussions, and hear Mr. Mortenson’s presentation in Laurie Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. a week from today – next Thursday the 28th.
There are in the cyclic life of a great university always new things and repeated things – robust innovations and equally robust traditions. Two events that are at once both – and to me two of the most energizing things we do – are, first, welcoming the new class to the beginning of what will be among some of the most important and memorable years of their lives, and, second, welcoming new colleagues to what we expect will be the beginnings of long, gratifying, and productive years at Trinity.

On Friday please join me and hundreds of other volunteers on lower campus to welcome the Class of 2012. And after this assembly, please join me in the art and music foyer to welcome our new colleagues who will be introduced shortly.

I continue to be honored – and profoundly grateful – to be among the many talented and dedicated people at Trinity. I hope for each of you a wonderful year, whether you are a new arrival or are fortunate enough to have been a member of the community for some time.

Thank you.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND DEAN OF THE FACULTY
Vice President Michael Fischer continued the meeting as chair. He highlighted several upcoming events including the DeCoursey lecture presented by Dr. Linda Buck, Stieren Arts Enrichments events featuring Ken Auletta and the St. Petersburg String Quartet, a Lennox seminar organized by Professor Jenny Browne (English) on the status of contemporary poetry, and the Distinguished Scientists Lecture Series including talks on volcanology, astronomy, and environmental engineering.

ELECTION OF SECRETARY OF THE ACADEMIC FACULTY
Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Duane Coltharp was elected by acclamation as Secretary of the Academic Faculty.

ELECTION OF PARLIAMENTARIAN
Professor Paul Giolma (Engineering Science) was elected by acclamation as Parliamentarian.

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the Academic Faculty Assembly of May 2, 2008, The motion passed.

REPORT FROM THE FACULTY SENATE
Professor William McCaughrin, Chair of the Faculty Senate, urged faculty members to fill out the faculty interest survey administered by the Faculty Senate, and he noted that the Senate’s Budget Advisory Committee will distribute to the faculty a report on compensation and benefits
at Trinity. He reported that an *ad hoc* committee on the 3/2 teaching load has completed its work and submitted a report to Academic Affairs. Professor McCaughrin also reported that the Senate’s work for the 2008-09 academic year will include developing a junior faculty leave policy and investigating a dependent care policy. Finally, Professor McCaughrin announced that the Senate will host an informal reception this Fall to allow faculty members to share their concerns with the Senate.

**REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COUNCIL**

Professor Michael Soto, Chair of the University Curriculum Council, announced that the UCC will host an open forum during the Fall 2008 semester to consider questions regarding the Senior Experience requirement of the Common Curriculum. Professor Soto also reported that the UCC web site is being updated in an attempt to streamline the process by which departments submit proposals to the UCC.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW FACULTY AND CONTRACT STAFF**

**Physical Plant**
Mike Ferrell, Assistant Director for Building Services

**Career Services**
Maranda Larsen, Career Advisor

**Campus and Community Involvement**
Edwin Blanton, Coordinator for Community Service and Engagement

**Residential Life**
Caldwell Chenault, Residential Life Coordinator
Lily Gonzalez, Residential Life Coordinator
Melissa Pinchback, Residential Life Coordinator

**University Advancement**
Joshua Banuelos, Development Information Systems Coordinator
Cynthia Uviedo, Donor Relations Officer

**Information Technology Services**
Tony Salinas, Assistant Director of ITS
Deborra Cardenas, Helpdesk Manager
Jacqueline Bueche, IT Communications Coordinator

**Registrar**
Stefanie Beard, Graduation Coordinator

**AT&T Center for Learning and Technology**
Robert Chapman, Instructional Support Manager
Coates Library
Kathryn Ginanni, Electronic Serials Librarian
Steven Hoover, Instruction/Liaison Librarian
David Wilson, Information Literacy Librarian

Admissions/Financial Aid
Brady Kosel, Admissions Counselor
Ryanne Arnold, Financial Aid Counselor

Athletics
Erica Scharfenstein, Director of Aquatics
David Svoboda, Men’s and Women’s Track and Field Coach

McNair Program
Audree Hernandez, Assistant Director of the McNair Scholars Program

Art and Art History
Jessica Halonen, Assistant Professor
Michael Schreyach, Assistant Professor

Biology
Gabriela Rennebech, Instructor
James Lewis Roberts, Cowles Professor of Life Sciences

Chemistry
Candace Mikki Coyle, Instructor
Bart Dahl, Visiting Assistant Professor
Jennifer Dahl, Visiting Assistant Professor

