

**FACULTY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2016**

Voting Members Present

(Ex Officio): Jeffrey Leak (President); Lisa Walker (President-Elect); Loril Gossett (Secretary); Gregory Starrett (Past President); Chandra Subramaniam (FEC, COB); Susan Furr (FEC, COED); Judy Walker (FEC, LIB); Joan Lorden (Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs); Ken Lambla (COA+A Dean); Yi Deng (CCI Dean); Ellen McIntyre (COED Dean); Ron Smelser (on behalf of COE Dean); Nancy Gutierrez (CLAS Dean); Tom Reynolds (Graduate School Dean); Anne Moore (Library Dean); John Smail (UCOL Dean)

(Unit Representatives): Casper Wiggins (ACCT); Janet Levy (ANTH); Susan Sell (BINF); Jian Zhang (BIOL); Joanna Krueger (CHEM); Martin Kane (CEGR, alternate); Sayde Brais (COMM); KR Subramaniam (ITCS); Phyllis Post (CSLG); John Stogner (CJUS); Ellen Sewell (ECON); Lynn Ahlgrim-Delzell (EDLD); Carlos Orozco (ETCM); Alan Rauch (ENGL); Kiplan Womack (FINN); John Diemer (GYES); John Cox (GIAS); Benny Andres (HIST); Ed Hopper (LACS); Beth Martin (LIB); Ed Jernigan (MGMT); Charles Bodkin (MKTG); Jaya Bishwal (MATH); Lan Kolano (MDSK, alternate); Stephan Hobbs (MSCI, alternate); Maren Coffman (SON); Phillip McReynolds (PHIL); Cherie Maestas (POLS); Jane Gaultney (PSYC); Mark Ezell (SOWK); Lisa Walker (SOCY); Jane Diane Smith (SPED, alternate); Yesim Sireli (SEEM)

Voting Members Absent

(Ex Officio): COA+A FEC Representative; Cynthia Gibas (FEC, CCI); Howie Fang (FEC, COE); Mike Turner (FEC, CHHS); Paula Eckard (FEC, CLAS); James Tabor (FEC, CLAS); Mark Wilson (FEC, CLAS); Phil Dubois (Chancellor); Arthur Jackson (Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs); Bob Wilhelm (Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development); Steve Ott (COB Dean); Nancy Fey-Yensan (CHHS Dean)

(Unit Representatives): Richard Sanders (AERO); Tanure Ojaide (AFRS); David Thaddeus (SOA); Janet Williams (ARTS); Cem Saydam (BISOM); Ann Dils (DANC); Aba Ebong (ECGR); Reuben Howden (KNES); Alireza Tabarraei (MEGR); David Russell (MUSC); Yasin Raja (PHYS); Ahmed Arif (PHS); Iann Binns (REEL); James Tabor (RELS); ITIS Unit Representative (ITIS); Tom Burch (THEA)

Also Present (but Not Voting)

Leslie Zenk (Academic Affairs); Matthew Wyse (Academic Affairs); Jay Raja (Academic Affairs); J. Garvey Pyke (CTL); Heather McCullough (CTL/ITS); Jeff Meier (CTL); Tina McEntire (Enrollment Management); Drew Polly (FITSAC Chair); Johnna Watson (Graduate Programs); Beth Rugg (ITS); Christopher Knauer (Office of Registrar); Cathy Blat (University Center for Academic Excellence)

Meeting called to order by Dr. Jeffrey Leak at 12:32pm

I: Approval of minutes

1a – acclamation approved

1b - acclamation approved

II: Briefing on Learning Management System (LMS) Evaluation and Canvas Pilot (Dr. Garvey Pyke and Dr. Drew Polly)

In 2015, UNCC began a review of the Moodle learning management system to determine if it is still meeting the needs of the campus community. In recent years faculty and students have raised concerns about the reliability of the system (outages, lags, crashes). There was also a desire to have a system that is mobile friendly.

