

FACULTY COUNCIL

Minutes

April 22, 2010

Present (ex officio): Alan Freitag (President); Kim Harris (Secretary); Sonya Hardin (Past President); Charles Bodkin (President Elect); Cem Saydam (Alternate, BUS); Barry Wilkinson (C&I); Jane Diane Smith (Alternate, COED), David Binkley (ENG); Gregory Weeks (CLAS); Michele Bissiere (CLAS); Barbara Tierney (LIB); Joan Lorden (Provost); Joseph Mazzola (Dean, College of Business); Nancy Gutierrez (Dean, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences); Mary Lynne Calhoun (Dean, College of Education); Robert Johnson (Dean, College of Engineering); Yi Deng (Dean, College of Computing & Informatics); Jane Neese (College of Health & Human Services); John Smail (Dean, University College)

Absent: Bonnie Noble (CAA); Jackie Dienemann (HHS); Yvette Huet (CLAS); Phil Dubois (Chancellor); Tom Reynolds (Dean, Graduate School); Stanley Wilder (Librarian); Ken Lambla (Dean, College of Arts & Architecture); Karen Schmaling (Dean, College of Health & Human Services)

Present (unit representatives): Casper Wiggins (ACCT); Veronica Nmoma Walker (AFRS); Maya Godlewska (ART); Dennis Livesay (BIOINF); Chandra Subramaniam (BISOM); Banita Brown (CHEM); Johnny Graham (CENG); Courtney St. Onge (COMM); Taghi Mostafavi (CS); Jack Culbreth (COUN); Anita Blowers (CJUS); E.E. Balcos (DANC); Ted Amato (ECON); Richard Hartshorne (EDLD); James Conrad (ECE); Carlos Orozco (ET); Walt Martin (GEOG/ES); Sonya Ramsey (HIST); Tricia Hubbard (KNES); Jose Batista (LCS); Mike Olson (LIB); Peter Davis (MGMT); Mohammad Kazemi (MATH); Mesbah Uddin (MENG); Spencer Salas (Alternate, MDSK); Jay Grymes (MUSC); Dick Toenjes (PHIL); Yasin Raja (Alternate, PHYS); Jane Gaultney (PSYC); Cynthia Cassell (PHS); Amy Good (Alternate, REEL); Lucille Travis (SON); Julie McLaughlin (SOC); Susan McCarter (SOWK); Bill Tolone (SIS); Christopher O'Brien (SPED); Lon Bumgarner (THTR)

Absent (unit representatives): Christopher Rogers (AERO); Diane Brockman (ANTH); Chris Beorkrem (ARCH); Sue Peters (BIOL); Susan Gardner (ENGL); Louis Trosch (FINN); Sunil Erevelles (MKTG); Eddie Johnson (MILSCI); Gregory Weeks (POLS); David Mozina (RELS)

Also present: Jay Raja (Academic Affairs); Kathi Baucom (Enrollment Management); Christopher Knauer (Registrar); Janet Daniel (OASES); Valorie McAlpin (Center for Teaching and Learning); Tina McEntire (Admissions); Susan Sell (Graduate School); Denise Dwight Smith (University Career Center); Tony Carter (Student Financial Aid); Cynthia Wolf Johnson (Academic Services); Mehdi Miri (FAPSC); Lisa Hibbs (Athletic Academic Center); Clarence Greene (Academic Affairs)

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 PM, President Freitag presiding.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the March 25, 2010 meeting of the Faculty Council

Dr. Jernigan moved to approve the minutes. Dr. Balcos seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Welcome to New Men's Basketball Coach: Alan Major

Coach Major thanked everyone for the welcome that he and his coaching staff received. Coach Major expressed his belief that the student-athletes should have the same sense of urgency about their academics as they do about basketball.

3. Faculty Athletic Report

Information on Academic Progress Rate (gpa and progress towards degree requirements) was shared. A perfect score is 1000. UNC Charlotte has 14 teams and 8 of them have perfect scores. All of the teams are doing very well. Data is also available at NCAA website.

4. General Education Committee

The General Education Committee forwarded a motion to change the name of the committee to University College Faculty Council. The duties of the committee will also include the annual assessment of the performance of the Dean of the University College. Dr. Jernigan seconded the motion. Dean Gutierrez pointed out that all members of the faculty are members of the university college. Dr. Blowers pointed out that the committee will take on the same tasks as the General Education Committee, but it may work with some issues that General Education Committee did not. The motion was passed unanimously.