Classical Studies
Valerio Caldesi Valeri, Visiting Instructor
Grant Nelsestuen, Visiting Assistant Professor

Communication
Alfredo Cruz, KRTU Station Manager
Andrea Duke, Visiting Assistant Professor
Christopher Lucas, Visiting Instructor

Economics
Sara Hsu, Visiting Assistant Professor
Elizabeth Ann Watson, Assistant Professor

English
Angela Florschuetz, Assistant Professor
**Geosciences**
Antony Perez, Education and Research Technician
Lara Heister, Visiting Assistant Professor
Ben Surpless, Assistant Professor

**History**
James Ivy, Visiting Assistant Professor
Kenneth Loiselle, Assistant Professor

**Mathematics**
Barbra Melendez, Visiting Assistant Professor
Thomas Tegtmeyer, Visiting Assistant Professor

**Modern Languages and Literatures**
Jie Zhang, Visiting Assistant Professor

**Music**
Dwight Bigler, Visiting Assistant Professor/Interim Director of Choral Activities

**Political Science**
Katsuo Nishikawa, Visiting Instructor

**Religion**
Chad Spigel, Assistant Professor

**Speech and Drama**
Kyle Gillette, Assistant Professor

**OTHER**
President Brazil invited all faculty members to the President’s Reception in the Ruth Taylor foyer immediately following the adjournment of the Faculty Assembly.

**ADJOURNMENT**
There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Dr. Duane Coltharp
Secretary of the Faculty
CALL TO ORDER
President John Brazil called the meeting to order and offered some brief remarks on the following items:

- The long-term national economic situation is problematic and ambiguous, but the University does not expect to see a significant short-term budgetary impact from the current economic crisis.
- The Capital Campaign is expected to be completed on schedule. At the September Board of Trustees meeting, the President announced that the Campaign had raised $182 million.
- Planning for the science and engineering facilities is unchanged and awaiting a decision on the placement of a boiler.
- The President has received the final report from the President’s Task Force on Sustainability, and the University has begun implementing recommendations from this report. A standing committee on sustainability will be created in the future.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND DEAN OF THE FACULTY
Vice President Michael Fischer continued the meeting as chair. He reported on several items involving collaboration between Academic Affairs and the Faculty Senate:

- Academic Affairs, the Committee for the Evaluation of Courses and Faculty, and Information Technology Service are all working to implement the motions passed in 2007-08 by the Academic Faculty Assembly regarding the evaluation of teaching. Mark Lewis (Computer Science) and Steve Curry (ITS) are working to tailor newly purchased software to the Trinity environment. Although the new software enables the administration of online teaching evaluations, the Committee for the Evaluation of Courses and Faculty recommends that only faculty teaching in fully electronic classrooms use the online option at this time.
- On behalf of the Faculty Senate, Adam Urbach (Chemistry) met with departmental chairs on October 6 to discuss the possibility of implementing a 3/2 teaching load at Trinity. Following a model developed by Bates College, Academic Affairs will begin by gathering data on how departments are using existing faculty resources.
- Vice President Fischer has appointed a committee to explore the possibility of implementing a faculty code of conduct. The committee consists of Willis Salomon (English), Debra Ochoa (Modern Languages and Literatures), Steven Luper (Philosophy), Diane Saphire (Mathematics), Alida Metcalf (History), and Vice President Fischer.
- Vice President Fischer has appointed a committee to evaluate the success of the Academic Honor Code and to recommend changes if needed.
It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the Academic Faculty Assembly of August 21, 2008. The motion carried.

REPORT FROM THE FACULTY SENATE
Professor William McCaughrin, Chair of the Faculty Senate, reported that the Senate has begun to explore the possibility of creating a junior faculty leave policy and a dependent leave policy. The Senate’s recent wine and cheese reception was very successful, and the Senate plans to sponsor another reception for the faculty on November 20. Finally, Professor McCaughrin invited all faculty members to attend Senate meetings and share their concerns.

REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COUNCIL
Professor Michael Soto, Chair of the University Curriculum Council, reported that the UCC hopes to complete a proposal to revise policies governing transfer credit in the near future. Professor Soto also noted that the UCC forum on the Senior Experience, held on October 16, resulted in fruitful conversations. The UCC will continue to review the degree to which the Senior Experience as currently implemented is meeting the goals of the requirement.

