

University of North Carolina at Asheville
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Minutes for September 3, 2015 (3:15 pm)

Senate

Members: B. Butler, L. Bond, D. Clarke, S. Patch, C. Bell, M. Cameron, D. Diefenbach, L. Han, L. Hewitt, M. Neelon, J. Perkins, M. Sidelnick, M. Stratton, W. Strehl, R. Tatum, G. Trautmann, S. Walters, M. Grant, J. Urgo.

Alternates: L. Holland

Excused: K. Betsalel, L. Hewitt (5:00 p.m.), G. Trautmann (5:00 p.m.), S. Patch (5:00 p.m.)

Visitors: G. Ashburn, P. Catterfeld, L. Dohse, J. Dunsmore, W. Haggard, L. Holland, L. Horgan, A. Jesse, E. Katz, J. Konz, K. Krumpke, P. McClellan, H. Parlier, J. Preston, A. Shope, L. Simmelink, R. Straub.

I. Call to Order, Introductions and Announcements: Dr. Brian Butler
Dr. Brian Butler called the Faculty Senate meeting to order.

II. Chancellor Grant Addresses the Faculty Senate Chancellor Mary Grant
Chancellor Grant thanked the faculty for all their work to engage students in their studies and for their energy at the beginning of the 2015-16 academic year.

The Chancellor is thrilled with all preparations for the upcoming installation week. Chancellor Grant believes this week is a celebration of the university as well as a reaffirmation of us. She thanked everyone for their thoughtfulness, creativity and spirit that they gave to this special occasion.

She is looking forward to this academic year and beyond. The Chancellor is honored for the opportunity to do this good and important work with faculty. We are going to make a difference and have some fun also for she believes in working with a sense of urgency but not with a sense of anxiety. She continues to appreciate the level of knowledge and excellence as well as the passion and commitment faculty brings to their work and to our students. Chancellor Grant truly respects what faculty do and their work is truly magnificent. The faculty is setting this institution apart and it is a true privilege for her to have the opportunity to do her best work to support faculty. She looks forward to working with all faculty as colleagues as we continue to build this institution.

III. Approval of Minutes and 2015-2016 Standing Rules and R:

- [April 30, 2015 \(3:15 p.m.\)](#)
- [April 30, 2015 \(6:00 p.m.\)](#)

Moved, second, no discussion and passed without dissent.

[The Standing Rules and Rules of Order – 2015-2016](#)

Moved, second, no discussion and passed without dissent.

IV. Executive Committee Reports: Dr. Brian Butler

The Executive Committee had their first meeting and also met with the Chancellor regarding the strategic plan and other topics for consideration this year. Details will be forthcoming as items are presented to the Faculty Senate.

Faculty Assembly. Dr. Dohse was re-elected to the Faculty Assembly Executive Committee. The big issue Faculty Assembly had over the summer was not being allowed to offer input into the UNC President search. They asked that the candidates talk with a few selected faculty where there was an understanding of confidentiality, but their request was not granted. Faculty Assembly suspects (a rumor based on solid observations) that the new president has already been chosen and they are now working out details.

Faculty Assembly is also concerned with the crisis at the General Administration where many people are leaving. Climate and morale are low there, but they hope this will calm down once the new UNC President takes office.

Looking ahead, the next Faculty Assembly meeting will be about Shared Governance. They decided to work more with Staff Assembly so there is a united front going forward.

The big items for consideration in the coming year is:

- Shared Governance
- Academic priorities (Dr. Dohse is on this subcommittee)
- Minority Campuses issues

Their first Faculty Assembly meeting is September 11.

Alumni Relations. Laura Simmelink, Director of Alumni Relations came to Senate to ask for faculty support and opportunities for partnership in helping our alumni to reconnect again to UNC Asheville. A student's best experience at UNC Asheville were many times with their faculty and so seeking out faculty and fellow alums are great means of reconnection.

A number of new programs from Alumni Relations to provide opportunities for reconnection are forthcoming:

- Student and alumni mentoring network
- Political Science Department Reunion on October 1 where Dr. Sabo will give thoughts on the upcoming elections
- Studio stroll around the River Arts District with Alumni from 1981-2015 graduating classes
- A Creek Crawl with students and alumni led by Tim Forrest

Questions:

Dr. Stratton asked what efforts are there to systematically collect and track employment, graduate school, etc. of alumni.

Director Simmelink said this is critical data that they use in many ways. They obtain information directly from alumni through their website and then they pay companies to mine that data. They have a LinkedIn community (currently has 1200 alumni members) they hope to build up.

If faculty have ideas on how to reach out and connect with alumni, please let Director Simmelink know.

Chancellor Staff Advisory Council (CSAC). Robert Straub, Chair of the Chancellor Staff Advisory Council, asked to speak to Faculty Senate about its service project for the Chancellor's installation. They decided to work with the Key Center on a donation drive to raise educational supplies for our community partners who work with children and youth (YWCA School Age Program, Burton Street Community Center, Hillcrest After School Enrichment Program, Delta House Life Development, and Trinity Place Caring for Children). The drive will begin on September 14 and run through September 19. There will be an email going out to the campus community with drive details.

