FACULTY COUNCIL Meeting Minutes November 20, 2014

Present (ex officio): Gregory Starrett (President); Jeffrey Leak (President-Elect); Peter Schmidt (Secretary); Chandra Subramaniam (BCOB); Susan Furr (COED); Beth Rubin (CLAS); Paula Eckard (CLAS); Judy Walker (LIB); Phil Dubois (Chancellor); Joan Lorden (Provost); Ken Lambla (Dean, College of Arts + Architecture); Ron Smelser for Robert Johnson (Dean, William States Lee College of Engineering); Nancy Fey-Yensan (Dean, College of Health and Human Services); Nancy Gutierrez (Dean, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences); Tom Reynolds (Dean, Graduate School); John Smail (Dean, University College)

<u>Absent:</u> Eddy Souffrant (Past President); Jose Gamez (COA+A); Cynthia Gibas (CCI); Mehdi Miri (COE); Meredith Troutman-Jordan (CHHS); Mark Wilson (CLAS); Arthur Jackson (Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs); Steve Ott (Dean, Belk College of Business); Yi Deng (Dean, College of Computing and Informatics); Ellen McIntyre (Dean, College of Education)

Present (unit representatives): Casper Wiggins (ACCT); Veronica Hilliard (AFRS, Alternate); Susan Sell (BINF); Jian Zhang (BIOL); Jing Zhou (BISOM); John Risley (CHEM, Alternate); James Frazier (ITCS); Jack Culbreth (CSLG); John Stogner (CJUS); Ellen Sewell (ECON, Alternate); Sukumar Kamalasadan (ECGR); Barry Sherlock (ETCM); Faith Neale (FINN, Alternate); John Diemer (GYES); Jim Hogue (HIST); Anastasia Koralova (LACS); Stephanie Otis (LIB); Ed Jernigan (MGMT); Harish Cherukuri (MEGR); Lan Kolano (MDSK); Dylan Savage (MUSC); Mary Smith (SON); Yuri Nesmelov (PHYS); Nick Caste (POLS, Alternate); Charlie Reeve (PSYC); Andrew Harver (PHS); John Reeves (RELS); Mark Ezell (SOWK); Murray Webster (SOCY); Khai Truong (ITIS); Gloria Campbell-Whatley (SPED); Yesim Sireli (SEEM); Tom Burch (THEA)

<u>Absent</u> (unit representatives): Dean Fitzgerald (AERO); Dennis Ogburn (ANTH); David Thaddeus (SOA); Maja Godlewska (ARTS), Rajaram Janardhanam (CEGR); Loril Gossett (COMM); E. E. Balcos (DANC); Lisa Driscoll (EDLD); Alan Rauch (ENGL); John Cox (GIAS); Erik Wikstrom (KNES); Charles Bodkin (MKTG); Zhiyi Zhang (MATH); Jared Sloan (MSCI); Michael Kelly (PHIL); Ian Binns (REEL)

<u>Also present:</u> Matt Wyse (Academic Affairs); Cindy Wolf Johnson (Academic Services); Heather McCullough (ITS/CTL); Tina McEntire (Enrollment Management); Malin Pereira (Honors College); Janet Daniel (OASES); Christopher Knauer (Registrar); Cathy Blatt (University Center for Academic Excellence)

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 pm, Dr. Starrett Presiding.

1. Approval of meeting minutes from October 23, 2014. No corrections proposed. Approved via acclamation.

2. Review of the Academic Calendar

The proposed academic calendar for 2016-2017 was displayed. President Starrett noted that the new student convocation did not appear on this version, but may be added at a later time. There was no other discussion.

The proposed calendar was unanimously approved.

3. Examination of the Constitution of the Faculty

Proposed changes to the document were described. The proposed changes include allowing electronic ballots and petitions in addition to paper versions of these instruments, along with changes to the names of some ex-officio voting member offices of the faculty council. There is also language added to interpret numbers of faculty constituting a quorum or a minimum needed to compel action by the faculty council. The document would reference the number of faculty reported by the Office of Institutional Research.

