

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE  
**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**  
September 7, 2023; 3:15 pm, Laurel Forum, Karpen 139

Members: D. Eggers, A. Laughlin, K. Boyle, M. Mahoney, R. Berls, J. Brown, B. Butler, S. Dittenber, B. Felix, S. Kapur, L. Kloeppel, T. Meigs, B. Sanft, R. Tatum, E. Tomberlin, L. Ward, C. Whitlock, S. Williams; H. Holt.

Visitors: K. van Noort, A. Boakye-Boaten, C. Boone, B. Bourne, M. Cameron, D. Case-Ruchala R. Criser, J. Dougherty, E. Greene, L. Horgan, S. Kaplan, T. King, J. Konz, L. Linton, J. Liposchak, G. Reynolds, T. Rizzo, A. Shope, A. Strickland, M. Strystick, K. Swenson, D. Traywick, R. Vandaie.

I. Call to Order and Welcome by Faculty Senate Faculty Senate Chair Dee Eggers

II. Moment of Silence out of respect for UNC Chapel Hill Professor Zijie Yan

III. Election from Among the Alternates to fill Senate Vacancy  
Rob Berls was elected from among the alternates to serve the vacancy term of 2023-24.

IV. Interim Provost Herman Holt Remarks  
Interim Provost Herman Holt reported on the timing of the [M.S. in Climate Resilience](#) Proposal through the UNC System. When the proposal goes down, it will take a month before it is reviewed. Once UNC System Office approves and invites submission of Request to Establish, we will have to submit the Request to Establish within four months.

V. Interim Chancellor Kim van Noort Remarks  
Interim Chancellor Kim van Noort thanked Faculty Senate for holding a moment of silence for Professor Yan. There has been a lot of talk among the chancellors about safety considering recent shootings. We have had an emergency of a different nature regarding the gas line in front of Brown Hall. She encourages Faculty Senate to invite Daran Dodd, Chief of Police, to talk about Emergency Management Protocols. We have an Emergency Response Team and plans for emergencies on campus. She believes this information needs to be relayed to faculty and staff in the buildings so all understand why we get alerts and how to respond to certain emergencies.

Scott Williams asked if the doors could be installed so they can be locked from the inside in the case of an active shooter.

The new Safety Manager wants to immediately do the safety audit of the entire campus. That would include doors locking mechanisms, visibility problems looking into classrooms, egress issues, nighttime lighting, working emergency kiosks. She agreed that it is important to lock a door. There are many things to do to improve campus safety.

Rob Tatum noted that his department and others have completed the active shooter training. However, he observed that the Chapel Hill shooting was different in that the shooter was after one specific person. As plans are made to prepare faculty, students, and staff, he hopes that training is updated to prepare for these wide varying

situations. He would like to see more training on de-escalation and what are the appropriate actions to know to do in the heat of the moment.

Kim Van Noort said she is happy to have that conversation and she encouraged FWDC to get involved to determine the training that faculty need for this as well as other incidents like the increase in bullying and harassment. Dee Eggers added trolling bullying.

Becky Sanft also added that there is a need for faculty to know what to do when a student has a medical emergency in the classroom. Dee Eggers added that she would like to see First Aid and CPR training offered on campus.

Kim van Noort replied that she welcomes the discussion.

VI. Approval of Minutes: April 27, 2023 (first meeting and second meeting)

Minutes were approved without dissent.

VII. Executive Committee Report and [Approval of Standing Rules and Rules of Order 2023-24](#)

Dee Eggers prefaced the approval of the Standing Rules and Rules of Order with some background information regarding the two proposed changes from the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. She relayed that according to the Faculty Handbook, the standing rules must be approved at the first meeting and can only be amended at the first meeting. No business can occur before the standing rules are approved.

The first proposed change is a clarification: Faculty Senate meets synchronously. She understands some exceptions were made during the darkest days of the pandemic. However, Faculty Senate is a deliberative body and to function properly and complete its work, the meetings need to happen synchronously.

The second change relates to the process by which new programs or certificates are planned. There is quite a bit of history behind this change.

In the past, new program and certificate proposals were reviewed by IDC and APC at the point they were proposed. In other words, they were seen by the majority of senators early in the process. At another time, they were reviewed by IDC and senate. There were some departures from that process, for example, the Climate and Society MLAS. Those departures led to a revision of the Faculty Handbook.

Prior to the passage of SD0512 in 2013, 5.4.2 of the Faculty Handbook read:

“At the time of submitting a request to plan a degree program such request should receive approval of IDC and the Faculty Senate. This review is to consider the concept, purpose, feasibility, and appropriateness of the request.”

They attempted to clarify the process and flow of planning and approving new degree programs and certificates. The document they proposed allowed planning approval by IDC with an announcement to senate. They consolidated UNCA procedures for the establishment of programs into one area of the Faculty Handbook.

Perhaps more importantly, this process has changed from years past. The process for System Office approval has changed substantially from what it was several years ago. The first step, the request to plan, recently renamed the request for preliminary approval in some places, is a more extensive process than it was several years ago.

