

Faculty Council
Cameron Applied Research Center 101
April 20, 2006

Present (ex officio): Rosemary Booth (President), Meg Morgan (President Elect) Barry Sherlock (Secretary), Kim Harris (Past President), Cynthia Combs (A & S), Alan Rauch for William Gay (A & S), Gary Teng (ENG), Mike Allen (IT), Chuck Hamaker (LIB), Phil Dubois (CHANCELLOR), Joan Lorden (Provost), Tom Reynolds (Dean, Graduate School), Amy Dykeman (University Librarian), Nancy Gutierrez (Dean, A & S), Claude Lilly (Dean, BUS), Robert Johnson (Dean, ENG), Mirsad Hadzikadic (Dean, IT), Karen Schmaling (Dean, HHS)

Absent (ex officio): David Walters (ARCH), John Lincourt (A & S), Charles Bodkin (BUS), Warren DiBiase (EDUC), Gwen Foss (HHS), Ken Lambla (Dean, ARCH), Mary Lynne Calhoun (Dean, EDUC)

Present (unit representatives): Cindy Blanthorne (ACCT), Chris Grech (ARCH), David Edgar (ART), Mark Clemens (BIOL), Chandra Subramaniam (BISOM), Thomas DuBois (CHEM), Johnny Graham (CENG), Alan Freitag (COMM), James Frazier (CS), Lyndon Abrams (COUN), Bruce Arrigo (CJUS), Sybil Huskey (DATH), Ellen Sewell (ECON), Thomas Weldon (ECE), Stephen Kuyath (ET), Ann Newman (FCN), Walt Martin (GEOG/ES), Steve Sabol (HIST), Tricia Hubbard (KNES), Jose Batista (LCS), Barbara Tierney (LIB), Ed Jernigan (MGMT), Joe Quinn (MATH), Jay Grymes (MUSC), Dick Toenjes (PHIL), Yasin Raja (PHYS), Bradley Wright (POLS), George Demakis (PSYC), Sean McCloud (RELS), Greg Starrett (SOC/ANTH), Seok-Won Lee (SIS), JaneDiane Smith (SPED)

Present (unit alternates): Larissa Huber (HBA), Yogi Hari (MENG), Phil Poppo (SOWK)

Absent (unit representatives): Deloris Sanders (AHN), Pete Laden (AERO), Veronica Nmoma (AFRS), Ann McColl (EDLD), Jeffrey Leak (ENGL), Louis Trosch, Sr. (FINN), Sunil Erevelles (MKTG), Kim Hartman (MDSK), Robert McCall (MILSCI), Bruce Taylor (REEL)

Also present: Wayne Walcott (Academic Affairs), Mary Pat Young (Academic Affairs), Karin Steinbrenner (Academic Affairs), Ben Comstock (SGA President), Cameron Young (SGA Academic Affairs), Charlynn Ross (UCAE), Denise Dwight Smith (Univ. Career Center), Cheryl Brown (Academic Affairs, Provost Faculty Fellow), Sallie Ives (FCTeL), Julie Putnam (Academic Affairs)

Dr. Rosemary Booth called the meeting to order at 12:39 pm.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the March 16, 2006 meeting of the Faculty Council

Dr. Newman moved and Dr. Harris seconded that the minutes be approved as distributed. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Recommendations from FAPSC (Dr. Warren DiBiase):

This item had been withdrawn from last month's agenda by FAPSC for further review, to ensure that the recommendations could be implemented in the Banner system.

- I. A motion from FAPSC recommends that "undergraduate students may elect for up to two (2) courses (maximum of 8 hours) for grade replacement. Both grades will be reflected on transcript. However, the higher of the two grades will be used in calculation of the GPA". Dr. Allen moved a friendly amendment to change "elect for" to "replace". The motion passed unanimously. This change will be implemented in 2007 when the new catalog comes out.
- II. A motion from FAPSC recommends that "a grade of 'Incomplete' will go to a grade of 'F' after a period of twelve months. Notification of INC to F will be sent out to the student at the beginning of each semester carries the INC. The use of incomplete contracts is encouraged." The motion passed unanimously.
- III. A motion from FAPSC recommends that degrees be awarded at the end of the first summer session. (Currently, degrees are awarded at the end of the Fall and Spring semesters and the second Summer session.) The motion passed unanimously. This change will be effective summer 2006.

3. FALC statement on the Library's Budget (Dr. Ben Russo)

Dr. Russo described constraints upon the library's budget that FALC believes will probably result in the reduction of serials and other library services, and may impair the library's ability to meet its mission.