A question from the membership was raised as to the inclusion of visiting faculty in this number. The Provost responded that visiting faculty were not counted in the totals reported by the Office of Institutional Research.

The proposed revisions are hereby incorporated by reference, and a document showing these proposed revisions is attached to these minutes.

The faculty council voted unanimously to forward these proposed changes to the faculty at large for approval.

4. Motion to Award Degrees

A memorandum from the Provost requesting permission to award degrees on behalf of the faculty at the December commencement was displayed and discussed.

The faculty council voted unanimously to authorize the Provost to award degrees as appropriate at the December commencement ceremony.

5. Motions to Award Posthumous Degrees

President Starrett displayed two sets of documentation forwarded to the faculty for action.

A motion to award a degree in Anthropology to Joshua Buck was unanimously approved.

A motion to award a degree in Physics and Optical Sciences to Brett Gilmartin was unanimously approved.

6. Report of the Chancellor

Dr. Dubois reported that negotiations over increases to tuition and fees for the academic year beginning in Fall of 2015 have begun. Tuition collected from students flows into a general fund, while fees are targeted for specific purposes, such as Student Health or Athletics. UNC Charlotte will be requesting a tuition increase of 3% and a fee increase of 5%. These changes will raise undergraduate student cost per semester to a bit more than \$6k per semester. Graduate tuition and fees will be adjusted by the same dollar amount. A matriculation fee is planned to replace a series of other fees currently in place, such as a graduation fee and charges for obtaining transcripts.

Construction projects are ongoing on campus. Levine Hall will begin construction soon. This building will house the Honors program, along with the Levine Scholars program. A Counseling Center building is planned for construction adjacent to the Student Health Center. A new dining commons will open soon, replacing the existing Residence Dining Hall. That building will either be demolished or repurposed. The Cone Center will be considered for refurbishment when some existing tenants leave for new facilities currently under construction.

In the January budget session, UNC Charlotte will continue to push for enrollment growth funding to fund the campus. The planned Science Center for our campus is the third ranked construction project in the UNC system. \$12.6 million will be requested for planning this new facility, which represents 10% of the planned cost for construction. Remodeling of the Burson building is on hold pending this approval.

UNC Charlotte administration will be conducting salary market adjustment studies for faculty and staff during the coming year, with a goal of assuring that UNC Charlotte pays at the market median rate.

The men's baseball team is currently under investigation for hazing. The case is being handled internally by the Dean of Students office and is still open, restricting the information that can be shared with faculty. When more information can be legally released, it will be passed on to the faculty.

UNC Charlotte recently received \$13 million to augment the Levine Scholars program.

7. Report of the Provost

Dr. Lorden reported that new tenure and promotion policies have been generated to align current practice with University written policy. These changes will be reviewed by the Chancellor and then forwarded for review by the Board of Governors and the Trustees of the University. No information was supplied regarding review of, or comment on these policies by faculty.

Professor Henry Harris of the Department of Counseling is chairing a new committee charged with facilitating the success of military veteran students.

Please be aware that the new drop policy may increase the number of students on academic probation. This may affect a number of support programs in place to help students who are struggling, such as 49er Rebound.

This situation also highlights the need to get grades in on time so that students get timely information. Please get your grades in on time.

Please remind your colleagues that Reading Day is not to be used for any academic activity, it is reserved for students to use as they see fit.

A new software platform that will provide early warning to students on academic progress is to be implemented, STARFISH. This will be piloted in the Spring of 2015, with concentration on underclassmen.

UNC General Administration is interested in expanding the World Language Exchange program currently in place. This allows students on any UNC campus to register for language classes at other campuses, if they are full time and if there are no seats available at their home campus. Classes are conducted through an online portal.

The UNC Board of Governors is discussing granting credit for prior learning via life experience. This will be in addition to current practice of granting credit via examination. This practice is being justified by the Department of Education's position on Competency Based Education. This is also in response to the desired practice of granting educational credit for skills acquired by veterans during their service. The level of approval for a program such as this is part of the discussion, and will be determined at a later date.

