

June 3, 2004

**To:** Dr. Whitney McMath

**From:** Richard Fallis

**Re:** Faculty Credentials in CLA

Scott Davis will report on the adjunct faculty about whom there were questions on credentials. Following amplifies the justifications for full-time faculty members in CLA:

**Andrew Pounds** (Chemistry/Computer Science): This is a split appointment that dates to June of 2001. Pounds originally came to Mercer in 1998, with an appointment entirely in Chemistry. The revised appointment was negotiated at the request of the Computer Science Department and approved by Interim Dean Bratcher. Pounds does not have the requisite graduate hours in Computer Science (3 semester hours only). However, like other younger physical chemists and computer scientists, he has a considerable background in Mathematics. His research overlaps Physical Chemistry, Physics, and Computer Science. During 2000-2001, he had a significant grant from Sun Microsystems to collaborate with colleagues at Georgia Tech to link servers there and here to allow researchers and students to perform and visualize quantum mechanical calculations interactively over the Internet. This led to the discussion of a joint appointment. Since then, this cooperative work has continued; Pounds' teaching in Computer Science reflects his expertise in systems and systems analysis as well as the mathematical bases of computing theory.

**Chester J. Fontenot** (African-American Studies/English): Dr. Fontenot earned his Ph.D. in Comparative Culture at the University of California, Irvine. His graduate work included 24 quarter hours specifically in African-American subjects. His areas of expertise include African-American Literature, African-American Religion, and Twentieth-Century American Literature. His publications include *Frantz Fanon: Language as the God Gone Astray in the Flesh* (University of Nebraska Press, 1979); two volumes of *Studies in Black American Literature*, co-edited with Joel Weixlmann (Penkville Publishing, 1984-86); *W. E. B. DuBois and Race*, co-edited with Mary Alice Morgan (Mercer University Press, 2001); and more than two dozen articles or book chapters, mostly on African-American writing and culture. He has a national reputation as a student of African-American culture and has lectured widely in this country and abroad.

**Jerry Winfield** (Foreign Languages and Literatures): Winfield's D.A. degree is from Western Colorado University, a non-traditional institution that no longer exists. It had reported accreditation from The National Association for Private Nontraditional Schools and Colleges, an organization founded by a group associated with Western Colorado University. However, his M.A. in Spanish is from the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa and includes 33 graduate semester hours in Spanish.

Cc: Dr. Suthern Sims