FACULTY COUNCIL
Minutes
November 14, 2013

Present (ex officio):   Eddy Souffrant (President); Kim Harris (Secretary); Ed Jernigan (Past President); Chandra Subramaniam (COB); John Bender (Alternate, CLAS); Alan Freitag (CLAS); Heather McCullough (Library); Phil Dubois (Chancellor); Joan Lorden (Provost); Tom Reynolds (Dean, Graduate School); Daryl L. Kerr (Belk College of Business); Yi Deng (Dean, College of Computing & Informatics); Robert Johnson (Dean, College of Engineering); Jane Neese (College of Health & Human Services); Bill Hill (College of Liberal Arts and Sciences)

Absent (ex officio):   Greg Starrett (President Elect); Jose Gamez (COAA); Mirsad Hadzikadic (CCI); Chance Lewis (COED); Mehdi Miri (COE); Meredith Troutman-Jordan (CHHS); Paula Eckard (CLAS); Art Jackson (Student Affairs); Stanley Wilder (University Librarian); Ken Lambla (Dean, College of Arts + Architecture); Ellen McIntyre (Dean, College of Education); John Smail (Dean, University College)

Present (unit representatives):   Jeff Murphy (ART); Jun-tao Guo (BINF); Jing Zhou (BISOM); Joanna Krueger (CHEM); Taghi Mostafavi (CS); Vivian Lord (CJUS); E.E. Balcos (DANC); Aba Ebong (Alternate, ECGR); Alan Rauch (ENGL); Keener Hughen (FINN); John Bender (Alternate, GYES); Bridgette Sanders (LIB); Charles Bodkin (MKTG); Paul Fitchett (MDSK); Fred Spano (Alternate, MUSC); Lisa Rasmussen (PHIL); John Szmer (POLS); Charlie Reeve (PSYC); Ian Binns (REEL); Julie Fuselier (Alternate, SON); Othelia Lee (Alternate, SOWK); Yuliang Zheng (SIS); Shawnee Wakeman (Alternate, SPED)

Absent (unit representatives): Casper Wiggins (ACCT); Dean Fitzgerald (AERO); Veronica Hilliard (AFRS); Dennis Ogburn (ANTH); Jian Zhang (BIOL); Rajaram Janardhanam (CEGR); Loril Gossett (COMM); Lyndon Abrams (COUN); Ellen Sewell (ECON); Sandra Dika (EDLD); Na Lu (ET); John Cox (GIAS); Dan Dupre (HIST); Roy Fielding (KNES); Dale Grote (LACS); Janaki Gooty (MGMT); Anthony Fernandes (MATH); Russ Keanini (MEGR); Gary McGinnis (MSCI); Vasily Astratov (PHYS); Beth Racine (PHS); Joseph Winters (RELS); Jeff Balmer (SOA); Stephanie Moller (SOCY); Yesim Sireli (SEEM); Carlos Cruz (THEA)

Also present: Jay Raja (Academic Affairs); Leslie Zenk (Academic Affairs); Matt Wyse (Academic Affairs); J. Garvey Pyke (Center for Teaching and Learning); Jane Watson (Events & Special Projects); Gail Pankas (Events & Special Projects); Mike Carlin (ITS); Christopher Knauer (Registrar); Denise Dwight Smith (University Career Center); Cathy Blat (University Center for Academic Excellence)

The meeting was called to order at 12:31 PM, President Souffrant presiding.

1. **Summary of Commencement Plan**

   Jane Neese (College of Health & Human Services) and Jane Watson (Events & Special Projects) presented the new commencement plan for the May 2014 commencement ceremonies and the schedule of events for the three ceremonies. Commencement this past May was a very long two and a half hours and the number of graduates is growing. Tickets for families had to be reduced to accommodate the larger number of graduates, resulting in a number of complaints. There was a need to do something about the size of commencement. The plan is for three ceremonies starting in May 2014. The commencement plan was vetted through a number of groups: Commencement Committee (that comprises parking, book store, police, and more), Faculty Marshals, Office of the Registrar, Chancellor's Cabinet, Dean's Council, the Graduate School, and the Faculty Executive Committee. One thing we know is that we will need more volunteers.

