**Faculty Council**

**Minutes of January 18, 2024 Meeting**

**Voting Members Present**

**(Ex Officio)**: Xiaoxia Newton (President); Susan Harden (President-Elect); Debra Smith (Secretary); Eric Millard (FEC, COAA Faculty Chair); Dongsong Zhang (FEC, COB); Jack Cathey (FEC, COB Faculty Chair); Gabriel Terejanu (FEC, CCI Faculty Chair); Dawson Hancock (FEC, COED); Aidan Browne (FEC, COE); Matthew Whelan (FEC, COE Faculty Chair designee); Tricia Turner (FEC, CHHS); George Shaw (FEC, CHHS Faculty Chair); Allison McCulloch (FEC, CLAS); Elizabeth Stearns (FEC, CLAS); Dan Boisvert (FEC, CLAS Faculty Chair); Amanda Binder (FEC, Library); Sharon Gaber (Chancellor); Jennifer Troyer (Provost); Deb Thomas (on behalf of V.C. for Research); Artie Zillante (on behalf of COB Dean); Malcolm Butler (COED Dean); Catherine Blat (on behalf of COE Dean); Shanti Kulkarni (on behalf of CHHS Dean); Greg Weeks (on behalf of CHESS Dean); Bernadette Donovan-Merkert (COS Dean); Katherine Hall-Hertell (on behalf of Graduate School Dean); Malin Pereira (Honors College Dean); Stephen Weiter (Library Dean)

**(Unit Representatives)**: Pat Mynatt (ACCT); Debra Smith (AFRS); Catherine Fuentes (ANTH); Mike Turner (APHC); David Thaddeus (SOA); J.B. Burke (ARTS); Denis Jacob Machado (BINF); Andrew Truman (BIOL); Ram Kumar (BISOM); Jordan Poler (CHEM); Taghi Mostafavi (CS); Jack Culbreth (CSLG); John Stogner (CJUS); Ann Dils (DANC); Krista Saral (ECON); Kyle Cox (EDLD); Sukumar Kamalasadan (ECE); Mark Hall (ENGL); Scott Hippensteel (GYES); Joyce Dalsheim (GLBL); Karen Flint (HIST); Ertunga Ozelkan (ISE); Maryrica Lottman (LACS); Liz Siler (LIB); Karen Ford-Eickhoff (MGMT); Yinghao Pan (MATH); Mira Frisch (MUSC); Rachel Watkins (PAS); Shannon Sullivan (PHIL); Menelaos Poutous (PHYS); Fred Batista Pereira (POLS); Lori Van Wallendael (PSYC); Lorenzo Hopper (PHS); Madelyn Colonnese (REEL); Barbara Thiede (RELS); Jackie Garcia (SOWK); Yang Cao (SOCY); Bill Chu (SIS); Chris O’Brien (SPCD); David Fillmore (THEA); Cat Mahaffey (WRDS)

**Voting Members Absent**

**(Ex Officio)**: Carlos Cruz (FEC, COAA); Mohamed Shehab (FEC, CCI); Erik Byker (FEC, COED Faculty Chair); Jan Rieman (FEC, CLAS); Michael Walter (FEC, COS Faculty Chair); Angel Truesdale (FEC, Library Faculty President); Kevin Bailey (V.C. for Student Affairs); Jose Gamez (COAA Dean); Bojan Cukic (CCI Dean); Lisa Slattery Walker (University College Dean)

**(Unit Representatives)**: Matt Flynn (AERO); Wei Fan (CEGR); Bibi Reisdorf (COMM); Robert Fox (DTSC); Don Chen (ETCM); Weidong Tian (FINN); Ming Chen (MKTG); Stuart Smith (MEES); Adam Myers (MDSK); Joseph Frederick (MSCI); LaTonya Rafe (SON)

**Guests Present (Not Voting)**

Matthew Wyse (Academic Affairs); Leslie Zenk (Academic Affairs, Associate Provost and Chief of Staff); Kiran Budhrani (CTL, Director of Teaching & Learning Innovation); Brandon Wolfe (Diversity and Inclusion, Chief Diversity Officer); Claire Kirby (Enrollment Management, Associate Provost); Yash Tadimalla (Graduate & Professional Student Government, President); Sandra Krause (Graduate School, Assistant Dean); Jesh Humphrey (Legal Affairs, General Counsel & V.C. for Institutional Integrity); Evan Wantland (Mathematics & Statistics); Kimberly Rodgers (University Center for Academic Excellence)

1. **Call to Order.** Faculty President Xiaoxia Newton called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. and thanked Past President Susan Harden, Faculty Secretary Debra Smith, and Faculty Governance Assistant Matt Wyse.
2. **Report of the Chancellor (Dr. Sharon Gaber).** Gaber gave the following report:

* Spring enrollment is up some.
* The State Legislature has a short session coming up.
* We are working to digitize more of our work.
* Board of Governors meeting next week.
* We are now heading into election season, from now to November 2024.
  + I encourage you to register to vote
  + Please note that people will be coming to our campus and it is not necessary for them to be invited. The University must take a state of neutrality, so the institution cannot state our preference on those coming to our campus.
    - Jesh Humphrey adds that the University still can respond to issues that directly impact our campus and everyone has academic freedom to discuss these topics in their classrooms.
* Rich Steele is leaving our institution. We wish him success and have a search going for the position of Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Management.
* Tonight at 5:00 P.M. UNC Charlotte welcomes distinguished Charlotte architect, civil rights leader, and public servant Harvey B. Gantt as part of Niner Nation King Week. The Q&A format presentation will be held in Cone Center’s McKnight Hall.