A committee of students, faculty, and staff reviewed several different options (Blackboard, Moodle, and Canvas) and decided to pilot the Canvas with the help of over 50 faculty members in 30 different disciplines for both on and offline courses. After the pilot test, 74% of faculty members and over half of the students supported a move to the new Canvas system. **The decision was made to move UNCC to the Canvas learning management system.**

Key features of the new Canvas System include:

- 24/7 help phone and chat line available dedicated to UNCC users. Support staff can access our course files on the system to help student/faculty address questions/problems .
- Mobile friendly (phone, tablet)
- Speed Grading function
- It is based on a Wiki System
- Has a good track record of reliability/speed for the other universities using the program. It is part of the larger Amazon system. The longest downtime during pilot was 6 minutes.

Implementation: **The campus will begin to move to the Canvas Learning Management System in the Summer of 2016.** CTL will begin offering course development and migration workshops for Canvas in late Spring/early Summer. **The Moodle System will remain as an additional option until Spring of 2017 to allow faculty a full year to migrate to the new system.**

DISCUSSION:

Q: (BRAIS): Will we have any access to the information we have stored on Moodle (or the Moodle Course Archive) after we move to Canvas in Spring of 2017?

A (PIKE): No. The Moodle system will no longer be supported by UNCC. Faculty will need to migrate all of the information stored on Moodle or Moodle Archive to the new system.

Q (GOSSETT): Amazon often stores data in servers outside of the US. This can be a problem for some grants/research projects. Will the UNCC data we place on the server be kept in the US?

A (PIKE): Not sure but the security safeguards in place for Canvas meets our campus policy requirements.

Q: (MEMBER): Will documents or information stored on Mahara be impacted by moving to Canvas?

A (POLLY): We will set up a separate Canvas Space for Mahara users

Q (RAUCH): Will people be at any risk of losing copy right protection for any documents they post to this system (this can be an issue for Wiki based system)?

A (PIKE): Not sure. There isn't any indication this has been a problem for people at the other universities using the system.

Q (SMAILS): Will it work on I-phones?

A (POLLY): Yes it is "mobile sexy" according to one student. Students wanted a good mobile interface – was a key reason that they liked Canvas more than Blackboard/Moodle,

III: Discussion on Open Source Textbooks (Ms. Liz Siler and Dr. Ron Smelser)

Given the increasingly high cost of text books, **faculty members are being encouraged to consider adopting electronic textbooks available at the library.** Electronic/open-source texts are free to students and multiple people can check them out at the same time (so everyone in the class can access the book at once). If students/faculty would prefer a hard copy of these books, they can order them through the publisher for the cost of printing (much less than a typical textbook).

- There are a number of academic publishers that make electronic textbooks available through the library (Springer, Cambridge, etc.). **We have a great supply of electric textbooks (over 220,000 titles)** in our library and we can get additional titles if faculty would like to review or use them.
- These books don't go away at the end of the semester. They are **in the library archive forever.** The texts online have higher-end graphics and 3-D modeling.
- **Library has e-textbook database** will allow you to find books we currently have or can order. These books can be searched by ISBN, title, author, subject area. New books can be ordered and get in w/in two weeks (2 hours if you REALLY need it).
- Faculty can **put links to books on a course syllabus and Moodle.** These books aren't necessarily the same as some of the texts ordered through the bookstore BUT they are a great resource that faculty should consider.

DISCUSSION:

Q (OROZCO): Won't moving to open-source textbooks hurt the author by cutting off royalties?

A (SMELSER): There will be an impact, but very few textbooks make a lot of money for the authors.

Q (LEAK): How does are archive of eBooks break down by discipline?

A (SILER): It depends on the publisher. Springer is pretty science, engineering, and STEM heavy. Taylor & Frances and Routledge are more humanities oriented. We don't have access to all books in this format but we have good variety.

Q (SUBRAMANIAM): If you have the online version, can you print it from your computer?

A (SILER): There are some restrictions on printing the whole book at once v. chapter by chapter but you can print the books as well as read online.

