

FACULTY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2015

Present (ex officio): Gregory Starrett (President); Jeffrey Leak (President-Elect); Peter Schmidt (Secretary); E.E. Balcos (COA+A, Alternate); Chandra Subramaniam (BCOB); Susan Furr (COED); Meredith Troutman-Jordan (CHHS); Beth Rubin (CLAS); Paula Eckard (CLAS); Judy Walker (LIB); Joan Lorden (Provost); Ken Lambla (Dean, College of Arts + Architecture); Yi Deng (Dean, College of Computing and Informatics); Ellen McIntyre (Dean, College of Education); Robert Johnson (Dean, William States Lee College of Engineering); Jane B. Neese for Nancy Fey-Yensan (Dean, College of Health and Human Services); Nancy Gutierrez (Dean, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences); John Smail (Dean, University College).

Absent: Eddy Souffrant (Past President); Cynthia Gibas (CCI); Mehdi Miri (COE); Mark Wilson (CLAS); Phil Dubois (Chancellor); Arthur Jackson (Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs); Steve Ott (Dean, Belk College of Business); Tom Reynolds (Dean, Graduate School).

Present (unit representatives): Casper Wiggins (ACCT); Janet Levy (ANTH); Susan Sell (BINF); Shan Yan (BIOL, Alternate); Jing Zhou (BISOM); Joanna Krueger (CHEM); Loril Gossett (COMM); James Frazier (ITCS); Jack Culbreth (CSLG); John Stogner (CJUS); E.E. Balcos (DANC); Ellen Sewell (ECON, Alternate); Alan Rauch (ENGL); M. Eppes (GYES, Alternate); John Cox (GIAS); Jim Hogue (HIST); Erik Wikstrom (KNES); Anastasia Koralova (LACS); Ed Jernigan (MGMT); Charles Bodkin (MKTG); Lan Kolano (MDSK); Dylan Savage (MUSC); Beth Whitaker (POLS); Charlie Reeve (PSYC); Andrew Harver (PHS); Ian Binns (REEL); John Reeves (RELS); Mark Ezell (SOWK); Murray Webster (SOCY); Shawnee Wakeman (SPED, Alternate); Tom Burch (THEA).

Absent (unit representatives): Dean Fitzgerald (AERO); Tanure Ojaide (AFRS); David Thaddeus (SOA); Maja Godlewska (ARTS); Rajaram Janardhanam (CEGR); Lisa Driscoll (EDLD); Sukumar Kamalasan (ECGR); Barry Sherlock (ETCM); Keener Hughen (FINN); Stephanie Otis (LIB); Zhiyi Zhang (MATH); Harish Cherukuri (MEGR); Jared Sloan (MSCI); Mary Smith (SON); Michael Kelly (PHIL); Yuri Nesselov (PHYS); Khai Truong (ITIS); Yesim Sireli (SEEM).

Also present: Leslie Zenk (Academic Affairs); Matt Wyse (Academic Affairs); Jay Raja (Academic Affairs); Cindy Wolf Johnson (Academic Services); Susan Sell (Graduate School); Malin Pereira (Honors College); Janet Daniel (OASES); Christopher Knauer (Registrar); Tarek Elshayeb (OIP); Sheryl Meyer (ELTI); Claire Kirby (Undergraduate Admissions); Jodi Turner (Multicultural Academic Services); Don Blackmon (COE-OSDS).

The meeting was called to order at 12:31 pm, Dr. Starrett Presiding.

1. Approval of meeting minutes from March 26, 2015.

No corrections proposed.

Approved via acclamation.

2. Motion to approve Office of Undergraduate Admissions proposal regarding TOEFL scores

The proposal previously submitted for review in the March meeting was reviewed and the discussion from that meeting recapitulated.

Tarek Elshayeb (OSP), Sheryl Meyer (ELTI), Claire Kirby (Undergraduate Admissions), Don Blackmon (COE-OSDS) and Jodi Turner (Multicultural Academic Services) attended the meeting to provide answers to any questions from the membership.

Discussion

A member asked why the target scores were not raised to the average level of the peer institutions considered, rather than splitting the current difference as was proposed. The levels chosen were picked to minimize impact on enrollment.

A Member asked if there was data to support choice of TOEFL scores selected as thresholds. Data collection on this metric was not in place until Fall of 2014. This data was examined and it was determined that most students who did not have scores above the newly proposed threshold participated in the ELTI program on campus to remediate their deficiency. Five students in total who did not participate in ELTI would have been considered to be non-performing (GPA < 2.0) based on the proposed threshold scores.

A member asked someone to please characterize the TOEFL score selected. Is it the 50th percentile? The score of 64 on the TOEFL test is considered a low score. The score is being raised to make it equivalent to the one required for the IELTS test.

A motion was made to approve the proposed changes to TOEFL scores required for admission to UNCC. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

3. Motion to revise the bylaws of the Graduate Faculty Council

A revised set of bylaws was routed to the membership prior to the meeting. A motion for discussion was made and seconded.