No questions asked.

1. **Report of the Provost (Dr. Jennifer Troyer).** Troyer gave the following report:

* Dean Searches –
  + COAA Dean search – the candidates are here.
  + UCOL Dean search – finalists next week.
  + COB Dean search – advertisement is out.
  + CHESS Dean search – advertisement is out.
* For the Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs, applications are due by the end of the month.
* We are forming a task force to look at academic integrity issues, in response to faculty integrity issues brought to our attention.
* Previously Greg Weeks presented at Faculty Council on ROI (Return on Investment). The next step, the UNC System is asking us to look at the programs with negative ROI. Not all the programs are on the public dashboard, some are only on the spreadsheet we were given. We had a small number of programs with negative ROI. We are working with the Deans and Directors to answer questions.
* News from the UNC System is that the State Legislature is considering legislation to require the teaching of foundations of U.S. democracy at universities. We should receive more information at the Board of Governors meeting next week. The Faculty Assembly is working to get ahead of this to ensure flexibility.

No follow-up questions asked.

1. **DART Presentation (Larry Gourdine, Associate Dean & Director of Student Support Services).** Gourdine noted that he had with him Chris Gonyar (Director, Office of Emergency Management) and Lucian Wilhelm (Senior Associate Director, CRES). DART stands for Demonstration Activity Resource Team. The DART approach is to respond to planned and unplanned demonstration events to promote a safe living and learning environment and to minimize disruption to university operations. The types of events that may involve DART include protests, vigils, demonstrations, and high-profile programs and speakers. We build relationships and help ensure that these events are done in the safest method possible.

**Q:** Can we get announcements or have somewhere on the website posts of all planned protests?

**A:** Good question. The role of DART is to support safety.

Bailey added that DART reports to him. The simple answer is “no”. There is an events page for events registered. We at DART do not want to be seen as promoting events or demonstrations, nor drawing attention to these events.

**Q:** Is every DARTable event on the events page?

**A:** Wilhelm answered that if they have gone through the appropriate process, then it will be on 25Live.

1. **Consent Agenda.** No removals for further discussion were requested. Ford-Eickhoff moved to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

All of the following consent agenda items were approved:

* 1. Approved Minutes of the Faculty Council Meeting of November 30, 2023
  2. Approved Request to Revise Name of Nanoscale Science, Ph.D. to Chemistry and Nanoscale Science, Ph.D.

1. **Feedback Requested on Draft Changes to the Faculty Workload Procedure.** Troyer said these procedures were written based on draft regulations. If the final procedures are different than the draft and necessitates revisions on our part, then we will bring this back to you. This procedure does not need to be approved by the Faculty Council, but we want your feedback.

**Q:** Section IV.5 says compensation for overload may not be paid, but a reduction may not come until the following academic year. Compensation should come the same year, so those not returning receive their compensation.

**A:** We can amend the language to give an option for compensation to be chosen the same year.

**Q:** The last revision was in 2013. Can we give feedback on parts of the procedure that are not being revised?

**A:** Yes, we’ll take any feedback.

**Q:** Does deletion of the last paragraph in Section II mean that special topics will not be treated differently?

**A:** This is not our intention. We may need to put some of this back in.

**Q:** Section IV.4 mentions buyouts. Does this include research courses?

**A:** The intention is not to change how departments handle it currently.

**Q:** Will workloads change and the paperwork to handle?

**A:** I do not expect workloads to change. How we keep track of all this may. Once we have the final regulations, we will work on developing a system and share with department chairs.

**Q:** The Annual Review has a process for this, correct?

**A:** Yes, the intention is during the Annual Review process you will be setting your workload for the next year.

**Q:** What will implementation look like?

**A:** This Spring we will start and in Fall 2025 we will have to report for the first time.

Please forward any feedback to Faculty Governance soon, this week.

1. **Report of the President-Elect (Dr. Susan Harden).** Harden gave the following report:

* One of the positive aspects of this workload policy change is it will bring more transparency to how workload is set in the departments/units. We have some faculty teaching significant loads. Let’s figure out how to implement this in a positive way. I’m hopeful that our hard work is being noticed and that myths of faculty work are being broken.
* Foundations of American Democracy will be something all institutions will need to deal with. First time in a long time we have been told what we must teach. We need to use our expertise on this. Volunteer to be part of faculty leadership on this issue if you are passionate about this.
* At the Provost orientation at the College of Education someone asked what is happening with DEI and the need to feel protected. Some faculty members feel vulnerable. We have a committee led by Debra Smith who is working right now on these issues.

1. **Report of the President (Dr. Xiaoxia Newton).** Newton had the following report:

* Newton welcomed Dr. Brandon Wolfe, Chief Diversity Officer. Wolfe said the Diversity and Inclusion Office has completed our Strategic Inclusive Excellence Plan. We are working to do presentations at each college.
* Newton welcomed Mr. Yash Tadimalla, President of the Graduate & Professional Student Government. Tadimalla extended a thank you on behalf of all graduate students. The Annual Graduate Research Symposium 2024 will be held in the Popp Martin Student Union on March 22nd, 2024 starting at 10:00 A.M. The abstract submission deadline has been extended to January 31st, 2024. Please encourage students to submit posters.
* Non-tenure track faculty will now have their promotions included in the annual kickoff event along with tenure track faculty promotions.
* This Spring we have faculty governance elections, including the election of a President-Elect. Please let us know if you are interested.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:04 P.M.

Minutes taken by Matthew Wyse, Faculty Governance Assistant