

## Faculty Council

### Minutes of October 24, 2024, Meeting

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#### Voting Members Present

**(Ex Officio):** Xiaoxia Newton (President); Debra Smith (President-Elect); Denis Jacob Machado (Secretary); Beth Murray (FEC, COAA); Emily Makas (FEC, COAA Faculty Chair); Jack Cathey (FEC, COB); Barbara Knight (FEC, COB Faculty Chair); KR Subramanian (FEC, CCI); Ryan Miller (FEC, COED); John Nance (FEC, COED Faculty Chair); Aidan Browne (FEC, COE); Matthew Whelan (FEC, COE Faculty Chair); Elizabeth Stearns (FEC, CHESS); Amy Canevello (FEC, CHESS Faculty Chair designee); Kevin McGoff (FEC, COS); Tonya Bates (FEC, COS Faculty Chair); Catherine Tingelstad (FEC, Library); Abby Moore (FEC, Library Faculty President); Sharon Gaber (Chancellor); Jennifer Troyer (Provost); Kevin Bailey (V.C. for Student Affairs); Richard Buttimer (COB Dean); Bojan Cukic (CCI Dean); Malcolm Butler (COED Dean); Catrine Tudor-Locke (CHHS Dean); Christopher Boyer (CHESS Dean); Bernadette Donovan-Merkert (COS Dean); Malin Pereira (Honors College Dean); Teresa Petty (University College Dean)

**(Unit Representatives):** Hughlene Burton (ACCT); Ming-Chun Lee (SOA); Denis Jacob Machado (BINF); Melanie Harris (BIOL); Markus Etzkorn (CHEM); Wei Fan (CEGR); Bibi Reisdorf (COMM); Jack Culbreth (CSLG); Bruce Arrigo (CJUS); E.E. Balcos (DANC); Gang Chen (EEGS); Paul Gaggl (ECON); Ron Sass (ECE); Deborah Beete (ECH); Dolly King (FINN); Karen Flint (HIST); Ertunga Ozelkan (ISE); Olga Padilla-Falto (LANG); Dawn Schmitz (LIB); Karen Ford-Eickhoff (MGMT); Alireza Golmohammadi (MKTG); Oleg Safronov (MATH); Qiuming Wei (MEES); Hilary Dack (MDSK); Dylan Savage (MUSC); Hali Hutchison-Houk (PAS); Lisa Rasmussen (PHIL); Menelaos Poutous (PHYS); Mel Atkinson (POLS); Jennifer Langhinrichsen-Rohling (PSYC); Alicia Kitten (REEL); William Sherman (RELS); Jill Yavorsky (SOCY); Leslie Bross (SPCD); Carlos Cruz (THEA); Debarati Dutta (WRDS)

#### Voting Members Absent

**(Ex Officio):** Jessica Schlueter (FEC, CCI Faculty Chair); George Shaw (FEC, CHHS); Katryna McCoy (FEC, CHHS Faculty Chair); Jan Rieman (FEC, CHESS); John Daniels (V.C. for Research); Jose Gamez (COAA Dean); Robert Keynton (COE Dean); Pinku Mukherjee (Graduate School Dean); Stephen Weiter (Library Dean)

**(Unit Representatives):** Matt Flynn (AERO); Dorothy Smith-Ruiz (AFRS); Catherine Fuentes (ANTH); Mike Turner (APHC); JB Burke (ARTS); Dongsong Zhang (BISOM); Taghi Mostafavi (CS); Harish Cherukuri (DTSC); Jamie Kudrats (EDLD); Maciej Noras (ETCM); Melodye Gordon (ENGL); John Cox (GLBL); Elena Platonova (HMP); Joseph Frederick (MSCI); Tonya Anderson (SON); Matthew Mills (SOWK); David Wilson (SIS)

#### Guests Present (Not Voting)

Matthew Wyse (Academic Affairs); Leslie Zenk (Academic Affairs, Associate Provost and Chief of Staff); Claire Kirby (Enrollment Management); Katherine Hall-Hertel (Graduate School); Sarah Edwards (Legal Affairs, Deputy General Counsel); Jesh Humphrey (Legal Affairs, General Counsel & V.C. for Institutional Integrity); Kiran Budhrani (School of Professional Studies); Asher Haines (School of Professional Studies, Associate Provost); Isaiah Grayson (Student Government Association)

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1. **Call to Order.** Faculty President Xiaoxia Newton called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.
  
  2. **Roll Call/Quorum Check.** Members and guests used the Google form to record their attendance or the paper sign-in sheet. A quorum was pronounced when the live Google form results reached the quorum threshold.
  
  3. **Adoption of Agenda.** Ford-Eickhoff moved to adopt the agenda, and that motion was seconded by another member. The motion passed unanimously.
  
  4. **Report of the Chancellor (Dr. Sharon Gaber).** Gaber gave the following report:
    - Hurricane relief: We sent emergency management personnel and police personnel to UNC Asheville. We have 88 students from UNC Asheville staying on our campus for now.
    - Election season: We are an early voting site for anyone in Mecklenburg County. There are currently short lines. I encourage you to go and vote early.
    - Niner Nation Week: Niner Nation week helps the community see us. We want to be visible. We are this city's research university. At the football game, during Niner Nation Week, we will be formally announcing our funding campaign. It is our largest funding campaign ever. We are at \$250M and our goal is \$500M. We recently had a meeting with community leaders to reinforce the importance of having a large research university.
  
