

FACULTY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
January 14, 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); Concepcion Godev (FEC, CLAS alternate); James Tabor (FEC, CLAS); Phil Dubois (Chancellor); Joan Lorden (Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs); Jennifer Troyer (on behalf of COB Dean); Yi Deng (CCI Dean); Robert Johnson (COE Dean); Susan Sell (on behalf of CHHS Dean); Nancy Gutierrez (CLAS Dean); Tom Reynolds (Dean GS); Anne Moore (LIB Dean); John Smail (UCOL Dean)

(Unit Representatives): Casper Wiggins (ACCT); Janet Levy (ANTH); Janet Williams (ARTS); Susan Sell (BINF); Jian Zhang (BIOL); Cem Saydam (BISOM); Jim Bowen (CEGR); Sayde Brais (COMM); Matthew Phillips (CJUS, alternate); Ellen Sewell (ECON); Lynn Ahlgrim-Delzell (EDLD); Aba Ebong (ECGR); Carlos Orozco (ETCM); Lara Vetter (ENGL, alternate); Kiplan Womack (FINN); John Diemer (GYES); Benny Andres (HIST); Ed Hopper (LACS); Beth Martin (LIB); Ed Jernigan (MGMT); Charles Bodkin (MKTG); Alireza Tabarraei (MEGR); David Russell (MUSC); Maren Coffman (SON); Phillip McReynolds (PHIL); Yasin Raja (PHYS); Cherie Maestas (POLS); Jane Gaultney (PSYC); Ahmed Arif (PHS); Ian Binns (REEL); James Tabor (RELS); Mark Ezell (SOWK); Lisa Walker (SOCY); Jane Diane Smith (SPED, alternate); Aly Amidie (THEA, alternate)

Voting Members Absent

(Ex Officio): COA+A FEC Representative; Cynthia Gibas (FEC, CCI); Howie Fang (FEC, COE); Mike Turner (FEC, CHHS); Mark Wilson (FEC, CLAS); Judy Walker (FEC, LIB); Arthur Jackson (Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs); Bob Wilhelm (Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development); Ken Lambla (COA+A Dean); Ellen McIntyre (COED Dean)

(Unit Representatives): Richard Sanders (AERO); Tanure Ojaide (AFRS); David Thaddeus (SOA); Joanna Krueger (CHEM); KR Subramanian (ITCS); Phyllis Post (CSLG); Ann Dils (DANC); John Cox (GIAS); Reuben Howden (KNES); Jaya Bishwal (MATH); Heather Coffey (MDSK); Jared Sloan (MSCI); ITIS Unit Representative (ITIS); Yesim Sireli (SEEM)

Also Present (but Not Voting)

Leslie Zenk (Academic Affairs); Matthew Wyse (Academic Affairs); Jay Raja (Academic Affairs); Tamara Johnson (Academic Affairs); Cindy Wolf Johnson (Academic Services); Mike Algozzine (CTL); Heather McCullough (CTL); Betty Doster (Constituent Relations); Tina McEntire

(Enrollment Management); Gregory Mixon (FAPSC); Malin Pereira (Honors College); Beth Rugg (ITS); David Broome (Legal Affairs); Christopher Knauer (Office of Registrar); Ted Elling (Student Affairs); Carrie Nowell (Student Government)

Meeting Called to Order by Dr. Jeffrey Leak at 12:32pm

I: Approval of Minutes from 11/19/2015

Approved via acclamation

II: Presentation by Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs (Dr. Art Jackson)

Presentation of the primary capital projects and programs currently in development on campus

Capital Projects

- *Counseling Center* - \$4 Million project to support increased demand for counseling services (student use of services up 25% from last year)
- *Levin Hall* - \$44 Million renovation project. Intend to move Levin Scholars and Honors Program into this 400 bed dorm upon completion.
- *Belk Gym* - \$20 Million renovation designed to double space. Hope to add special Faculty/Staff hours.
- *HAWK* (Health and Wellness Center) – New Health and Recreation Center (including pool) to be completed in 2019.

Programs

- *Dialogues on Diversity and Inclusion* - A forum at McKnight Hall (1/29) to foster interaction rather than self-segregation between different communities on campus.
- *Parent and Family Advisory Council* – A new group to facilitate communication with the family members of UNC Charlotte students.
- *Withdrawal Advisor*– New position to help retain some of the approximately 1,000 students who withdraw each semester by providing additional assistance/resources.
- *Financial Literacy Program* – Center for Wellness developing program to help student with debt and financial issues they face after graduation.
- *Niner Student Pantry* – Food Pantry for students in need (primarily serving international students). Supported provided by Food Lion and Chartwells. Campus Food Drives can be coordinated by Student Affairs office.

- *Enhancement of Student Retention* – Developing new programs to keep students engaged while not in class (75% of student time on campus is outside classroom).

Discussion:

Q- Tom Reynolds - Are there plans to expand graduate student housing or married student housing on campus?

A-UNC Charlotte has no immediate plans to develop housing for either group.

Graduate students are often hired to supervise dorm/apartments on campus and this provides them with some campus housing options.

Married Student Housing typically requires special resources for kids. There are different liability issues for housing small children on campus (lead-based paint, sex offenders, etc.) that UNC Charlotte isn't currently equipped to address.

III. Review of the Five-Year Academic Calendar

Faculty reviewed the academic calendar proposed for 2016-2021. The Spring semester has a few more days than the Fall to provide flexibility for transfer student advising and for potential school closures due to weather (typically in Spring)

Motion to approve (member). L Walker (2nd). Approved via acclamation.

