

Faculty Council

Minutes of December 1, 2022 Meeting

1. **Call to Order.** Faculty President Susan Harden called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. She remarked that this is the last Faculty Council meeting of the calendar year. Harden thanked President-Elect Xiaoxia Newton, Faculty Secretary Debra Smith, and Faculty Governance Assistant Matt Wyse.

2. **Report of the Chancellor (Dr. Sharon Gaber).** Gaber gave the following report:
 - My thanks to everybody for making this a great semester. This is the last Faculty Council meeting for Provost Joan Lorden before her retirement. I am thankful for having the opportunity to work with you. Thank you [round of applause]. The new Provost, Alicia Bertone, will be at the first Faculty Council meeting in January.
 - Deidra Harris-Lumpkins has been appointed the new Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources. Harris-Lumpkins joins us from the University of Davidson College and will be in late January.
 - We received many concerns about the Genocide Awareness Project group that demonstrated on our campus recently. I asked our General Counsel Jesh Humphries to review our policies. In January, we will have revisions to our rules permitting demonstrations. The revisions will include restricting the size of signage and restricting the demonstration to certain areas. We are concerned about demonstrations that occur too close to traffic and create safety hazards for pedestrians. These revisions will still ensure that free speech is protected.
 - We will be starting “Breakfast with the Chancellor” once a month.
 - We are interested in streamlining processes that are in our control. We will be happy to work on streamlining and welcome input.
 - Students have decided to start a tradition of lighting the lake. Light Up the Lake will happen on December 7th. Holiday lights will be put up around Hechenbleikner Lake for a lighting ceremony, music and beverages.

3. **Report of the Provost (Dr. Joan Lorden).** Lorden gave the following report:
 - Dr. Bojan Cukic has been appointed Dean of the College of Computing and Informatics.
 - Dr. Pinku Mukherjee will be interim Dean of the Graduate School.
 - I hope to see all of you at graduation.
 - Good luck to everyone and please get your grades in on time.

4. **Campus Masterplan (Brook Muller, Dean of the College of Arts + Architecture).** Muller said this presentation is to share ideas of how campus development can be sustainable. These are ideas and

not necessarily how our campus will unfold. He also believes research opportunities could possibly arise from this. UNC Charlotte is undertaking a new master planning effort to refocus and re-envision the University's plan for facilities and spaces for the next decade. The team on this planning effort has strategies for engaging all of you and this engagement will be coming.

The first example in the presentation was the Burton Barr Central Library in Phoenix, Arizona. This is an example of utilizing daylight well and solving the issue of blinding sun rises and sets. Then other examples of green buildings were shown. Green buildings cost less, especially in the long term. The building/landscape interface is where a lot of the sustainability magic occurs. It is time to be thinking of the nature of our landscaping settings across campus. The Keeling Apartments at UCSD is an example of landscaping saving money. With flash flood occurrences likely, land can be used as a sponge, instead of needing large water storage tanks below the building. This is an example of moving dollars from utilities to the landscape. We can create beautiful spaces that are more sustainable and less costly. Even something as simple as paint colors is important. Paint colors on buildings can attract pollinators. Native pollinators are doing better in urban areas than rural due to pesticides used in agriculture.

The campus masterplan team will kickoff the next phase of the process in January. There will be a formal engagement process which will occur throughout 2023.

- 5. UNC System New Funding Model (Dr. Rich Amon, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs).** Amon said there are four metrics that all institutions in the UNC System must measure and for which funding is based on: 4-year graduation rate; undergraduate degree efficiency; debt at graduation; and education related cost per degree. The funding model is meant to be in 3-year cycles. There are two more years of this cycle, then we will look at new stretch goals that we will be measured against. Now there is a fifth metric. The fifth metric is an institutional choice from a list of metrics. A group composed of team members from budget, finance, enrollment, etc. looked at these with a focus on how to maximize our funding. The metric we selected was the 4-year graduation rate of our Latinx population. Our performance in these metrics can offset a decrease in enrollment. High performance however will bring harder stretch goals in the next cycle. This model is very much geared/focused on undergraduate education. We estimate the new model provides us \$2 million less in funding this year than the old model; however, this year we are held harmless. These main reason for this is how this model treats graduate programs, which it does not fund as much.

