

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
September 29, 2016; 3:15 pm
Red Oak Conference Room

Senate Members: B. Butler, C. Bell, D. Clarke, S. Patch, J. Beck, K. Boyle, M. Cameron, K. Garbe, L. Han, P. Haschke, L. Hewitt, L. Holland, S. Judson, M. Neelon, J. Perkins, N. Ruppert, A. Wray, J. Urgo.

Alternate: M. Richmond

Excused: A. Boakye-Boaten, M. Neelon

Visitors: L. Dohse, M. Gass, L. Horgan, E. Katz, J. Konz, K. Krumpe, P. McClellan, A. Shope, W. Strehl, D. Traywick, C. Williams.

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes:
[September 1, 2016 3:15 p.m.](#)
Passed without dissent.

III. Executive Committee Report:	Dr. Brian Butler
Student Government:	President Charles White
Faculty Assembly:	Dr. Lothar Dohse

Dr. Lothar said at the first Faculty Assembly meeting they met President Spellings and some of the many new people at the General Administration (GA).

[UNC System Strategic Planning](#) (*scroll down on this website past the large quote to get to the information*) The big issue covered at this meeting was the UNC system Strategic Plan – with a new President, comes a new strategic plan. The UNC Strategic Plan is centered around the following five themes: access, student success, affordability and efficiency, excellent and diverse institutions, and economic impact. The major issue that the Faculty Assembly has with the strategic plan is the items that were written and brought to them could easily match a community college – there was nothing in the items that separated universities from community colleges which alarms the Faculty Assembly. However, we still have time to work with GA and the President.

One of the things that President Spellings said was she really wants to work with the Faculty Assembly to build trust between them and her and GA. Dr. Dohse found her to be very personable. The only issue that Faculty Assembly is noticing is the evident lack of UNC system's institutional memory right now due to the turnover in administration.

Faculty Assembly passed two resolutions. The resolution where the universities are asked to respond in support is [Resolution 2016-1](#): On the Governance Implications of [North Carolina Session Law 2016-94](#). Faculty Senate approved without dissent to create a Sense of Senate Resolution to affirm this Faculty Assembly resolution.

IV. Academic Policies Committee Report: Dr. Chris Bell

***First Reading:**

[APC 1](#) Proposed Academic Calendars
2017-2018: Final draft
2018-2019: Preliminary draft
(Lynne Horgan)

[APC 2](#) Dissolving the Policy Regarding Excusing Seniors from
Final Exams During the Last Semester of Their Program
(Chris Bell)

**If you have questions or issues to be addressed regarding these first reading documents, please contact Chris Bell, APC Chair, at bell@unca.edu*

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

***First Reading:**

[FWDC 1](#) Clarify Membership of the Teaching Awards Committee to Include Only
Full-Time Faculty Members

[FWDC 2](#) Revisions to the Institutional Effectiveness Committee

FWDC is working on the [Charge for the Academic Affairs Task Force on Contingent Faculty](#). Since the document had already been distributed to the department chairs, Dr. Marietta Cameron requested that the proposed charge be distributed to all Faculty Senate members which was granted. There are still items to be worked out before the Senate will see the final proposal.

**If you have questions or issues to be addressed regarding these first reading documents, please contact Steve Patch, FWDC Chair, at patch@unca.edu*

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

IDC did not meet in September. At their next meeting, IDC will consider a minor in Cherokee/Indigenous Studies. They will also hear at some point from Laura Bond on a proposal she has.

UPC will also meet with the returning consultants regarding the implementation of the strategic plan.

Since work is picking up, IDC may have a couple of documents for first reading at the next Faculty Senate meeting.

VII. Administration/Academic Affairs:

Provost Joseph Uργο

The Strategic plan consultants are coming back at the beginning of October to help us with implementation down through departments and units around campus to create action plans of goals and strategies for the coming year. These plans need to be assembled into a format that we can present to SACS at some point.

SGA President Charlie White and Provost Uργο had an interesting discussion at one of their regular meetings involving issues in classrooms that appear to be anecdotal incidents. However, these incidents do seem to occur enough times for students to be concerned. President White and Provost Uργο came up with a potential idea to address these issues by having students put a panel together on “Life in the Classroom at UNC Asheville” that they would present to the faculty. The students can organize this themselves, and the Provost would urge as many of the faculty to attend as possible to hear students’ concerns - not naming names or making accusations, but showing faculty their perspective of what it is like to be a student here. This idea is being considered by SGA.

Attendance in Freshman Classes. Provost Uργο had asked Deaver Traywick to look into the attendance in Freshman classes and the usefulness / effectiveness of an early alert system. One data point that was presented that astounded the Provost was 83.3% of our students last year that received a “D,” an “F,” or an Unsatisfactory in their class did not receive an early alert from their professor that they were in danger of failing. It is disturbing to have that many students failing without ever having an early alert sent to them. Provost Uργο is interested in some kind of a midterm process by which we alert students who are not doing as well as they may think they are doing. Provost Uργο is open to discussion with APC regarding these issues.

Senate Discussion:

Dr. Lora Holland stated that her experience is that students many times fail in the last few weeks of school, in which case an early warning system would not be helpful.

Dr. Marietta Cameron pointed out that there are quite a few faculty that keep grades on Moodle. If a student has a bunch of zeros on assignments, that should be an indicator to the student of their status although the professor has not sent an early alert. There is a notification in terms of Moodle as well as emails that faculty sends. So a student could say they did not receive anything without taking into account emails or things that are on Moodle that makes the student aware of what their grades are. Dr. Cameron has difficulty believing a student is failing and they do not know they are failing. Provost Uργο said the advantage of an early alert or a midterm report is the alert would also go to the student’s advisor and then the advisor is clued in and can advise the student. Provost Uργο believes the high percentage of over 80% suggests we need to take some action.

There has been an Administrative Task Force created to look at events on campus, reviewing how we calendar events and capture event information. They are looking to transition to a system which does a better job at displaying all the events on campus.

The default will be that all events will be advertised. If you do not want an event to show up on the master calendar, you would have to do something to prevent that from happening. We are also looking at how we manage and present events on campus working toward a consistency while lowering faculty's logistic planning time by utilizing CESAP more extensively.

VIII. Old Business

IX. New Business

X. Adjourn

Dr. Brian Butler adjourned the Senate meeting at 3:55 p.m.