

Faculty Council Meeting Minutes – November 20th, 2019

Attendance: Dennis Booth, Patricia Casey, John Ferri, Martha Golden, Quinten Gordon, Renata Jackson, Elizabeth Klaimon, Steven LaCosse, Joseph Pecoraro, Jared Redick, Robert Rocco, Saxton Rose, Ellen Rosenberg, Paul Sharpe, Christia Thomason, Beth Thompson, Lauren Vilchik, Mike Wakeford, Gregory Walter, Wade Wilson; Brian Cole, Karin Peterson, David Green, Heather Lathrop

Michael Wakeford called meeting to order 1:49pm

Minutes—Renata Jackson motioned to approve minutes; Wade Wilson seconded.

No discussion, all in favor. Minutes approved as written

Introductions – Heather Lathrop

- Heather is our new Secretarial assistant to Faculty Council Secretary, Lauren Vilchik. She comes to us from the School of Filmmaking as their Administrative Support Specialist and serves as the Staff Council Secretary/Treasurer.
- Heather has an undergrad degree in Art Education and taught High School art, drawing, and 35 mm film photography for five years. Heather is a current graduate student, working on her Masters in Public Administration. Heather expressed her desire to “serve in this role to further bridge the relationships between staff and faculty with a pledge to bring confidentiality to the group and honor the space you have created for one another.”

Housekeeping and announcements:

- Faculty Council will meet on December 4th, even if for only half an hour, to discuss BOT meeting coming up

Chancellor’s open house holiday party:

- 1p—4p RSVP online to monitor at space at Chancellor’s residence.

Planned listening sessions hosted by the Chair of the Chancellor Search Committee have concluded:

- Underwhelming faculty participation.
- Still online feedback availability, committee will see feedback that way.

David Green – Chair, UNC Faculty Assembly:

- Spent time walking campus and meeting students.
- This is his second and final year serving as Chair; he has been on Faculty Assembly since 2011.
- He is looking forward to an open and free discussion with Faculty Council.
- DG expressed that best part of the job is the campus visits.
- DG talked about how he started Faculty Assembly in a different era in the nation; it’s a different time now with a different style of leadership.

- Elizabeth City is in transition mode.
- Some difficulties with slow BOG action on minimum admissions policies
- Access to system President is more challenging as leadership transition nears
- Student wellness is a topic at the forefront. Discussion should be about the resources we can put in place or have in place that can help our students succeed. The goal needs to be to meet them with what resources they need. Don't make the decisions for them but help students to make decisions for themselves.
- We have a new chair of BOG with new members of key committees and it takes time to figure out where they're going and discover sound policy.
- One positive is that Matt Brody has the tools to tell the story of the history faculty salaries; Universities are losing faculty within system because of pay raises; New BOG will need to demonstrate priorities and it will take some patience before we can figure out the values of the new group.
 - It is important to remember that to students, administration and higher ups come and go but the faculty and staff stick around.

Discussion opened to thoughts and concerns regarding faculty salaries, membership of the AAUP and the effectiveness of their support, support from the chancellors across the UNC system, and the history of advocacy for UNCSA by former BOG reps. It was strongly suggested that strategy moving forward needs to be from multiple avenues in addition to Faculty Assembly that would speak to the BOG as a body and not just to our specific representative. There is power in the message supported by the data.

- Ellen: Apart from Elizabeth & I acting as faculty council reps on Faculty Assembly, how can we facilitate Faculty Assembly in its mission to support our campus?
 - DG: we are most productive when we have multiple people buy in. That's not controversial or getting push-back on, because they'll go back to the chancellor anyway. Be a listening ear, find out what they want, and work with the system office on accurate data. Student health, data. When there's a request for data & narratives, have a buy in and specifications of input. Have faculty work as members of policy change and articulate what it might mean on your campus. Best way for DG to represent campuses is to have a paragraph/statement in hand to speak for them and what they need.
- MW: meeting dismissed 1:56pm