  5. **Report of the Provost (Dr. Jennifer Troyer).** Troyer gave the following report:
    - Many faculty at UNC Charlotte volunteered to work hand and hand with faculty in Western Carolina.
    - An AI taskforce was formed with Manuel Perez-Quinones and Kiran Budhrani co-leading. This taskforce has faculty representations from each college, the Library, and Faculty Council.
    - Search updates: the Library Dean Search Committee & the Graduate School Dean Search Committee are currently reviewing applicants.
    - The Academic Program Review (APR) policy that is on today's agenda is a new policy that is being required by the State. I am happy to answer any questions about that when we get to that agenda item.
  
  6. **Reports of Officers.**
    - a) Faculty President (Dr. Xiaoxia Newton):
      - The FEC approved the formation of an ad hoc committee on the structure of Faculty Council standing committees.

- The bookstore and dining teams will provide presentations at our November Faculty Council meeting.
- At the September Faculty Council meeting we were asked about hybrid or virtual Faculty Council meetings. After discussion with the Faculty Council leadership team, we are keeping the Faculty Council meetings as in-person meetings.

### **New Business.**

7. **Consent Agenda.** Newton asked if there were any requests to remove an item(s) from the consent agenda for further discussion. Hearing none, she entertained a motion to approve. Ford-Eickhoff made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Jacob Machado seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The following consent agenda items were approved:

- Minutes of the Faculty Council meeting of September 19, 2024
- Request to Degree in Memoriam to Lillie Hining
- Revisions to Graduate Faculty Appointment Policy

8. **Academic Program Review Policy.** One member shared a concern on behalf of a colleague. Another member shared a concern about ROI. While ROI is not mentioned, it is hinted at in the evaluation criteria. Can we ensure that ROI metrics are not used in evaluation of programs? This information comes from LinkedIn and does not capture those who do not use LinkedIn or do not update LinkedIn. Also, it does not count secondary majors, only the first major. Perhaps the proper on campus unit should audit and write a report on the ROI dashboard. Having the self-study be part of this process will negatively influence whether people seriously discuss weaknesses as they could be afraid it will be used to axe the program. Troyer noted these are required elements but are not meant to be exclusive. Addressing the comment on ROI, Troyer said if you are interested in ROI data and the data we collect then talk to Steve Coppola, Associate Provost in the Office of Institutional Research and Decision Support.

A member asked how workforce demand is evaluated? Troyer said we are giving considerable latitude on how each unit evaluates this. How we do it is not part of the policy. It just needs to be done scientifically.

**Q:** Where do we get departmental data?

**A:** Toyer – Institutional Research has a license to the data and can share. Steve Coppola and Asher Haines then briefly explained what data is available.

A member suggested changing the wording of “self-study” to something like “self-statement” as the term self-study can mean something else to units – developmental versus evaluative. Langhinrichsen moved to amend the policy to call it “self-context statement” instead of self-study. The motion was seconded.

A member stated their preference for removing the self-study from this policy. Troyer said the thought was to do it together to not have two different times when you need to work on this. We could separate self-study out of this policy, so that it is done separately but that could add work. The member still prefers removing the self-study process out, so that it is not used against programs. The preference is to see the policy re-worded with self-study removed, so the self-study process remains how it is currently done. Another member stated that the current process is not too different.

Christine Robinson, Assistant Provost for Institutional Effectiveness and Analytics, informed the Faculty Council that we added the self-study in this process so that there was a bigger picture. I would not want to be evaluated on the ROI metrics alone. I would want the self-study to add this fuller picture that sells the program.

Langhinrichsen moved to withdraw the motion to amend the policy to call it “self-context statement” instead of self-study. The motion was seconded.

A motion to approve the policy was then made and seconded. The motion was voted down.

A member articulated that this policy is required by the UNC System. We will have to have a policy. We want a process that lets us explain our programs.

Several members expressed not having understood what they were voting on. And asked if the vote could be done over. Cruz moved to reconsider. Jacob Machado seconded the motion to reconsider. The motion was approved.

Cruz moved to approve the Academic Program Review Policy. Jacob Machado seconded the motion. The motion to approve the Academic Program Review Policy carried with 26 votes in favor, 6 votes against, and 16 abstentions.

9. **Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Council Standing Committee Structure, soliciting faculty representation on the committee.** Debra Smith and Denis Jacob Machado talked about this ad hoc committee and asked the Faculty Council members to please let them know if you are interested in joining the committee.
  
10. **Student Government Association’s Election Day Resolution.** Newton explained that the Provost is seeking input on these suggestions from the Student Government Association (SGA). Matthew De La Rosa, SGA Safety and Security Liaison, explained the resolution request and need.

**Q:** There are two weeks of voting, so why do we need to stop classes on Election Day itself?

**A:** If we have a test or exam on that day, it could discourage voting by requiring studying/preparing for class that day.

**Q:** Does this apply to any election?

**A:** De La Rosa - The goal is midterms and presidential elections, not special elections necessarily.

One FC member said they endorsed this measure. While another noted that there are some things already scheduled that day that cannot be changed at this point. Faculty needs advanced notice. A member voiced support for this resolution for future years, but not this year. Another member added that some labs on Tuesdays cannot be virtual or cancelled and would have to be rescheduled. The Registrar would have to configure a schedule that would include those labs. Newton thanked everyone for their input.

11. **Announcements.** Skipped for time.

12. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 P.M.

Minutes taken by Matthew Wyse, Faculty Governance Assistant.