   Some questions and discussion followed. Alan Rauch commented that this is labor intensive and difficult on staff. Faculty need to be aware that this process demands a lot more of the support staff.

   Alan Freitag made a motion to endorse the presented commencement plan. The motion was seconded by Ed Jernigan. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **System-Wide Core Competencies Resolution**

   Provost Lorden provided some background. The General Education Council (GEC) was tasked with developing UNC system-wide core competencies. Based on surveys from each of the system institutions, the General Education Council made a recommendation of system-wide core competencies. The UNC Faculty Assembly created an endorsing resolution of the GEC's recommendation.

   Heather McCullough made a motion to support the GEC's recommendation and endorse the UNC Faculty Assembly resolution. Charles Bodkin seconded the motion. The motion was then opened for debate.

   Paul Fitchett asked, "What is the impact on our syllabi and programs of study?" Provost Lorden mentioned that this is only the first step of responding to the Board of Governors. We are charged with finding core competencies across the system. Each institution identified competencies. However, getting this system-wide was necessary. The Provost explained how she and Kim Harris participated in video conferences with experts on how to do this on a system-wide level. We need an assessment method that takes into account the different institutions' own processes and assessments. It is

unclear at this point if we will need to make changes to syllabi. Taghi Mostafavi asked if this only applies to undergraduate studies. Dr. Lorden affirmed that it only applies to undergraduate studies. Alan Rauch emphasized that writing is content driven. The content courses are critical and need to be supported. Dr. Lorden said this resolution addresses the requirement that we report back to the Board of Governors. She said that she hopes that the parameters of the assessment process allows for flexibility at the institutional level.

The motion passed unanimously. President Souffrant added that he believes we are now the tenth institution to endorse this resolution.

3. **Motion to Award Degrees**

Motion: The Provost moves that the Faculty recommend to the Chancellor that appropriate degrees be conferred on all candidates who have met the established requirements of the Faculty.

Alan Freitag seconded the motion. Hearing no debate, President Souffrant called for a vote. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. **Motion to Award Posthumous Degrees**

Motion: The Faculty Executive Committee moves that the Faculty approve the request from the Belk College of Business to award a posthumous degree to Jared Ross Reynolds.

Ed Jernigan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion: The Faculty Executive Committee moves that the Faculty approve the request from the William States Lee College of Engineering to award a posthumous degree to Justin Tratt (Kaitlin Laffitte).

Chandra Subramaniam seconded the motion. A question followed on how the family is notified. Leslie Zenk answered that departments and/or colleges are responsible for contacting the families of their students regarding their degrees. There are posthumous degree procedures in place to follow after the Faculty Council approves a department's or college's request to award a posthumous degree. Hearing no more debate, President Souffrant called a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **State of Information Technology**

   Dr. Mike Carlin (Vice Chancellor for Information Technology & Chief Information Officer) gave a presentation on the state of information technology at UNC Charlotte. Dr. Carlin mentioned that has been at UNC Charlotte since July of 2013 and likes what he has seen so far. Dr. Carlin shared some of the projects that Information Technology Services (ITS) has completed since July. Over 20,000 IT tickets have been logged and resolved since July 2013. Many wireless access points (WAPs) have been upgraded and more installed. UNC Charlotte started with 949 WAPS, upgraded 353 WAPS, and added 601 new WAPs. Now the total is 1550 Wireless Access Points around campus. The number of courses in Moodle is increasing and the number of instructors using Moodle is increasing. Transfer to Moodle2 is complete; ITS is communicating with the vendor to ensure smooth transitions with Moodle upgrades in the future.

   Information Technology's areas of focus are: providing consistent and reliable delivery of all services; strengthening disaster recovery capabilities; continued virtualization of physical servers; migrate and upgrade aging systems; training and awareness; IT Master Plan; and continued improvements to security.