Graduate enrollment is up significantly over last year.

8. Report of the President Elect

No report.

9. Report of the President

Dr. Starrett reported that John Smail is involved with development of STARFISH for UNC Charlotte. Faculty consultants are needed to ensure that the implementation of this system is done in a way that benefits all stake holders. Please let your colleagues know that this opportunity is available.

New student convocation will need to appear on the academic calendar. Ritual induction of new students to the academic community at UNC Charlotte is needed. The 24th of August, 2014 is the projected date for the inaugural instance of this event.

Should Cathy Blat be invited to discuss in this during the Faculty Council Meeting in January?

The membership indicated that this was desirable and that this invitation should be extended. Dr. Starrett noted that this event would need to be integrated with existing beginning of semester activities that individual programs or departments hold to achieve similar ends. Dr. Starrett will solicit information on this issue from faculty for use by Cathy Blat and her team.

The issue of moving faculty and staff convocation was also discussed. FEC recommended that the Faculty Council at large recommend to the Chancellor that convocation be moved back to the week prior to beginning of classes. The membership agreed that this recommendation be made. The Chancellor then asserted that the faculty should commit to attend this event. Dr. Starrett recommended that the event be held on the Thursday prior to the beginning of classes to mitigate any attendance issues.

10. New Business

None

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 pm.

Submitted

Peter Schmidt, Secretary



CONSTITUTION OF THE FACULTY

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE

Ratified October 18, 1972

Amended April 17, 1975 Amended April 15, 1976 Amended April 25, 1978 Amended November 2, 1978 Amended December 12, 1980 Amended October 15, 1981 Amended April 26, 1984 Amended November 15, 1984 Amended April 3, 1986 Amended September 17, 1987 Amended May 4, 1989 Amended September 19, 1991 Amended November 19, 1992 Amended January, 1999 Amended April 22, 1999 Amended April, 2001 Amended May 5, 2005 Amended March 30, 2006 Amended November 6, 2008 Amended January 22, 2009 Amended April 21, 2011 Amended February 21, 2013 Amended January 23, 2014 Amended November 20, 2014

CONSTITUTION OF THE FACULTY THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE

PREAMBLE

We, the Faculty of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, in order to create a system of governance which will permit the exercise of such authority as may be granted to us and the sharing thereof with other elements of the University Community and also among ourselves as separately identified faculties, do establish this Constitution for the Faculty of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

The term "Faculty" as used in this document, refers to that group of individuals defined in Article I. When the term "faculties" is used, it refers to the several faculties of the individual colleges and/or programs which comprise the University.

ARTICLE I

The faculty of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, hereinafter known as the Faculty, shall consist of all full-time persons holding academic rank of lecturer or above, regardless of modifying adjectives. The number of Faculty constituting quorums and proportions eligible to propose actions under Articles VII.3, VIII.1, IX.1 and IX.2, shall be calculated on the basis of the most recent figure reported publicly by the Office of Institutional Research.

ARTICLE II RIGHT TO VOTE AND HOLD OFFICE

Part-time Faculty and Visiting and Adjunct Faculty may not vote or hold office under this Constitution. Only Faculty with tenure may serve as a faculty president, president-elect, secretary, faculty standing committee chairperson, and member of the Faculty Executive Committee, except in the cases of faculty who give up tenure in phased retirement and members of the Library Faculty with the rank of associate professor and above. Faculty with administrative appointments, such as Chairpersons, Directors, and Deans, shall not serve on the Executive Committee of the Faculty. The Chancellor may serve, in accordance with <u>The Code</u>, as the Chairperson ex officio of the Faculty and the Faculty Council.

ARTICLE III PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY OF THE FACULTY

Section 1: General Purpose

The Faculty shall strive to preserve, generate, transmit, and apply knowledge and understanding and to foster and support a vital spirit of open inquiry and critical thinking.