Professor Soto then presented the following proposal to revise the policy governing bulletin requirements in the Courses of Study Bulletin:

A candidate for an undergraduate degree must meet the requirements as outlined in the Courses of Study Bulletin for the year of his/her first enrollment at Trinity University or any subsequent bulletin under which work is taken. In all cases, however, a candidate must complete work for his/her degree within a period of seven years from the date of the bulletin selected. The degree requirements with which a candidate complies must come from a single bulletin and in no case is it permissible to meet a combination of requirements from two or more bulletins.

The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT
There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Duane Coltharp
Secretary of the Faculty
CALL TO ORDER
President John Brazil called the meeting to order and offered some brief remarks on the following items:

- Although the national economy remains unpredictable, the President anticipates no budget cuts for the remainder of the 2008-09 fiscal year. Trinity will probably need to increase financial aid for the Spring 2009 semester and for the 2009-10 academic year to offset economic losses experienced by students and their families. The President expects that there will be a pool for merit increases for faculty salaries in 2009-10.
- The consultant will report on the planned science and engineering facilities at the January meeting of the Board of Trustees. The University will carry out renovations in Chapman Center, the Parker Chapel, and Storch Memorial Library over the summer.
- The Capital Campaign has raised over $184 million. Despite the economic downturn, President Brazil expects that the Campaign will meet its goal by May 2009.
- Thirty faculty searches continue across campus, and there are no plans to cancel any of these searches.
- The President’s Task Force on Sustainability is developing proposed language for the *Faculty and Contract Staff Handbook* so that the task force can become an Administrative Committee.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND DEAN OF THE FACULTY
Vice President Michael Fischer continued the meeting as chair. Vice President Fischer invited Professor Judith Fisher (English), Co-Chair of the Information Literacy Committee, to report on the progress of the Information Literacy project. Professor Fisher offered brief remarks on the following items:

- Professor Fisher thanked those faculty members who participated in the Information Literacy workshop in May 2008 and two Information Literacy symposia during the Fall 2008 semester.
- Professor Fisher invited faculty members to apply for course-development grants for 2009-10 and noted that the Information Literacy Committee will consider applications as they are submitted. Other funding opportunities – including three travel grants and a course release for an Information Literacy Project Coordinator – are still available.
- The May 2009 workshop, tentatively scheduled for May 19-20, will focus on Information Literacy goals in the Common Curriculum and the majors.
- Professor Charlene Davis (Business Administration) will serve as Co-Chair of the Information Literacy Committee during the Spring 2009 semester, while Professor Fisher is on academic leave.
APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC FACULTY ASSEMBLY OF OCTOBER 24, 2008
It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the Academic Faculty Assembly of October 24, 2008. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES TO BE CONFERRED AT WINTER COMMENCEMENT ON DECEMBER 20, 2008
It was moved and seconded to approve the list of candidates for degrees to be conferred at Winter Commencement on December 20, 2008. The motion carried, and the list was approved, conditional upon the candidates’ satisfactory completion of their respective degree requirements.

REPORT FROM THE FACULTY SENATE
Professor William McCaughrin, Chair of the Faculty Senate, reported that the Senate will begin sponsoring a short period of open discussion after each Academic Faculty Assembly. Professor McCaughrin also reported that the Budget Advisory Committee met recently with President Brazil and encouraged him to discuss the University’s financial stability with the faculty. Professor McCaughrin also mentioned that several positions on the Senate, including the position of chair, will be filled in elections during the Spring 2009 semester.

Vice President Fischer urged the faculty to thank Professor McCaughrin for his service as Chair of the Faculty Senate.

REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COUNCIL
Professor Michael Soto, Chair of the University Curriculum Council, reported that the UCC continues to work on two ongoing projects, the revision of the University’s transfer credit policies and the evaluation of the Senior Experience requirement within the Common Curriculum.

Professor Soto then presented a motion to eliminate the Composite Major in the Humanities. A motion was made and seconded to amend the proposal by inserting “as possible” in item III, “Recommended Courses.” The motion carried. The motion to eliminate the Composite Major in the Humanities was approved as amended.

Professor Soto then presented a motion to create a certification in Environment/Sustainability across the Curriculum. The motion carried.

Professor Soto then presented a motion to create a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Chinese Studies within the EAST (East Asian Studies at Trinity) program. A motion was made and seconded to amend the proposal by replacing “Bachelor of Science” with “Bachelor of Arts.” The motion was defeated. The motion to create a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Chinese Studies was approved.
Professor Soto then presented a motion to create a minor in East Asian Studies within the EAST program. The motion carried.