IV: Recommendation from FAPSC to revise four Academic Policies: Academic Probation and Suspension, Baccalaureate Degree Requirements, Honors Programs, and Academic Honors (Dr. Gregory Mixon – Faculty Academic Policy and Standards Committee)

These changes help re-define what it means for a student to be in “good academic standing.” The previous policy defined good standing with a combination of GPA and the number of credit hours attempted and successfully completed. Unfortunately, this made it possible for a student to have a 4.00 average but also be on academic probation if they withdrew from too many courses in a semester. This created a lot of confusion. These proposed changes will take place in Fall 2016.

Discussion:

Q (Levy) – Will the General Assembly also support this change?

A – The General Assembly and other NC universities are aware of this issue and are also making changes to address the problem.

Q (Sewell) – Does a student’s “good standing” status also factor in their class attendance? Attendance is something that faculty are occasionally asked to verify for particular students.

A – Class attendance is a requirement of some Federal Aid programs and will continue to be so. However, it is not directly tied to this policy.

Motion to Approve (Jernigan), Starrett (2nd). Approved via Acclamation.

V: Resolution in support of “2015 Connect NC Bond Act” and Referendum

It has been 15 years since the last higher education bond. In that time UNC Charlotte enrollment has grown by 76%. Half of this bond will benefit UNC Charlotte (including \$90 mill for new science building). It will be on March 15, 2016 ballot.

Approved via Acclamation

VI: Report of the Chancellor (Dr. Phil Dubois)

UNC Charlotte allocated funds to support faculty and staff salaries. 86% of faculty received raises. The 14% of those didn't get raises were primarily recent hires, already well above the market, or on improvement plans. EPA staff salaries and Part-time faculty stipends need to be addressed in future.

President Spelling will start her term on March 1, 2016. She will be visiting the UNC Charlotte campus March 14-15.

The Boston Consulting group has been hired to review the relationship between the NC Board of Governors, the Office of the UNC President, and the different Campus Administrations in the NC System.

Phillips Road construction is scheduled to be completed by March 15th of 2016. Cameron Blvd construction is scheduled to be completed by March 30th.

There will be public forums to obtain feedback for the redesign of the Belk Tower space. Construction will begin once a design is selected – hopefully in the Summer of 2016.

An independent citizen group has been established to explore the possibility of creating a four-year medical school in Charlotte. Chancellor Dubois has been asked to chair this group. There is no state funding supporting this project but the goal of the committee is to explore other options/resources in the community.

VII: 2015 Connect NC Bond Education/Advocacy – Betty Doster (Special Assistant to Chancellor) and Tamara Johnson (Academic Affairs)

The Chancellor's office is actively promoting the 2015 Connect NC Bond initiative. This initiative will provide important resources (new buildings, significant improvements) to every campus in the NC system, most community colleges, and many state parks. The Charlotte region would receive \$134.6 Million of the \$2 Billion being raised by this bond. UNC Charlotte would use these funds to build a new science building.

Faculty members can educate students about the bond but cannot advocate. This means that faculty can let students know what the bond will provide for UNC Charlotte and how to get registered to vote. Faculty may remind students to vote in general. However, faculty cannot encourage students to vote for the bond itself.

UNC Charlotte has launched a new voter advocacy effort on campus (UNC Charlotte Votes). There will be several *Turbo Vote* centers on campus to help students get registered. UNC Charlotte will help students with the registration process and will even print and mail the forms into the election board. Voter registration sites will be at Library, Student, and South Village. For more information, please see: democracyexperience.uncc.edu.

VIII: Mid-Semester Student Feedback Tool - Carrie Nowell (SGA Secretary for Academic Affairs)

The student government has worked with the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) to develop a new mid-semester survey that students can use to provide feedback to their professors. This will allow students to alert teachers to any problems they are experiencing during the term. There are 10 fixed and 4 open-ended questions.

This is an anonymous survey similar to the end-of-term course evaluation. Students will receive an email with a link to the mid-semester evaluation. This program is simply intended to facilitate communication between teachers and students. The scores/comments will not be reported to the administration.

CTL is handling the administration of this program. Students will receive this survey in early February (2/8) and faculty should receive their results at the end of the month (2/22). At the end of the semester, the SGA will ask for faculty feedback on this program in order to make improvements.

Discussion:

Q (Ahlgrim-Delzell) – Is the SGA open to receiving feedback/suggestions for this survey before it is distributed?

A – We have been working with the Center for Teaching and Learning since last year to develop the current format/set of questions. We have decided on a format to use for our trial run this Spring. However, we will

be seeking additional faculty input/feedback after everyone has had a chance to try it out once.

Q (Smail) – Faculty who are teaching “top 40” classes will be sending out an “early alert” to students by 2/5 and all faculty will be sending out mid-term satisfactory progress reports by 3/4. Can you tie this mid-semester feedback tool into these other programs?

A – This is something we can look into for the future.

Q (Levy) – Is this pilot test or are all classes getting a mid-semester evaluation this semester?

A –All classes are going to have access to this survey. However, because it is the first time we have tried something like this we are going to study the results to if/how well it works.

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

Everyone who is involved with post-tenure review needs to remember to take the online training program and print out their certificate of completion and send it to their Department Chairs. The Provost’s office is required to certify to the General Assembly that everyone has completed this process.

UNC Charlotte will be conducting an operational test of the State’s new assessment tool. The Business School will be the first college to participate. All freshmen and seniors in the business school will take the test this Spring.

April 16th is a “Student Success Symposium” at NC State. UNC Charlotte is able to present two programs at this event which focus on post-graduation success for students.

The campus is updating its adverse weather preparation plans. All faculty members are encouraged to develop a teaching plan for adverse weather conditions. The goal is to have something you can have students work on at home/online if campus is closed.

Discussion:

Q (Bodkin) – Who do faculty members go to if they have questions about some of the information covered in the online post-tenure training models?

A- The Provost’s Office.

Meeting Adjourned 1:57pm

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