Section 2: Justification for Faculty Authority

The Faculty accepts the major portion of accountability for the quality of instruction and scholarship at this university. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that responsibility and authority, both primary and shared, for certain functions within the University be assigned and delegated to the Faculty and that the process for the discharge of these responsibilities and the exercise of this authority be defined.

Section 3: Policy-Making, Not Implementation

In identifying functions for which authority, primary or shared, should be delegated to the Faculty, the emphasis is on the formation of policy. It is recognized that the primary responsibility for the <u>implementation</u> of academic policy rests with the administration of the University, subject to <u>The Code Provisions of The University of North Carolina</u> and other pertinent documents.

A. Policy-Making Responsibilities and Authority

Subject to the delegation of authority from the Chancellor and to the regulations and/or policies of the Board of Trustees of The University of North Carolina at Charlotte, the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, and the President's Office, the Faculty assumes primary policy-making responsibility for:

- 1. setting minimal general degree requirements for the University, to which the faculties of individual colleges and programs may add additional requirements for their graduates;
- 2. setting minimal University admission standards, to which the faculties of individual colleges or programs may add additional standards, and/or for which the faculties of individual colleges and programs may set higher standards than those set by the Faculty generally;
- 3. establishing academic plans and curricula and developing and reviewing proposed new programs, including auxiliary academic programs (e.g., continuing education);
- 4. establishing grading systems and setting academic policies concerning withdrawal, suspension, and retention;
- 5. establishing policies and standards for the granting of academic credit;
- 6. establishing policies for the granting of degrees, academic and honorary, and acting to award such degrees;
- 7. establishing policy, within the limitations of <u>The Code</u>, and the tenure document, concerning promotion, appointment, reappointment, tenure, and post-tenure review of faculty (It is recognized that the tenure document is, and will continue to be, subject to judicial interpretation and to interpretation by the administration after hearing the

advice of appropriate faculty bodies as designated by the Faculty Council);

- 8. establishing policies governing academic counseling of students;
- 9. establishing policy for the allocation of those UNC Charlotte research funds which are open to the solicitations of the general faculty; and
- 10. establishing policies and procedures for the faculty review of University administrators.
- B. Consultation Responsibilities

The Faculty Council will be consulted in time to permit the forwarding of faculty recommendations when decisions are impending on policies concerning:

- 1. the academic calendar,
- 2. salary increases,
- 3. academic leave,
- 4. academic workloads,
- 5. allocation of academic positions,
- 6. appointment of administrators,
- 7. library user services and collection department,
- 8. grants and contracts,
- 9. academic computer use,
- 10. course scheduling,
- 11. allocation and use of existing facilities,
- 12. transportation and parking,
- 13. program and design of new facilities,
- 14. changes in the formal structure of colleges, departments, or other units in the division of Academic Affairs.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS OF THE FACULTY

Section 1: President of the Faculty

A President of the Faculty shall preside over all meetings of the Faculty and the Faculty Council not chaired by the Chancellor and shall chair the Faculty Executive Committee.

Section 2: President-Elect

A President-Elect shall be elected at-large to serve in the absence of the President and to ascend to the office of President the year following election. The President-Elect shall serve as the Chairperson-Elect of the Faculty Executive Committee. The President-Elect shall serve as a delegate to the Faculty Assembly of the University of North Carolina.

Section 3: Secretary

A Secretary of the Faculty shall be elected at-large; shall keep minutes and all other records of the meetings of the Faculty, the Faculty Council, and the Faculty Executive Committee; and shall

conduct all correspondence of the Faculty, the Faculty Council, Faculty Executive Committee and the Chair of the Faculty Academic Planning and Budget Committee.

<u>Section 4</u>: Past-President The immediate Past-President shall serve as Chairperson of the Faculty Academic Planning and Budget Committee.

ARTICLE V EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OTHER COMMITTEES

<u>Section 1</u>: Composition of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the Faculty and the Faculty Council shall consist of the President, the President-Elect, the Secretary, the immediate Past President, three members elected by the Faculty of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, one member elected by each other College of the University, and one member elected by Faculty members of the Library.