V. Academic Policies Committee Report:

Professor Laura Bond

Laura Bond introduced the committee members for the 2015-16 academic year so those new to the Faculty Senate will know who to look for in the coming year.

Members:

Laura Bond, Chair, from the Arts and Ideas Program

Chris Bell from the Economics Department

Ken Betsalel from the Political Science Department

Marietta Cameron from the Computer Science Department

Micheal Stratton from the Management and Accountancy Department

Wiebke Strehl from the Modern Languages and Literature Department

Ex-officio members:

Alicia Shope, Associate Registrar
Keith Krumpe, Dean of the Natural Sciences Division

Consultants:

Lynne Horgan, the new registrar
Pat McClellan, Assistant Provost
Lisa Sellers provides the important administrative support for the group.

Professor Bond highlighted the [APC Memorandum](#) which is a document that explains general information about APC as well as its policies and procedures when departments submit curriculum changes. If anyone has questions, please contact Professor Bond.

SenateSubmit, the online curriculum changes submission application, is in development. Professor Bond thanked Marietta Cameron and Lisa Sellers who have been working all summer on this application. Thanks also go out to Boris Sarkisov, a 2015 graduate, who helped develop the prototype. This application is going to change not only how documents reach APC but how information reaches all Senate members. The system is currently in the testing phase for the Fall Semester.

VI. Faculty Welfare and Development Committee Report: Dr. Steve Patch

Dr. Patch introduced the members of FWDC for the 2015-16 academic year:

Members:

Steve Patch, Chair from the Mathematics Department
Lyndi Hewitt from the Sociology/Anthropology Department
Scott Walters from the Drama Department
Mark Sidelnick from the Education Department
Mike Neelon from the Psychology Department

Ex-Officio Member:

Jeff Konz, Dean of the Social Sciences Division

Administrative Support:

Lisa Sellers

Task Force Update. At the last meeting of the 2014-15 academic year, the Faculty Senate created four task forces. FWDC was asked to make a call to the faculty at-large for interest in serving on these task forces.

The Task Force for Faculty Salary and Equity had a working group formed in the summer and then members were recruited without putting a call out to the faculty at-large. Dr. Patch asked to bring those names forward for the Senate to make a motion to accept these nominations since the membership of these committees needs to be approved by the Faculty Senate.

Task Force to Study Faculty Salary and Equity

Dee Eggers, Chair
Marietta Cameron
Volker Frank
Jackie Langille
Steve Patch
Scott Walters
Cathy Whitlock

In this slate, each division and rank are represented. A motion was made and seconded to accept this slate of members for the Task Force to Study Faculty Salary and Equity.

Question:

Dr. Trautmann asked if all members on this slate want to serve on this task force.

Dr. Patch said that each person was contacted and they each agreed to serve.

Dr. Stratton asked about timeline and deliverables.

Dr. Patch referred to the [guiding document](#) from the April 30 meeting that answers these questions.

The Faculty Senate endorsed the slate of members for the Task Force to Study Faculty Salary and Equity without dissent (1 abstention).

FWDC will put out a call to the faculty at-large regarding interest in serving on the remaining task forces through a google form. Their proposed timeline is to put the call out early next week, ask for responses within the next two weeks and present slates to the Faculty Senate at either the September or October Faculty Senate meeting, Determining the membership is challenging and takes time since FWDC has to find members that represent both each division and each rank.

Since the task forces were created at the last meeting of the last administration of Faculty Senate where one-third of the present Senate (6 members) did not get to be heard nor approve these task forces, Dr. Robert Tatum wondered if Faculty Senate might want to revisit whether this Senate wants to reaffirm the creation and work of these task forces. There was a discussion on the need for all these task forces.

Dr. Marietta Cameron wanted reaffirmation votes. Considering the Faculty Senate already voted to create these task forces, it was discerned that the only way to phrase the motion was to make a motion to dissolve a task force. If the motion passed, the task force would be dissolved. If the motion failed, the task force would be reaffirmed.

Dr. Cameron made a motion to dissolve the Task Force on Graduate Programs and have its work be given to the Institutional Development Committee (IDC). The motion was seconded.

The motion passed 13-1 (2 abstentions) and the Task Force on Graduate Programs was dissolved.

Dr. Cameron made a motion to dissolve the Task Force to Revise Student Rating of Instruction. The motion was seconded.

The motion failed without dissent and the Task Force to Revise Student Rating of Instruction creation and work was reaffirmed.

Dr. Cameron made a motion to dissolve the Task Force on Faculty Workload. The motion was seconded.

The motion failed 6-7 (3 abstentions) and the Task Force on Faculty Workload creation and work was reaffirmed.

