

## Meeting Minutes, Faculty Senate, full meeting, August 23, 2022

These minutes were reviewed and approved during the Faculty Senate meeting on Tuesday, September 27, 2022.

In attendance: Phoebe Ajibade (A); Jeffrey Alston (S); Niroj Aryal (S); Mohammad Azad (A); Bishnu Bastakoti (S); Jennifer Beasley (A); Stephen Bollinger (S); Kelvin Bryant (S); Kimberly Bunch-Crump (S); Carmen C. Monico (S); Kalynda Chivon Smith (S); J. David Schall (S); Zachary Denton (S); Nicole Dobbins (Vice Chair); Tiffany Fuller (S); Corey Graves (S); Scott Harrison (Chair); Geetika Jaiswal (S); Yahya Kamalipour (S); Joy Kennedy (A); Cynthia Khanlarian (S); Lyubov Kurkalova (S); Kimberly McNeil (S); Ahmed Megri (S); Emmanuel Obeng-Gyasi (S); Ronald Pedroni (S); William Randle; Ginger Redd; Kristen Rhinehardt (S); Jacqueline Roebuck Sakho (S); Mashooq Salehin (A); Belinda Shipps (S); Chantel Simpson (S); Arwin Smallwood; Davi Thornton (S); Li-Shiang Tsay (A); Maylee Vazquez (A); Thomas Warner (A); Jeff Wolfgang (S); James Wood (S); Qingan Zeng (S); Xueying Zhang (A)

(S): Senator

(A): Alternate

Meeting was called to order by the Faculty Senate Chair, Dr. Scott Harrison. Roll call was taken by Dr. Harrison and Dr. Nicole Dobbins (Faculty Senate Vice Chair).

Dr. Harrison, Chair of the Faculty Senate, provided an introductory statement. Dr. Harrison looked forward to inviting ideas and contributions from everyone in the senate and seeking to be precise and persistent in addressing various issues. An example of an issue to be addressed was the ongoing situation of receiving syllabi information from administration - that had not been reviewed by the faculty community - right before the start of the semester. For this semester, it was less than 24 hours before the start of class. Dr. Harrison expressed gratitude for Dr. Galen Foresman, the preceding Faculty Senate Chair (and also Dr. Foresman's service as former Faculty Senate Vice Chair) for ensuring that we have a strong backbone as a faculty community based around an engaging manner of communication within our community, and a clear and strong sense of advocacy for faculty with respect to the university. Dr. Harrison mentioned that a major objective for the day's meeting was to develop committee assignments and identify committee chairs, along with nominating a Faculty Senate Secretary. Dr. Harrison indicated that each senator (non-alternate) was required to have at least one committee-level involvement.

Due to availability, the agenda was adjusted to move ahead to a report from Dr. William Randle on the Faculty Welfare committee. In addition to describing the general role and involvements of the committee, Dr. Randle specifically mentioned an objective to take further steps toward inclusion of non-tenure track faculty (NTTF) within shared governance and proceedings of the university. Dr. Randle suggested that a new standing committee be established within the Faculty Senate of NTTFs.

The agenda then moved to introductions among those senators and alternates within attendance following the order as indicated on the Faculty Senate roster.

Dr. Dobbins then introduced herself as Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate and described the general work of the UNC System Faculty Assembly. Dr. Dobbins made specific commendation of prior leadership for the Faculty Senate - specifically, Dr. Julius Harp and Dr. Galen Foresman. Dr. Dobbins indicated the change in leadership of the UNC System Faculty Assembly - with its new chair being Wade Maki of UNC Greensboro. Dr. Dobbins provided the following information:

Board of Governors Meeting Dates and Materials: <https://www.northcarolina.edu/apps/bog/index.php>

LiveStream UNC Board of Governors Meeting: <https://www.pbsnc.org/watch/unc-board-of-governors-meetings/>

Reports from Faculty Senate Committees then began, along with a goal to inform everyone further of each committee's area of activity and encourage everyone to join a committee. Dr. Harrison described the work and involvements of New Programs and Curricula, Nominating, Constitution and Faculty Handbook committees. Specific mention was made of how these committees are described in the Faculty Handbook. This included the role of the Nominating committee in guiding Challenges with New Programs and Curricula from last year were mentioned, regarding submission of finalized curriculum packets to the Provost's office. Some mention of Acalog and Curriculog software systems was made whereby there is a moratorium on changes to the curriculum at the university until these systems are brought online. The five-year review cycle was mentioned as regards the Faculty Handbook and the needed work and involvement this year from the Faculty Handbook committee. The role of the Constitution and Faculty Handbook committees regarding further steps toward inclusion of non-tenure track faculty (NTTF) within shared governance and proceedings of the university was mentioned. Dr. Zach Denton described the work of the Educational Policy committee and its involvement in syllabi and other contexts of educational policies surrounding teaching at the university.

A review of the roster and associated committee assignments then began. Various attendees verbally indicated their interest in specific committees. Others self-edited the provided online spreadsheet document. Dr. Harrison again re-iterated that each senator (non-alternate) was required to have at least one committee-level involvement. Alternates were encouraged as well to consider committee-level involvements.

Dr. Harrison called for nominations for Faculty Senate Secretary. Hearing none, Dr. Harrison made a motion to continue the nomination process in an electronic format such as via e-mail with a goal to identify nominees for voting at the next month's full Faculty Senate meeting. Dr. Dobbins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business arose first with comment from more than several attendees (Dr. James Wood, Dr. Jeff Wolfgang, Dr. Nicole Dobbins and others) on common challenges with the bookstore. Some of the challenges mentioned were incorrect orders and failures to submit orders and fix orders - with multiple faculty reporting these challenges to have persisted across three consecutive semesters. Information technology support was then described and reported at length as still being broadly nonfunctional across campus with commentary from Dr. David Schall and others. There was a discussion of a need for a structure to provide governance of IT with comment from Stephen Bollinger and others. Currently there appears to no systems in place to address the ongoing IT issues impacting teaching, research, service and the program coordination across the university. There is an unresolved issue with students

regaining access to the VPN. Several students have had to delay graduation due to inability to access their research data.

Dr. Kurkulova spoke about a need for more faculty representation on university-level committees. Dr. Harrison proposed a standard where two or more faculty members would ideally be involved across various university-level committees. Dr. Kurkulova spoke about the R2 to R1 initiative and the essential role of faculty with any such committees.

In terms of the 8 extra days which are apart of the spring 2023, it was mentioned that recommendations for the use of this time be coordinated now rather than later. Recommendations included that all additional or extra days of the 2023 Spring schedule must be listed on the Calendar ASAP. This will allow sufficient time for campus to plan and prepare schedules.

An attendee from the administration, Dr. Arwin Smallwood, commented on active efforts being made, some of which he considered to be successful, with respect to the bookstore. Dr. Smallwood addressed some of the information technology issues with an emphasis on institutional objectives for security and the overall desire of administration to resolve issues. Dr. Harrison wondered why university administered services were not more focused on enabling faculty to accomplish the work of faculty. Dr. Harrison indicated that a possibly better format for some communications with administrators would be in dialogue with specific committees such as the Faculty Senate Executive Committee or the Faculty Senate Welfare Committee. Dr. Harrison acknowledged the much-appreciated talent, dedication, and commitment from faculty, administrators and staff, but also indicated he would be doing more to manage yielding of the floor to administrators during future full Faculty Senate meetings.

Dr. Harrison again expressed gratitude to Dr. Galen Foresman in closing remarks.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Kelvin Bryant and seconded by Dr. Zachary Denton. The motion carried unanimously.