Section 2: Powers and Duties of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall have the power to conduct the affairs of the Faculty as defined in Article III, subject to the approval of the Faculty Council. The Executive Committee shall represent the Faculty when the Chancellor or the Provost require Faculty consultation under <u>The Code</u> during the summer sessions or when emergencies arise that require a University response prior to the next meeting of the Faculty Council.

Section 3: Bylaws of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the Faculty, subject to the approval of the Faculty Council, shall establish its own bylaws concerning its internal operation and its reporting function.

Section 4: Standing and Special Committees

The Executive Committee shall have the power to establish, subject to the approval of the Faculty Council, any Standing or Special Committees necessary for conducting the business of the Faculty.

Section 5: Reporting and Consulting Responsibilities of Committees

The Executive Committee and all other Committees shall report regularly to the Faculty Council and shall seek consultations with administrators to whom reports and recommendations are submitted if clarification or support of Faculty positions is needed.

ARTICLE VI ELECTIONS

Section 1: Nominations

The Executive Committee shall appoint a Nominating Committee chaired by the President-Elect, which shall nominate at least two people, if possible, to fill each vacancy in the Standing Committees and the offices of the Faculty.

The Nominating Committee shall report to the Faculty Executive Committee. Additional nominations may be made by any member of the Faculty Executive Committee or the Faculty Council.

Section 2: Elections

The Faculty has the right to elect the Officers of the Faculty and the at-large members of the Standing Committees of the Faculty. If there is only one nominee for a position the Faculty Council shall act for the entire Faculty and elect that individual by acclamation. If there is more than one nominee, the entire Faculty shall elect by a mail <u>or secure electronic</u> ballot. A plurality of the <u>mail</u> ballots cast shall be necessary for election.

Section 3: Election of Officers

The election of the President-Elect and the Secretary shall be held in the spring of each year, and they shall serve one-year terms. If for any reason an elected officer of the Faculty cannot fulfill the duties of his office, an election for that office shall be held in accordance with this Article. The officers of the Faculty and the members of the Faculty Executive Committee shall assume their new terms at the conclusion of the final Faculty Council meeting of the academic year. The members of the Faculty Executive Committee not elected at-large shall serve two-year terms, staggered so that half of them shall be elected each year.

Section 4: Alternate

Each duly elected member of the Faculty Executive Committee (except the president, presidentelect, and the secretary), the Faculty Council, or any committee subordinate thereto who is unable to attend any meeting of the group of which he is a member may have his place taken by an alternate duly elected by the unit he represents. Committee members elected by the faculty as a whole shall have alternates elected by the faculty as a whole.

Section 5: Vacancies

When vacancies in committee membership or alternate positions would place undue hardship on individuals involved with committee business or on the fulfillment of the purposes of the committee if the regular replacement procedures were followed; the President of the Faculty with the concurrence of a 2/3 vote of the Faculty Executive Committee, shall have the authority to appoint faculty members to fill the vacancies. The appointees will serve until the next regularly

scheduled annual election. In making appointments, the President shall endeavor to maintain committee composition similar to that existing prior to the occurrence of the vacancy. The appointive power is only available under the extraordinary circumstances contained in this Section.

Section 6: Chairs of Standing Committees

For Standing Committees whose Chairs are chosen through university wide elections, individuals, may serve not more than two consecutive terms (four years) as Chair. Following a second consecutive term as Chair an individual must wait at least one term (two years) before becoming eligible to be nominated to run for Chair.

For advisory Standing Committees whose Chair is elected by the members of the committee, individuals may serve no more than four consecutive years as Chair. Following a fourth consecutive year as chair and individual must wait at least two years before becoming eligible to be nominated to run for Chair.

This term limit does not preclude an individual from serving as a regularly elected member of a Standing Committee following his/her consecutive terms as Chair.