Lisa Sellers brought the need to correct this to my attention in Fall 2014. We have known this and several other parts of the Faculty Handbook need correcting; however, with administrative turnover and the pandemic, other matters have required the attention of senate.

Deaver Traywick asked a question regarding timing. He is not sure the turnaround time of paperwork to the System Office works with two Faculty Senate's two reading approval structure.

Dee Eggers clarified that it was only two senate meetings, one for the first reading and one the second reading and the vote. She added that this process works most smoothly when the planners keep senate executive in the loop while they are planning so the committee chairs can bring the plans to the committees. When that is the case, and concerns are addressed, senate should likely be willing to expedite the sign-off with a special meeting for the first readings or otherwise support expediting the approval process. Including senate leadership in the discussion from the very early phases of the MPH planning process helped it easily move through senate. Dee Eggers strongly encouraged planning groups to make contact with senate executive early in the development process and keep senate executive informed as the request to plan or request for preliminary approval evolves. Senate executive would like to work with this process and we request to be appraised and consulted during development to support the best outcome for the university.

#### VIII. Introductions and Reports to Senate

Student Government:

President Alondra Barrera-Hernandez

No report.

Staff Council:

Chair Emily Greene

The new Staff Council Chair Emily Greene made her first report to the Faculty Senate. Staff Council has interest in a childcare proposal. If faculty would be interested in working on this with them, let her know. She would like to increase collaboration between Staff Council and Faculty Senate.

Faculty Assembly Representative:

Vice Chair Toby King and Christine Boone

[Report for September 7, 2023](#)

Christine Boone was asked to relay her work on the Evaluation of Faculty Policy. Christine Boone she is not sure exactly where that policy stands now. The committee she served on relied heavily on the work that our Student Feedback on Instruction Committee has done over the past few years. The workgroup had questions about the way we changed our form from Feedback on Teaching to Feedback on Instruction. They talked a lot about how students are not qualified to evaluate pedagogy, but they can reflect on their experience that is important. They talked about feedback on teaching being used as part of the evaluative measures for faculty but never the entirety of evaluative measures for faculty. The whole first page of recommendations that comes out with our own SFI form talking about how the forms should and should not be used. They had questions about our DI-related questions on our SFI forum specifically with regard to the new rules that come down from the system office and we were dealing with that and how we were able to get those through as well as respond to student demands.

Marietta Cameron spoke from a space of being one of the few in a minority demographic present at the meeting to say while she understands we have to live with some of the bills passed by the legislature however she still wants to raise how we have to be cautious and understand the ramifications when the majority play their diplomatic games of language in order to get anywhere and can enjoy that for a long time. She keeps hearing niceties and she heard niceties when she served on Faculty Assembly. To her, those niceties is a game to silence people. She said we need to speak out and look at the action not the language. She has had to play the language game a long time and knows how to play the game of being nice and cordial. She also sees what it gets her.

Reflecting upon what Marietta Cameron said, Ted Meigs relayed that one thing that bothered him was how the legislators responded to the protests of the faculty of Chapel Hill's over proposed inflammatory bills being submitted to the legislature. He did not like the their retaliatory to punish faculty for voicing their complaint. He understands that we have to work with people who do not see things the way we do, but we also need to keep the game fair and it is a tragedy to observe these activities.

- IX. Academic Policies Committee: First Vice Chair Andrew Laughlin  
[Academic Policies Memorandum 2023-24](#)

APC Chair Andrew Laughlin brought to everyone's attention the Academic Policies Memo for this year that explains the processes to prepare and submit curricular change documents. Please contact him if you have questions. **The deadline for proposal submission is Monday, October 16, 2023.**

- X. Faculty Welfare and Development Committee: Third Vice Chair Melissa Mahoney  
[Decision Summaries](#)

**First Reading**

[FWDC 1](#) Revise Faculty Handbook Guidelines for Program Changes  
Faculty Handbook [Section 5.4.2](#)

The new FWDC Chair is Melissa Mahoney. She is very happy to be serving in this role. She introduced FWDC 1 for first reading. FWDC had a healthy conversation about changes proposed in this document when Dee Eggers introduced the new Standing Rules and Rules of Order. FWDC 1 proposes aligning the Faculty Handbook with the Faculty Senate Standing Rules concerning UNCA's procedure for new programs. If there are any questions or issues to be raised, please submit them to FWDC and they will be happy to address them.

- XI. Institutional Development Committee / UPC: Second Vice Chair Kirk Boyle  
Kirk Boyle is the new Chair of IDC. He reported that IDC is figuring out their agenda for the year. He is meeting with Emily Greene for Staff Council gathering voices in the room about issues that staff and faculty are confronting. A Data Science Minor proposal is in the works as well as a proposal from the Education Department about establishing a Major.

- XII. Announcements/Adjournment Faculty Senate Chair Dee Eggers  
Dee Eggers adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.