Q (MEMBER): Can you annotate or make notes in these eBooks through a reader application?

A (LIZ): Not always. Some course management systems allow you upload your docs and annotate them but not on the eBook reader itself.

Q (PROVOST): If you want a hard copy version how long does it take?

A (SILER): It depends on the book but typically it is two weeks of less.

Q (LEAK): Is there a competition with bookstore.

A (SILER): The library works with bookstore. Libraries can't order many introductory textbooks. This is what the bookstore offers that the library cannot, as a result, there isn't a lot of competition. The library also doesn't use interlibrary loan to order textbooks sold in the bookstore.

IV: Proposal from FAPSC on Change to Drop/Add Period (Dr. Greg Mixon)

UNCC has had one of the most liberal drop/add policies in the UNC system. Students were given several weeks to drop or add courses at the beginning of the semester. However, this has made it difficult to stabilize course enrollment.

After reviewing the drop/add policy at other campuses and discussing the issue with various groups on campus, FAPSC is proposing **changing UNCC's drop/add policy from 8 working days to 8 calendar days from the beginning of the semester**. This will allow students to attend at least one day of class before

making a final decision on their enrollment for the semester. This motion has been reviewed by the FEC and comes to the Faculty Council for a final vote.

DISCUSSION:

Q (LEVY): When will this policy go into effect?

A (PROVOST): We will try to make it active for next Fall, but we need to change the official academic calendar.

Move to Approve (Hopper, Starrett (2nd). Motion approved via Acclamation,

V: Motion to Award Degrees

Approved via acclamation

VI: Report of the Provost (Dr. Joan Lorden)

Vote on **NC connect bond was successful**. Serious planning for our new science building can begin.

UNCC continues to have strong enrollment growth. By March 1st we had @18,000 applications for Fall and had admitted more than 7,000 students. Transfer applications are up 8.7%. We have also given 27 offers to new Levine Scholars and hope to enroll at least 20.

UPDATE ON UNDERGRADUATE ISSUES:

- The student government's **mid-term course feedback survey** was successfully piloted this year. While there was a fairly low response rate, the people who received this feedback (particularly TAs who are new to teaching) seemed to find it helpful. Despite the low response rate, the students feel this project has merit. They will be conducting a survey of faculty to get some additional feedback so they can improve the program in the future.
- UNCC is also beginning a **new small grant program** to help students who need a little extra support finish their degree program and make it to graduation.
- We are considering developing an **office of undergraduate research** at UNCC. We are the only major university in the UNC system that does not have such a program on campus.
- The Chancellor's office is working with a consultant to explore different ways we might create a **"one-stop-shop" for student services** (registration, student accounts, financial aid) to make it easier for new students to get set up on campus. We are trying to integrate the UNCC Call Center more effectively into this process so that students do not have to go to multiple locations on campus to resolve common issues.
- A recent self-study by the OASIS office found that the **number of programs non-traditional students can complete at night/weekends has declined to @ 7-8 programs**. Approximately 22% of UNCC students are non-traditional (over 24, work full-time). As a campus we might want to consider how we can work more effectively with distance education to serve this population. The New Distance Education Director has identified 24 courses that might be able to be

converted to an online format and will be working with CTL to see how we might create more options for our nontraditional students.

UPDATE ON CAMPUS ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES:

