Faculty Council
Cameron Applied Research Center 101
February 17, 2005


Present (unit alternates): C. Vance (for A. Gonzalez), J. Michel (for E. Jernigan), S.W. Lee (for A. Raja)

Also present: C. Sanders, M.P. Young, R. Yount, J. Briggs, G.C. Howard, D.D. Smith

Dr. Kim Harris called the meeting to order at 12:35. Dr. Harris thanked Dean Mary Lynne Calhoun and the College of Education for providing refreshments.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the January 20, 2005 meeting of the Faculty Council

Dr. Harris made the following corrections: Dr. L. Calhoun (Psychology) was present. Agenda item # 2: Dr. Grech will check with other colleges about the need for an even split in the spring semester. Dr. Calhoun moved and Dr. Newman seconded that the minutes be approved as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Report on On-line Mid-term Teaching Evaluations (Fall 2004) (Ms. Cathy Sanders)

Ms. Sanders reported on the task force report on the pilot project to conduct on-line mid-term teaching evaluations (previously distributed). A total of 236 out of 1900 students responded for a response rate of 12.4%. A question and answer session followed. Concerns about the low response rate were discussed. Dr. Harris reported that the task force report had been discussed in the Faculty Executive Committee. Using Web CT to conduct online teaching evaluations (with Faculty Council approval) was discussed. The report and concerns will be sent back to the Faculty Academic Policy and Standards Committee.

3. Report from the Task Force on Graduate Student Support (Dr. Tom Reynolds)

Dr. Reynolds discussed the Report of the Task Force on Graduate Student Support: A Strategic Plan for Developing a Competitive Model of Graduate Student Funding
Support, submitted by the Task Force on Graduate Student Support submitted by the Task Force on September 30, 3004. Dr. Reynolds also provided copies for Faculty Council members [also available online at http://www.uncc.edu/gradmiss/GradStuSupport/]. Dr. Reynolds stated that funding for graduate student support has not kept up with applications. Dr. Reynolds referred to the Binghamton University Survey of First Year Graduate Stipends. A question and answer session followed.

4. Report of the Provost (Dr. Joan Lorden)

Dr. Lorden reported that interviews are taking place for the Director of the Institute for Social Capital and for the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Lorden also reported that an Office of Classroom Technology is being established; the Office will be responsible for the purchase and maintenance of classroom equipment. The Office will have an advisory group; faculty members interested in serving on the advisory group should contact Academic Affairs. Dr. Lorden also stated that the campus-based tuition increase may be approved for out-of-state and graduate students. Any funds from tuition increases this year for undergraduate students will be targeted to retention efforts. This year, tuition increase funds were used to increase graduate student support in the amount of $800,000. Dr. Lorden also discussed the possibility of implementing a student health insurance program with a “hard waiver.” Dr. Lorden also reported that the Office of the President is studying retention and graduation rates. Dr. Lorden also stated that a report from the advising summit will be issued.

5. Report of the President Elect (Dr. Rosemary Booth)

Dr. Booth reported that the Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for the following positions: President-Elect, Secretary, one delegate to the Faculty Assembly, and chairs for the Faculty Advisory Summer Sessions Committee, Faculty Employment Status Committee, Faculty Information Technology Committee, and Faculty Research Grants Committee. Dr. Booth also reported that nominations are also being sought for an assistant professor to serve on the Grievance Committee and for three members of the Faculty Honorary Degree Committee. Dr. Booth stated that nominations will close on March 1 at 5 pm.

6. Report of the President (Dr. Kim Harris)

Dr. Harris stated that there will be a limit of eight tickets per graduate. Dr. Harris also reported that there will be a reception to honor Chancellor Woodward on his retirement on Friday, April 20 from 2 – 4 pm in the SAC.

7. New Business

Dr. Toenjes reported on the Faculty Assembly. Dr. Toenjes reported that the Board of Governors will discuss a self-insured health care plan. A question and answer session followed concerning when action will be taken.
The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.
Respectfully submitted,

Jeanie M. Welch
Secretary of the Faculty