Dr. Russo read the following statement from FALC: "If the library budget does not change, the library must cancel some journals. There will be little or no money for acquisition of books, monographs, videos and the like. We must not underestimate the difficulty of rationing scarce resources among many working constituents, but the Committee is mindful also that achievement of the library's mission is central to the achievement of the University's mission. All library stakeholders should be aware of strains in the library's budget, and the possibility that acquisitions may be reduced in the near future. The Committee strongly encourages these stakeholders to support ways to improve library resources wherever possible." [Applause]

4. Awarding of Posthumous Degrees (Dr. Joan Lorden)

A motion from the Provost recommends awarding the following posthumous degrees at the May commencement:

- (i) Mr. Matthew Brian Jordan, Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and a Bachelor of Social Work degree.
- (ii) Ms. Eddel R. Rivera, Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology.

The motion passed unanimously.

5. Overview of the new State Health PPO (Joy Finney)

Benefits counselor Joy Finney made a presentation on changes to the Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) and the State Health Plan.

The Optional Retirement Plan: The Board of Governors has discussed reducing the multitude of ORP options to a more manageable number, to impose more stringent guidelines, and to monitor accounts. Ms. Finney outlined the proposed changes. At the end of May, communications regarding the impending changes will be sent directly from the ORP plan to the employee. Changes will be implemented in December 2006.

The State Health Plan: Ms. Finney outlined the new PPO options, entitled “SmartChoice”, that will be available at 3 levels: SmartChoice Basic, SmartChoice, and SmartChoice Plus. Employees may also choose to stay with the existing plan. Ms. Finney described the benefits available under each of the available choices. The open enrollment period is May 22 to June 30. The PPO starts October 1.

Dr. Booth added the following remarks:

- 90% of NC physicians, 97% of NC hospitals and 87% of NC specialists are in the PPO.
- For employee-only coverage, the middle choice (SmartChoice) is a better deal than the current plan.
- The state health plan website (statehealthplan.state.nc.us) has a benefit calculator to help you determine which plan is best for you.

6. Report from Faculty Assembly (Dr. Kim Harris)

President Bowles is very interested in engaging faculty in decisions; Faculty Assembly will meet five times instead of four times next year.

The top three items in the budget that went to the General Assembly are: enrollment increases (\$79M), need-based student financial aid (\$21M), and academic salaries at 5% (\$75M).

Also discussed was a different way of calculating tuitions, based on the number of hours a student is taking.

7. Report of the Chancellor (Dr. Philip Dubois):

Dr. Dubois reported that after the explosion and fire, things are now reasonably back to normal. Some temporary fixes are still in effect. We have hired a third party investigator to determine what happened. An email has been sent concerning Ed Seamon's health condition. A good proportion of his expenses are covered but there is no question that his family will have additional needs, and contributions will be welcome. Dr. Dubois offered special kudos to the PR staff for getting the word out and keeping people informed.

The total budget request was \$286M in continuing funds; of the \$79M enrollment increase funds, \$10.5M is for UNC-Charlotte. On the capital budget we are 4th out of 30 projects.

There were 56 action items in the installation speech; these include the long range enrollment plan, the community relations plan, the diversity initiatives, and the budget reexamination. These have been compiled into an action plan for which the Trustees' concurrence will be requested.

Dr. Dubois introduced Ben Comstock, our new student body president. [Applause].

8. Report of the Provost (Dr. Joan Lorden):

Dr. Lorden presented the Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching to the College of Engineering's Office of Student Development and Success. [Applause]

Dr. Lorden thanked the faculty leadership for a productive year. [Applause]

Report from Student Government (Cameron Young, Ben Comstock):

Ben Comstock and Cameron Young described some of the events of the past year that SGA is proud of:

- Extended library hours for the week prior to final exams
- Student Senate reapportionment, which has increased the size of the senate.
- Over 3000 ner nation shirts were sold.
- SGA is working with key faculty on an Honor Code to supplement the Academic Integrity Code.
- The campus safety walk was very successful
- Textbook adoption. Mr. Comstock thanked faculty for their assistance.

[Applause]

9. Report of the President Elect (Dr. Meg Morgan)

Dr. Morgan announced the results of the election. 398 people voted; this amounts to 44.56% of eligible voters. Cheryl Brown is the new President Elect of the Faculty.

10. Report of the President (Dr. Rosemary Booth)

Dr. Booth said that when President Bowles was inaugurated last week, he had a receiving line, where he asked her to figure out a way to have him come and visit UNC-Charlotte. Dr. Booth thanked Meg Morgan, Barry Sherlock, Julie Putnam, Kim Harris, Mehdi Miri, Warren DiBiase for their support and hard work over the past year.

Dr. Booth welcomed Dr. Morgan to the office of President of the Faculty. [Applause]

11. New Business

None.

Dr. McCloud moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B Sherlock". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Barry Sherlock
Secretary of the Faculty