

Amended December 3, 2007

The ninth meeting of the Committee of Six for the academic year 2007-2008 was called to order by President Marx in his office at 4:30 P.M. on Thursday, November 8, 2007. Present were Professors Frank, S. George, Jagannathan, O'Hara, Servos, and Sinos, Dean Call, President Marx, and Assistant Dean Tobin, Recorder.

The meeting began with President Marx sharing with the Committee his understanding of how the process of implementing the new major in Environmental Studies will move forward, specifically in regard to whether interested colleagues are now welcome to join the advisory committee for the major. The major was approved by the Faculty at its meeting of November 6. The President noted that, after the discussion at the Faculty Meeting of the place of the sciences within the major, a number of science faculty remained concerned about the lack of requirements in the sciences for the major, as it is currently envisioned. The President said that it is his understanding that interested colleagues can now join the advisory committee, if they wish, and that the committee is open to continuing the process of designing the major. Professor Jagannathan informed the President, the Dean, and the members that some colleagues in the Departments of Physics and Chemistry recently joined the advisory committee. He expressed concern that the process that is now in place for developing the requirements for a new major is not sufficiently formalized; in particular, he was not sure how differences of opinion about core requirements and electives, should such differences arise, are resolved. The Committee agreed that the new program's committee may wish to consider changes in the major requirements as the committee itself evolves. At the conclusion of this discussion, the Committee turned to personnel matters.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory S. Call  
Dean of the Faculty