The major changes to the document were described, being editorial changes, changes to the procedure for electing officers as well as changes in the voting status of some *ex*

officio members. Discussion of possible changes to committee structure anticipated with revision of the Faculty Council standing rules and constitution were delayed until next term.

Discussion

A member asked about the procedure for review of “Permission to Plan” documentation, since verbiage covering this was removed from the document. A graduate committee member stated that the policy of the committee was that this type of document constituted a curriculum change and would be reviewed as shown in the document proposed. An administration representative advised the membership that these documents did not require faculty review under current procedure.

A member recommended the faculty retain the right to review “Permission to Plan” documents for information only.

A member asked how the current review process screened for duplicate program proposals?

Another member interjected that the review process at the State level would prevent duplication of programs.

A member pointed out that the name of their college was incorrect in the proposed document.

A member pointed out that there were restrictions on voting within this body that did not align with general committee practice elsewhere in the faculty governance structure, and that this should be reconsidered (instances where only graduate faculty could vote on issues that affect all faculty).

A member asked that the role of clinical faculty be reconsidered. Many clinical faculty at UNC Charlotte are sufficiently qualified to chair graduate committees and to be appointed as full members of the graduate faculty, which the proposed document prohibits.

These comments generated a motion to return this document to the graduate faculty committee for revision. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

4. Motion to revise the Standing Rules pertaining to the Honorary Degree Advisory Committee alternate.

It was proposed that the designation of an alternate for this committee will be the faculty member who was not elected to an open seat who received the most votes in the previous election.

This change will be in effect for one year, if anticipated changes to the Standing Rules and Constitution are approved.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

5. Motion to award posthumous degrees.

A motion to approve the posthumous degrees for:

Robert Wylie
Donald McDowell
Cameron Abatiell
Tewanda Doreen Grier

was seconded and unanimously approved. Drs. Souffrant and Starrett met with the Dean of Students to discuss the impact of having students pass away during the course of a semester. Work on communicating resources available to faculty and students in an appropriate way when necessary is underway and will be communicated at a later date.

6. Motion for approval of revisions to the Standing Rules of the Faculty Council to reflect approved changes to the Constitution

Deletion of a previously proposed section detailing Faculty Council's involvement with administrative committee postings was executed pending further discussion with the Chancellor's office.

The revised version of this document is incorporated by reference and is attached to these minutes.

Discussion

A member asked for clarification of the scope of Faculty Council's authority in empanelling standing and *ad hoc* committees. Another member replied that Faculty Council has authority at University level only, and that departments and colleges were free to form committees for their own purposes.

The motion to change the rules as shown by the revised version distributed to faculty was seconded and approved unanimously.

7. Provosts Awards

Dr. Lorden thanked the assembled members for their service on the Faculty Council, with special recognition of those who assumed leadership positions.

The Award for Excellence in Teaching was presented to The Department of Sociology.

The Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Academic Advising was presented to The Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology

The award citations are incorporated by reference and are attached to these minutes.

8. Report of the President Elect

Dr. Leak reported that GA is in the process of creating a faculty fellowship opportunity in their office. The term of the fellowship is yet to be determined. Faculty would get a project or two, with this scope linked to term of service.

The 4-4 Bill introduced into the state legislature is supported solely by the proposer, and it is not expected to move further in the process.

The BOG presidential search is moving quickly. The search committee is working on defining the leadership statement that will be used to assist in selection of potential candidates. 4-6 public meetings are scheduled to be held for gathering input on the leadership statement. These meetings are all scheduled to occur during May 2015. Faculty and staff presence at these meetings would be helpful. The BOG is realizing that engagement with holistic approaches to governing is desirable.

A member lauded Dr. Leak for his work on the O. Max Gardner award nomination, which resulted in a win for the UNC Charlotte nominee.

Dr. Leak presented Dr. Starrett with an award for his service as Faculty Council President.

9. Report of the President

Dr. Starrett gave his thanks to all the Deans for catering the meetings for the year.

He also recognized the members for their work during the year.

Thanks were also given to Matt Wyse and Leslie Zenk for their work on behalf of Faculty Council.

Dr. Starrett recognized Provost Lorden and Chancellor Dubois for their civility and their encouragement of faculty governance and generous feedback on appropriate actions to be taken by the committee.

Dr. Starrett presented to plaques to Dr. Schmidt, and to members of faculty governance task force, Dr. Rubin, Dr. Subramaniam, Dr. Freitag and Dr. Jernigan.

Dr. Leak was recognized for his work and his ascension to office of president. He was given the symbols of office.

10. New Business

Dr. Starrett asked what items should be on the agenda for next year:

Members suggested:

1. Regular updates on the Capital Campaign
2. Urge faculty to be involved and empower faculty governance.
3. How do we recognize faculty when pay is not forthcoming?
4. Maintain sense of community, morale and engagement.
5. Faculty governance must be supported by Deans. The Provost needs faculty support.
6. See data on faculty turn over and retention, adjunct load, tenured vs lecturer loads.
7. How do we refocus on the intellectual mission of UNCC?
8. Cultural diversity initiatives for faculty hires need to be put in place.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:51 pm.

Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'Peter Schmidt', written in a cursive style.

Peter Schmidt, Secretary