- The Provost will be sending faculty a “Statement of Encouragement” to read to students in order to encourage them to participate in a **multi-institutional survey (lead is U of Kentucky) dealing with violence and assault issues on campus**. The University of Kentucky will send an email to students directly titled: Campus Safety. We hope students will tell us what resources they are aware of and/or still need on campus. It is a LONG survey but we really need student involvement to make this project work.
- There is a **new survey being developed by General Administration which focuses on non-cognitive factors that impact student academic success** (income, learning communities, effort, etc.). Any UNCC faculty members interested in studying this issue can help General Administration design the metric. The GA had a survey they used to study this issue at HBCU schools in the system. They are now interested in using some version of this measure for Greensboro, Wilmington, & Charlotte.
- The **UNCC diversity plan** is posted on the website and has received positive feedback. It will be presented to the Board of Trustees in April.
- We have begun to make plans for **next fall’s convocation**. Based on the feedback received from this past year, we have decided to have fewer and shorter speeches. We will make more space available for faculty to sit during the event. We are also not going to serve lunch as part of the convocation program next year.
- We have received some **feedback from people who completed the post-tenure review process** this year. There were a few inconsistencies identified between the online tutorial and the information posted on the UNCC website that we are working to fix. We are also suggesting that the General Assembly put together a manual to support the online tutorial. Currently, there isn’t an easy way to find a particular piece of information from the tutorial without replaying the entire video. A supplemental manual has been suggested as a helpful reference tool for people to use after they complete the video training.

VII: Report of the President-Elect (Dr. Lisa Walker)

We are accepting nominations for faculty governance positions (Chairs/members of committees, FEC).

VIII: Report of the President (Dr. Jeffrey Leak)

OLD BUSINESS:

We will have Dr. John Smail come to Faculty Council in April to update everyone on the **status of the new General Education course proposal**. We also hope to have faculty who have taught classes in the pilot program come to faculty council and discuss their experiences.

NEW BUSINESS:

In the FEC we have been considering a few organizational changes.

- One suggestion is to set up **standard meeting times for certain faculty committees** (similar to faculty council's standard meeting time on Thursdays). Sometimes committees have trouble getting members to attend meeting regularly because of various scheduling conflicts. It was suggested that if we set a meeting time in advance, people might be better able determine if/how they might adjust their teaching/personal schedules in order to serve.
- We have also discussed **changing the role of the secretary** on the Faculty Council. Rather than have a faculty member take minutes, we would give this duty to a paid staff member. This would allow the FC secretary to provide support and be more engaged and in the issues being discussed.

Faculty met with President Spelling for an hour during her visit to UNCC.

- A key issue discussed was that **faculty lack sense of trust with system leadership**. Spelling seemed responsive to this issue. She used metaphor of "swimming lanes" and that BoG had gone outside of its lane. She agreed that it is important for people to understand where they are supposed to be and where others have jurisdiction.
- We also talked about the **competition posed by external institutions** coming into the area to offer academic programs (executive MBA, etc). The current system makes it difficult for UNC schools to set up similar extension programs so we are losing these students to other schools.
- Finally, faculty discussed their concern that various **oversight groups (such as the Board of Governors) do not really understand the work that tenure-track faculty members perform on campus**. There are many tasks that cannot be performed by part-time or non-tenure track faculty (supervising graduate students, certain committees, program assessments, etc.). As enrollments increase we need to have more tenure-track faculty lines approved so that we can continue to support the institution as a whole.

DISCUSSION:

- (GOSSETT): Spelling indicated that she was interested in reviewing and potentially restructuring the UNC system funding model. She acknowledged that this would be a politically charged conversation but one she was interested in considering.
- (STARRETT): Spelling came off as a high level, experienced administrator with good political skills. She is someone we want on our side.
- (J WALKER): The Chancellor noted that Spelling was a first general college student who came up through the public school system. As such, she seems to appreciate what UNCC can offer the community and our students.

(LEAK) She seemed to be a pragmatic leader rather than someone driven primarily by ideology.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

(COX) The Faculty at Fayetteville State are **discussing a new “campus conduct” policy designed to limit disruptions during BoG meetings**. The policy seems to be a result of the negative student and faculty reaction/protests following the BoG decision to fire Ross and hire Spelling. Here is a link to the policy:

https://www.northcarolina.edu/sites/default/files/expectation_of_conduct_during_meetings_of_the_board_of_governors_final_030116.pdf

Meeting Adjourned (1:44pm)

Minutes submitted by Dr. Loril Gossett (Faculty Council Secretary)