5. FITSAC motion regarding on-line student course evaluations

The Faculty Information Technology and Services Advisory Committee forwarded a motion regarding on-line student course evaluations. The motion called for Faculty Council to support a committee that would examine a “systems approach for administering course evaluations” and support a pilot study to “examine user perceptions of an online student evaluation system.” The motion was seconded by Dr. Mostafavi. Dean Gutierrez expressed her support of the motion. Jay Dominick explained that the committee initially suggested Student Voices because the university already owns a license for it, and they are releasing a product that does teaching evaluations. Valorie McAlpin reported that the website for the Center for Teaching and Learning is a resource for research related to student evaluations. Dean Lambra asked: (1) Will we still be able to customize questions? Will we still be able to receive narratives? Does the university expect a minimum return rate to validate results? McAlpin answered “Yes” to the first 2 questions and the committee will look into the third question. Dr. Neese reported that the College of Health and Human Services started using Student Voice for online courses because the paper return rate was very low. Dr. St. Onge asked do we know why return rates are low and will this make it better. McAlpin answered that research indicates that incentives seem to help increase students response rates. She also reported that if students know the results will be used they are more likely respond, and if they have more time, they tend to be more reflective. Dr. Lorden stated that the first pilot study of on-line evaluations that was conducted in 2005 was at the request of the student body. They wanted the faculty to be able to receive survey results before the end of the semester so that faculty could improve the course. The motion to support the committee and a pilot study passed unanimously.

6. Grievance Committee resolution supporting establishment of full-time ombudsman position

The Grievance Committee forwarded a resolution supporting a full-time ombudsman position. The resolution was seconded by Dr. Laditka. Dr. Binkley moved to amend the resolution to remove “student” David: discussed in context of UMC and recommendation from Future of the Faculty Committee. John Smail: Student issues – cautious about including students. Susan Gardner: Committee also discussed and many did not agree with need for students. Is there funding available for this? David: proposed an amendment to remove “student” from the resolution. The motion was seconded by Dr. Conrad. The motion to amend the resolution was passed. President Freitag clarified that the resolution is intended to support the need for such a position, and the details would have to be worked out later. The resolution was passed with 1 abstention.

7. Undergraduate Course and Curriculum motion on obtaining UCOL approval

The Undergraduate Course and Curriculum Committee forwarded a motion that necessary approvals by the Dean of the University College take place before proposals are forwarded to UCCC. The motion was seconded by Dr. Bissiere. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Undergraduate Course and Curriculum Committee motion on change to course proposal short form

The Undergraduate Course and Curriculum Committee forwarded a motion to change the course proposal short form to include the approval by the Dean of the University College. Dr. Thiede seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. UCCC motion on minors

The Undergraduate Course and Curriculum Committee forwarded a motion concerning minors. According to the motion, minors can be departmental or interdisciplinary, and minors must consist of at least 15 hours. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mostafavi. There was some discussion about whether or not the number of hours is sufficient. The motion carried with one abstention.

10. Faculty Elections (Charles Bodkin)

Dr. Bodkin reviewed the election results.

11. Report of the Provost

- The Provost reported on the work of the committee that has reviewed the policy for cancellation of student registration due to non-payment. Up until now, the university almost never cancelled student registration. The committee recommended that we make the first cancellation date for registered students 3 days before classes start. A second cancellation date for students who register late is the drop/add date. An elaborate communication campaign has been planned related to this, and this is a very important change for graduate students. The changes will go into effect Fall 2011. Part of the communication campaign will also include information about a payment plan.
- Provost's Award for Teaching is given each year to a department or unit, and the Provost presented the award this year to the Department of Educational Leadership. Provost Lorden announced that our College of Education was ranked among the top 100 graduate schools in the country. The Educational Leadership Dept has contributed to this ranking and the doctoral environment. It is an all graduate department and has awarded 100 degrees in their doctoral program. The award was accepted by Dr. Dawson Hancock.
- Provost Lorden presented an award for outstanding advising to PASS (Psychology Advising for Student Success). The award recognizes outstanding advising for an advising center or department or unit. The Department of Psychology has over 1000 majors, and to assist them PASS offers advising clinics, online orientation, quizzes for majors and minors, peer advising, group advising, and training for new faculty advisors. Dr. Lorden recognized Sue Spaulding, the director of the Center, who accepted the award.
- Provost Lorden thanked President Freitag for his leadership over the past year, Dr. Charles Bodkin who served as President-Elect, Sonya Hardin who served as Past-President, and Kim Harris who served as Secretary.

12. Report of the President

- President Freitag announced that a faculty representative is needed for the Student Union committee.
- The Faculty Governance Retreat will be held on Reading Day.
- President Freitag passed the gavel on to Dr. Bodkin.

13. New Business

- President Bodkin thanked Dr. Freitag for his service on behalf of the faculty and presented him with a plaque.
- Dr. Balcos announced that a Dance performance will be held at 8:00 Wednesday through Friday and Sunday at 2:00.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Harris, Secretary