Finally, Professor Soto presented a motion to create a minor in Entrepreneurship. The motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Duane Coltharp
Secretary of the Faculty
CALL TO ORDER
President Brazil called the meeting to order and offered brief remarks on the following items:

- Because most departmental budgets will remain unchanged for fiscal year 2009-10, the University will allow departments to carry over a portion of their unused S&E from 2008-09 to 2009-10.
- There will be a modest increase in salaries for 2009-10, and there will be no reduction in benefits.
- The number of first-year applications for 2009-10 is encouraging, but the Office of Admissions anticipates a larger-than-usual “summer melt.”
- The University increased financial aid to students in the middle of 2008-09, and it will need to increase financial aid even further for 2009-10.
- There are no plans to cancel ongoing faculty searches.
- Capital projects for the summer include renovations of Storch Memorial Building and Chapman Auditorium, and the addition of classroom space in the Parker Chapel.
- The University has selected an architect to plan for the second phase of the master plan science and engineering facilities project.
- Professors Victoria Aarons (English), Bill Christ (Communication), Carey Latimore (History), Jennifer Mathews (Sociology and Anthropology), and David Ribble (Biology) are the faculty representatives on the Presidential Search Committee.
- The Capital Campaign had raised $193 million as of the January Board of Trustees meeting. President Brazil remains confident that the campaign will be successfully concluded in May.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND DEAN OF THE FACULTY
Vice President Michael Fischer continued the meeting as chair. He invited Associate Vice President Sheryl Tynes (Academic Affairs) and Professor Mark Lewis (Computer Science) to discuss the latest developments in the student evaluation of courses and teaching. Professor Lewis addressed the scanning and software errors that occurred when teaching evaluations were processed after the Fall 2008 semester, and he noted that these errors have been resolved. Associate Vice President Tynes reported that Information Technology Services will offer additional secretarial training in early April, and she suggested that departments should continue discussing the question of paper or online evaluation.
APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC FACULTY ASSEMBLY OF
DECEMBER 11, 2008
It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the Academic Faculty Assembly of
December 11, 2008.

REPORT FROM THE FACULTY SENATE
Professor Diane Graves, Chair of the Faculty Senate, reminded the faculty that Associate Vice
President Diane Saphire (Information Resources and Administrative Affairs) would present the
results of the Higher Education Research Institute survey immediately following the Academic
Faculty Assembly. Professor Graves also mentioned the April 3 faculty mixer sponsored by the
Faculty Senate.

Professor Graves then presented a motion to revise the Academic Integrity Policy (Faculty and
Contract Staff Handbook, Chapter 6D). The motion carried.

Professor Graves then presented a motion to revise the “Policy Regarding Disruption of Class”
(Faculty and Contract Staff Handbook, Chapter 6B, Article XII). The motion carried.

Professor Graves then presented a motion to delete the “Examination Security” Policy (Faculty
and Contract Staff Handbook, Chapter 6B, Article XIII). A motion was made to postpone action
on this proposal until the current review of the Academic Honor Code has been completed. The
motion to postpone was seconded and carried.

Finally, Professor Graves presented a motion to revise the Constitution of the Faculty
Organization (Faculty and Contract Staff Handbook, Chapter 2A, Article II, D, and Chapter 2A,
Article II, V). The motion carried.

REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COUNCIL
Professor Michael Soto, Chair of the University Curriculum Council, thanked the UCC’s
standing committees (the Interdisciplinary Second Major Committee, the Commission on
Graduate Studies, the Committee for the Assessment of the Common Curriculum, and the First-
Year Seminar Steering Committee) for their work throughout the year.

Professor Soto then presented a motion to revise the requirements for the Master of Arts in
School Psychology in the Courses of Study Bulletin. The motion carried.

Finally, Professor Soto presented a motion to revise the Fitness Education requirement in the
Common Curriculum. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:34 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Duane Coltharp
Secretary of the Faculty
CALL TO ORDER
President Brazil called the meeting to order and offered brief remarks on the following items:

- Trinity University has canceled none of its thirty-one faculty searches in response to the economic downturn. President Brazil and Vice President Fischer are delighted at the success of this year’s searches.
- President Brazil will present a conservative budget for fiscal year 2009-10 at the May meeting of the Board of Trustees, and will discuss this budget in the near future with the Budget Advisory Committee of the Faculty Senate.
- The Office of Admissions continues to enjoy success in recruiting a first-year class for 2009-10, although Admissions is expecting a greater-than-usual “summer melt.”
- The University’s architects will present plans for the new science and engineering facilities at the May meeting of the Board of Trustees. President Brazil hopes to have plans for the first phase of construction approved by the end of 2009 so that construction can begin during the Spring 2010 semester.
- The Capital Campaign is very near to reaching the goal of $200 million. The Campaign will officially continue until September.
- Trinity remains interested in purchasing the Oblate property and has an oral agreement with the Oblates. The University has no specific plans for that property at the moment.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND DEAN OF THE FACULTY
Vice President Michael Fischer continued the meeting as chair. Vice President Fischer introduced Professor Charlene Davis, Co-Chair of the Information Literacy Committee, who reported on the progress of the Information Literacy project during the Spring 2009 semester. Nine faculty members received grants in Spring 2009 to support the creation or revision of courses, and one faculty member received the first Information Literacy Project Coordinator grant. In May 2009, the committee will sponsor a workshop focused on information literacy in the Common Curriculum and major courses, as well as smaller workshops focused on the first-year experience and on the evaluation of work resulting from last year’s faculty workshop. Professor Davis extended the committee’s best wishes to Professor Alida Metcalf for her work on information literacy at Trinity. Finally, Professor Davis thanked all the faculty and staff members who have participated in the Quality Enhancement Plan.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC FACULTY ASSEMBLY OF MARCH 20, 2009
It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the Academic Faculty Assembly of March 20, 2009.
APPROVAL OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES TO BE CONFERRED AT THE MAY 16, 2009, COMMENCEMENT
It was moved and seconded to approve the list of candidates for degrees to be conferred at the May 16, 2009, Commencement. The motion passed, and the list was approved, conditional upon the candidates’ satisfactory completion of their respective degree requirements.

REPORT FROM THE ACADEMIC HONOR COUNCIL
Professor Carl Hubbard, Faculty Advisor to the Academic Honor Council, reported on the activities of the Honor Council for 2008-09. So far this academic year, the Council has heard twenty-three hearings involving twenty-seven students. Twenty-one of these students were found responsible. There was one unsuccessful appeal.

The Council has recently received a report from the Academic Honor Code review committee, and the Council will consider this report and its recommendations in Fall 2009.

Finally, Professor Hubbard noted that the last day for faculty members to file an Honor Code complaint for the Spring semester is May 14, and that related hearings will be held on May 19.

REPORT FROM THE FACULTY SENATE
Professor Diane Graves, Chair of the Faculty Senate, reported on the activities of the Senate for the Spring 2009 semester:
- The Senate organized a faculty social with members of the presidential search committee, and the Senate continues to facilitate communication with the faculty members of the search committee.
- The Senate passed a resolution reaffirming Trinity’s commitment to a “no guns” policy on campus and forwarded that resolution to members of the state legislature.
- The Senate also heard an initial report on a Freedom of Expression and Mutual Respect policy, the draft of which has been distributed to all department chairs.
- Finally, the Senate heard a proposal for an open access policy, which the Senate is developing in tandem with Oberlin College.

Ongoing issues for the Senate include procedures related to online course evaluations, the feasibility of a 3/2 teaching load and a junior faculty leave policy, revisions of the Joint Statement on Rights and Freedoms of Students, revisions of the parental leave policy, and revisions of the review schedule for vice presidents and associate vice presidents.

On behalf of the Faculty Senate, Professor Andrew Hansen conducted elections for the Hearing and Investigating Committees. There were no nominations from the floor. Paper ballots were distributed. The results will be announced within the next few days.

REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COUNCIL
Professor Michael Soto, Chair of the University Curriculum Council, mentioned some of the highlights of the UCC’s work in 2008-09, including creation of the Entrepreneurship minor and the Chinese Studies major within the East Asian Studies at Trinity (EAST) program, as well as
wholesale revisions in the Education department, the Urban Studies program, and the Fitness Education requirement.

Professor Soto thanked the members who served on the UCC in 2008-09 and introduced the new members for 2009-10: David Crockett (Political Science), Kevin Livingstone (Biology), Kate Lopez (Business Administration), Linda McNeil (Music), Kevin Nickels (Engineering Science), and David Rando (English).

PRESENTATION OF DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
Vice President Fischer announced the recipients of the Distinguished Achievement Awards, and President Brazil presented each recipient with a commemorative medal and an award of $2,000.

- Junior Faculty Awards for Distinguished Teaching and Research: Professor Timothy O’Sullivan (Classical Studies) and Professor Kathleen Surpless (Geosciences)
- Award for Distinguished Advising: Professor Mary Ann Tetreault (Political Science)
- Award for Distinguished University and Community Service: Richard Reams (Counseling Services)
- Award for Distinguished Scholarship, Research, or Creative Work or Activity: Professor Meredith McGuire (Sociology and Anthropology)

ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Duane Coltharp
Secretary of the Faculty