   ITS is currently completing working sessions on the IT Master Plan and is about two-thirds of the way through the process. We developed draft initiatives from each working session and a draft report on the UNCE Charlotte IT Strategic Plan is due in early Spring.

   With regards to security, there is a balance between security and usability and we strive to find the optimum balance. We also strive to provide greater transparency to the campus community.

   Dr. Carlin shared some current ITS sponsored projects: UNC Charlotte's adoption of ISO 27002 for information security management; data policy and data use guidelines; and identify management and single sign on (SSO). Dr. Carlin also mentioned a transformative project they are piloting right now called Virtual Lab Desktop Pilot Phase II in Spring 2014.

   Some questions followed Dr. Carlin's report. *Should Research Computing be renamed Academic Computing?* Dr. Carlin said that is a good recommendation that we can certainly share with Berry Dunn since the meaning is meant to be broader than just

research. *Do we want to require students to have all this additional technology?* The students have more technology than we realize and we should be utilizing this.

6. **Report of the Chancellor**

Chancellor Phil Dubois shared four main points:

- Enrollment and planning for the future – We have gone through a couple of different enrollment planning exercises. Often we arrive at the number 35,000 students and ask how quickly this might occur. This Fall we have over 26,000 students with a normal freshman size class. We are probably the fourth largest institution in the UNC system and second largest in undergraduate population. In the future we could possibly be firmly the second largest institution behind North Carolina State University. For the coming year we are planning a small undergraduate student increase and a slightly larger graduate increase. A capacity study shows about 30,000 students can exist amongst our campus structures without additional buildings.
- Early college high school – We are working with Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) for an early college high school to open Fall of 2014 on campus. It will be visible from Highway 29. It will be a CMS magnet school with 9 through 13 curriculum and approximately 250 students.
- Budget allocations – We devoted $900,000 to the senior faculty salary initiative. This doesn't solve the problem, but it is what we could do this year. The part-time faculty are underpaid as their salaries have not been adjusted in years, and next year we will finally address this. We are also trying to put away money for the potential expenses involved with compliance with the Affordable Health Care Act. Next year we will try to get going on two building renovations: Colvard and Burson. We have also entered into a contract with a consultant firm for a hotel conference center on Tryon Street. This hotel conference center will be privately run. Having an area hotel with the full services of a hotel conference center will be helpful.
- Tuition and fee setting process – President Ross is not going to recommend any increases to tuition. Fees will need to be increased. Fees support various self-sustaining centers. We are hearing that about a 2.5% salary increase is likely for staff. Fees will need to be increased to support the salary increases of the staff of our self-sustaining centers.

Questions and discussion followed the Chancellor's Report. Charlie Reeve asked how continually looking to increase the admissions numbers might affect our standards for admission. Dr. Dubois stated that our admissions standards are way above the minimum required by the UNC system and offered that the Provost could elaborate more during her report.

7. **Report of the Provost**

Provost Joan Lorden addressed the previous question on admission standards. In 2012 UNC Charlotte had its largest freshman class ever. The credentials of this class were not much different from previous classes. Also, the retention is getting better. An 80% retention rate is splendid. There was a smaller class this year in 2013 and the credentials of these students increased noticeably in terms of both weighted GPA and SAT scores.

The Provost's report had three main topics:

- The distribution of monies to the Colleges – We distributed monies to the Colleges to address retention and equity issues.
- E-Portfolios – There is an idea for e-portfolios being used to assess core competencies. We have a little money we can use to test this out. This will allow us to evaluate in another method other than a single test.
- Project Mosaic – Project Mosaic has been established to enhance social and behavioral science research.

8. **Report of the President Elect**

No report.

9. **Report of the President**

No report.

10. **Resolution regarding UNC Charlotte's first football season**

Agenda item moved to next Faculty Council agenda.

11. New Business

No new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.

Submitted,

Matthew J. Wyse

Matthew J. Wyse, Faculty Governance Assistant