ARTICLE VII FACULTY COUNCIL

Section 1: Composition of the Faculty Council

- A. The ex-officio, voting members of the Faculty Council shall be: the members of the Faculty Executive Committee, the Chancellor, the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, the Vice Chancellor for Development and Public Service Research and Economic Development, the Dean of University College, the Dean of the Graduate School, the University Librarian the Dean of the Library, and the Deans of each of the Colleges of the University.
- B. The Faculty of each unit entitled to an elected, voting member of the Faculty Council shall choose its representative, by a simple majority of the votes cast, no later than the second Thursday in April of each year to serve for a one-year term. The academic units entitled to such a representative are:

Accounting Aerospace Studies Africana Studies Anthropology Architecture Art & Art History Bioinformatics & Genomics Biological Sciences Business Information Systems & Operations Management Chemistry Civil & Environmental Engineering Communication Studies Computer Science Counseling Criminal Justice & Criminology Dance Economics Educational Leadership Electrical & Computer Engineering Engineering Technology and Construction Management English Finance Geography & Earth Sciences Global, International & Area Studies History Kinesiology Languages & Culture Studies Library Management Marketing Mathematics & Statistics Mechanical Engineering & Engineering Science Middle, Secondary & K-12 Education Military Science Music Nursing Philosophy Physics & Optical Science Political Science and Public Administration Psychology Public Health Sciences Reading & Elementary Education Religious Studies Sociology Social Work Software & Information Systems Special Education & Child Development Systems Engineering and Engineering Management Theatre

- C. Changes in entitlement to representation of units may be designated by a 2/3 vote of the Faculty Council as changes in the University may justify.
- D. Academic unit names may be changed in the Faculty Constitution with a majority vote of a quorum of Faculty Council members. Academic unit names may be added to the Faculty Constitution when the new unit receives final approval.

Section 2: Powers and Duties of the Faculty Council

The power to conduct the affairs of the Faculty, as described in Article III, shall reside with the Faculty Council.

Section 3: Meetings

The Faculty Council shall have at least three regularly scheduled meetings per year. Special meetings shall be called by the President of the Faculty when requested to do so by the Faculty Executive Committee, the Chancellor, or upon a <u>written or electronic</u> petition <u>signed endorsed</u> by 10% of the Faculty members presented to the President.

Section 4: Quorum

A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Faculty Council.

Section 5: Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in <u>Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised</u>, the latest edition, shall govern the Faculty Council in all parliamentary situations not covered by this Constitution or the laws of the State of North Carolina.

Section 6: Recall Provision

Any academic unit included in Section 1.B above may recall its representative to the Faculty Council by majority vote of the voting members of that academic unit.

ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Proposal

An amendment to this Constitution may be proposed by the Faculty Executive Committee, by any of the faculties, or by <u>a written or electronic petition endorsed by</u> 10% of the Faculty. Such a proposed amendment shall be placed by the President of the Faculty on the agenda of the Faculty Council. A simple majority vote of the Faculty Council in support of the amendment shall make the proposed amendment eligible for adoption.

Section 2: Adoption

The adoption of amendments to this Constitution requires a mail <u>or secure electronic</u> ballot by the entire Faculty. A two-thirds majority of the <u>mail</u> ballots cast shall be necessary to pass any amendment.

ARTICLE IX GENERAL FACULTY MEETINGS

Section 1: Purpose and Call

A general meeting of the Faculty may be called by the Chancellor at any time and shall be called by the President of the Faculty only upon <u>written or electronic</u> petition <u>endorsed by</u> of at least 10% of the Faculty members. A general Faculty meeting shall be for the purpose of communication, discussion, and/or to determine whether or not an issue warrants a faculty referendum.

Section 2: Quorum

A quorum shall consist of 25% of the entire Faculty.

Section 3: Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in <u>Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised</u>, the latest edition, shall govern the Faculty in all parliamentary situations not covered by this Constitution or the laws of the State of North Carolina.

Section 4: Faculty Referendums

Faculty referendums must be conducted by mail <u>or secure electronic</u> ballot, may be conducted only during the academic year, and shall be valid only if 50% or more of the eligible voters return ballots. A plurality of the ballots cast shall represent the decision of the Faculty. The decision shall be forwarded by the President of the Faculty to the Chancellor and other appropriate University bodies and/or officers.