Q: Harden asked for clarity on the funding calendar.

A: The fiscal year is July 1 – June 30. However, the funding model metrics are measured on a calendar year basis (January 1 – December 31).

Q: How are other institutions with larger graduate programs feeling? How are they addressing this funding model change?

A: Chancellor Gaber said each institution has strongly expressed their concerns, but have been told it has been approved and we are going forward with this

Q: What will we be doing to recruit and graduate Latinx students?

A: Provost Lorden said we have a Latinx Faculty caucus, we have Spanish speaking counselors in the admissions office, and we are thinking about and planning outreach.

Q: A question was asked about the total funding amount so as to understand and gauge how large a loss of \$2 million in funding is.

A: \$300 million state appropriation. \$150 million tuition and fees.

Lorden added that it is most important that we have seats in classes for those courses that students need for degree completion. Smail added that we have a new admissions report. A larger number of students had 12 to 14 credit hours in the term. We need to get those students to a 15-credit hour load.

6. **Consent Agenda.** Harden asked if there are any requests to remove an item from the Consent Agenda for further discussion. Hearing none a motion by a member was made to approve the Consent Agenda. Ford-Eickhoff seconded the motion. The motion carried.

All of the following consent agenda items were approved:

- a. Approved Minutes of the Faculty Council Meeting of October 27, 2022
- b. Approved Request to Award Degree in Memoriam to Julia Ruth Iglehart
- c. Approved Revision of the Grade of SP/UP Option
- d. Approved Request to Revise the Name of the Health Services Research, Ph.D. to Epidemiology, Ph.D.
- e. Approved Revisions to the Admission to the University: Non-Traditional Academic Programs
- f. Approved Revisions to the Graduation Policy

7. **Review of the Five-Year Academic Calendar.** Registrar Jon Reece indicated the new information and the changed information are highlighted in yellow. Dates on partial term were added to the calendar for the first time, and thus a change to what was previously preliminarily approved. Spring break/fall break affected the scheduling of the partial terms. We are dealing with that this year, but made changes to future years to correct. The 2023-2024 column is the year seeking your approval and the 2026-2027 column is the year seeking your preliminary approval. A motion was made by a member to approve. Perez Quinones seconded the motion. The motion carried. The Five-Year Academic Calendar was approved by the Faculty Council and recommended to Chancellor.
8. **Report of the President-Elect (Dr. Xiaoxia Newton).** Newton stated there is no report this time.
9. **Report of the President (Dr. Susan Harden).** Harden gave the following report:
 - We have green university branded t-shirts for everyone at today's meeting. Claire Kirby in Enrollment Management is our elf today. You can get your free shirt from Kirby in the back.

- We have opportunities for the Faculty Council (FC) and the Faculty Executive Committee (FEC) to meet the new provost. The Faculty Council reception will be January 12 from 12:00pm-1:00pm, prior to the Faculty Council meeting. Please note that the January 12th Faculty Council meeting will be in Fretwell 100.
- You may have heard about some classes are being pranked nationwide. Talk to your students. Let them know this will not be tolerated. File an incident report if this happens to your class.
- Here is recommended language that can be added to your course syllabus regarding basic needs services,

UNC Charlotte defines basic needs as those needs that, when unmet, can hinder students' ability to focus on and successfully complete their academic studies. Basic needs include food security, housing security, transportation, health and wellbeing, technology and child care. Any student who experiences difficulty in one or more of these areas is urged to contact the Student Assistance and Support Services (SASS) Office for support with navigating campus and community resources. Students can also consult the Niner Needs website for a list of helpful resources designed to address student needs (<https://ninerneeds.charlotte.edu/>).

- Green Dot is a violence prevention strategy. You can become a nationally certified Green Dot trainer. The Center for Wellness Promotion is offering this training for interested staff/faculty February 14-17th. The cost of this training is covered by the Center for Wellness Promotion. Please visit: <https://wellness.charlotte.edu/wellness-programs-services/green-dot>

Harden thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting at 2:12 P.M.

Minutes taken by Matthew Wyse, Faculty Governance Assistant