Dr. Patch said a call will be put out to the faculty at-large for interest in serving on the Task Force on Faculty Workload and the Task Force to Review Student Rating of Instruction.

First Reading:

[FWDC 1](#) Revision of the Student Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee

[FWDC 2](#) Dissolving the Sexual Harassment Advisory Committee

Dr. Patch introduced the above first reading documents. FWDC worked with Vice Chancellor Haggard on FWDC 1 to expand faculty membership from 3 members to 6 members with the thought that those 6 members will fill needed committees' positions for Student Affairs where they currently go out continually and recruit faculty.

FWDC 2 dissolves the Sexual Harassment Advisory Committee. This document was brought to FWDC by our Chapter 9 administrator Jill Moffitt. The motivation for this is the functions of this committee are superseded by our current policies and administrative approach to dealing with sexual harassment. If you have questions, contact Dr. Patch for FWDC consideration.

VII. Institutional Development Committee/UPC Reports: Dr. David Clarke

Dr. Clarke introduced the members of IDC for the 2015-16 academic year:

Members:

David Clarke, Chair from the Biology Department

James Perkins from the Physics Department

Lei Han from the New Media Department

Don Diefenbach from the Mass Communication Department

Robert Tatum from the Economics Department

Greta Trautmann from the Modern Languages and Literature Department

Ex-Officio Member:

Michael Gass, Director of Institutional Research

Jessica Stowell, Director of Institutional Effectiveness

Gwen Ashburn, Dean of the Humanities Division

Administrative Support:

Lisa Sellers

IDC has met once this semester and will have a document up for first reading at the next Faculty Senate meeting.

Their agenda has the following items for the coming year:

- Fossil Fuel Divestment – a SGA initiative where IDC is waiting on their document for Senate to vote to support
- Property Use discussion on what to do with new properties
- University Planning Council –tasked this coming year with the Strategic Plan
- Graduate Programs
- Undergraduate Certificates

Over the summer, the Food Studies Cluster met with key administrative personnel regarding their options. There will be two documents coming before the Faculty Senate – one document on Undergraduate Certificates and a second document (that also goes to APC) on creating the Food Studies Certificate. They understand that they are setting up precedent for other proposals and it is clear that Faculty Senate will have concerns and questions.

VIII. Administrative Reports:

Provost Joseph Urgo

Provost Urgo began his report with a clarification regarding the large freshman class of 750 students. This class of freshman was a result of an intentional change in the admissions profile, and therefore, these numbers should be sustained in the coming years. This has important implications of the changes in the student body going forward for all of us to discuss. This freshman class is not only the largest class but it is also the most diverse class on a number of different indicators and so retaining these students is going to be critical. There may be possibilities of new faculty lines as a result of this new enrollment profile.

They have been discussing the current snow policy. Provost Urgo does not like the policy where all classes are cut by one-half hour. He is looking to change this so that cancelling classes does not affect the entire schedule. There will be an email going out regarding this soon.

COACHE and NSSE survey results will be coming out. Michael Gass, the new Director of Institutional Research, will take lead on presenting the results of these as opposed to Provost Urgo presenting the results. The Provost and the faculty then are invited to respond to the data. Provost Urgo feels this way is a more balanced way where he is not in the position of contextualizing the results.

Provost Urgo said a larger issue for the coming year and he encourages faculty to creatively think about is how we deliver our curriculum in order to have PDLs and release time. Provost Urgo believes to effectively

absorb these each semester, we have to look at program and course delivery in a very efficient way. The Provost is wanting to think about the strategic deployment of large sections to free up faculty for more small sections and release time.

Questions:

Dr. Cameron wanted to point out regarding program and course delivery that there has to be a balance maintained to help our students be competitive in the workplace as well as prepare those who wish to go on to graduate school. Dr. Uργο agreed.

Dr. Clarke pointed out that they need to evaluate the number of spaces on campus that can accommodate large classes. Dr. Uργο agreed that they need to explore that.

Dr. Stratton also pointed out that careful study of faculty workload is needed as well as attention to grading issues that larger classes present.

Provost Uργο says he sees a lot of classes that have 30 students and he is not sure he understands the difference for the student between that size class and a class of 40-60 students. There are many models and he is not suggesting a particular one. He is suggesting we need to look at our methods of course delivery. There is a lot of good thinking on this and there may be many things we could learn. We might need a task force.

Dr. Walters wanted to go back to Provost Uργο's initial topic regarding transfer students. He believes it was not that long ago where the universities were getting pressure from GA to accept community college transfers. Has that lessened?

Provost Uργο said that hasn't lessened and is one of the contradictions we live with where we are judged on our four year graduation rate as well as how friendly we are to transfers. This is still part of our landscape. However, there is a big difference between being friendly to transfers and having half your graduating class be transfers.

IX. Old Business

No old business.

X. New Business

No new business.

XI. Adjourn

Dr. Butler adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Lisa Sellers
The Executive Committee