

Faculty Council Meeting

Wednesday, November 16

12:45 – 2:00, Virtual

Agenda

Members Present:

Jeffrey George, Chair
Cliff Odle, Vice Chair
Wade Wilson, Secretary
Clint Smith
STEVEN LACOSSE
Martha Golden
Janine Hawley
Kara Andersen
Anson Koch-Rein
Bill Volz
Christopher Bruhn
Rosemary Millar
Chris Dorr
Joe Mills

Michael Dodds
Dmitri Vorobiev
Claire Fort
Elizabeth Klaimon
Frazier Smith
Abby Yager
Jared Redick

Others Present:

Jill Lane
Kory P. Kelly
Patrick J. Sims
Katherine Johnson
Laurel Donley
Dr. B. Afeni McNeely Cobham
Karen Beres

1. George called the meeting to order at 12:47.
2. Approval of minutes
 - a. Motion: Dorr; Second: Hawley
 - b. Approved without dissent
3. Chair Report (*for information*)
 - a. Updates on current initiatives
 - i. Task forces
 1. HS Employee Manual
 - a. On track for draft recommendation this fall, described as potentially “industry-leading”
 - b. Next steps:
 - i. approval by executive council (early spring)
 - ii. writing final draft (spring)
 - iii. aligning with student policy manual (spring)
 2. AI (updates from Bruhn)

- a. Next Generative AI session: 10:30 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, November 20 (distinct approaches to effective prompting of LLM's)
- b. Recently had first full meeting, discussing ethical use of A.I. as well as the need for student & faculty training.
- c. Next meeting: December 4th, with Amit Bhattacharya (one of our reps on the Faculty Assembly task force)

3. Searches:

- a. Reaching out to search committee chairs soon to gather information
- b. Developing survey for all committee members to take after completion of the process
- c. Working in parallel with Deans' committee
- d. Final process worked out with Provost:
 - i. Deans and FC make recommendations early in the spring semester
 - ii. Work with deans, Angela Mahoney, Kim Bradfield to create final product by end of May
- ii. CSI & faculty conversations
 - 1. Timeline developing in conjunction with Provost & Deans
 - 2. February 11 collaborative day: have something meaningful
 - 3. Town Halls: starting the conversation
 - a. Next one: 11/13 (next week)
 - b. Recordings for those who can't attend (committees)
 - 4. Ideas from previous committees: deserve to be heard

B. PickleCon

- i. Monday, November 11, 11 – 7:00
 - ii. Support from library, student affairs
 - iii. GAMES, other activities, fun snacks, maybe one very cool thing
 - iv. Followed by food trucks at Hanes Commons at 7 PM
 - c. Faculty Endowed Scholarship
 - i. Further conversation on November 20 with Rich Whittington
 - d. Faculty Manual changes – begin thinking about & collecting them for work in the spring semester
 - i. Recommendations from accreditation process
4. Old Business
- a. Inclement Weather Policy (*for discussion, possible recommendation*)

- i. Odle leads a brief discussion about faculty frustration with the lack of communication, especially for those parents with children in local schools that closed.
 - ii. Sims explained the normal communication process, and indicated that the breakdown this time occurred when neither Provost Office nor Campus Police notified Strategic Communications, each thinking the other had done so.
- b. Proposal on Faculty Council meeting videos (*for discussion & decision*)
 - i. *I move that we make the video recordings of our meetings with administration present available to faculty through Teams (with a UNCSA login required to access them). This will provide an additional way for faculty to keep up with the work of Faculty Council, adding more transparency and accessibility.*
 - ii. Motion seconded by Clint Smith.
 - iii. Discussion about whether Teams is the best platform, and the need for training on Teams.
 - iv. Motion approved without dissent.
- c. Ombuds Committee
 - i. Second candidate needed, no restrictions on eligibility
 - ii. Re-examination of original goals & policies, progress toward them
- d. Excellence in Teaching award process – Jill Lane (*for information*)
 - i. Composition of the committee: previous year's six faculty winners, previous year's HS and College major award winners, one alumni representative.
 - ii. Lane's role: facilitate and coordinate (administrative roles previously delegated to a faculty chair), process nominations, forward Board of Governors candidates, but not a voting member.
 - iii. Nominations: taken from students, faculty, and alumni (through Advancement and alumni rep to committee).
 - iv. Dorr expressed appreciation and admiration for Lane's work on the committee, as well as positive experiences regarding alumni nominations.
 - v. Decision process: committee members send top six in rank order after reading the eligible nominations, which allows quick identification of consensus candidates.
 - vi. Other system schools use other processes, and Faculty Council is the ultimate decider, but this process seems to be working well.

- vii. George pointed out that we have such a robust program because the system made the decision to award the smallest institutions 1.5 shares of the funding they provide.
- 5. Review of mental health services – Laurel Donley (*for information & discussion*)
 - a. Down in staff in Wellness Center, but they have seen over 2500 appointments this fall. 500 more in counseling, and 500 more between the two Case Managers.
 - i. Second case manager was originally grant funded, now permanently funded.
 - b. UWill online service has seen over 300 students use it once, over 120 students using it regularly. It is not just counseling, there are also mindfulness and wellness videos with broad application. International students can still use it in their home countries.
 - c. Atrium Healthcare provides psychiatry for 16 hours per week on campus. Students can also access psychiatric services through NC Neuropsych.
 - d. We also have a number of proactive services, such as QPR training (Martha Golden, Shannon Wooten, and Jazmyn Clark are trained instructors, and several other Student Affairs staff have training as well). G.U.I.D.E. training, the Take5 campaign, and UPenn Resiliency program also help prevent mental health crises.
 - e. We've received and spent over \$500,000 on mental health resources, all of which comes from outside funding sources.
 - f. Vorobiev expressed concerns over international students and the support they receive over holidays and breaks. Donley offered to connect outside of the meeting to discuss further.
- 6. Provost Report
 - a. Academic Program Review process
 - i. UNCSA just went through external review last year; prior to that, there was no consistent policy.
 - ii. System requires one every seven years. Due to our particular needs, and to sync with reaccreditation, it is better for us to review on a 5-year cycle, which will start with Music.
 - iii. Our policy is straightforward, merely citing the new system policy (which only applies to post-secondary programs, although our high school academic program is also undergoing curriculum review next year).
 - iv. Must be approved by EPC and then the Board of Trustees.
 - b. Post-election conversations (Dr. McNeely Cobham)
 - i. One cost of the new Equality policy is that we (as a nation, a state, a university system, and a community) missed the opportunity to

reframe Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion as a social science that provides space for us to critique and unpack our collective accountability.

- ii. Student Affairs has planned and hosted a series of conversations for students called Bridging the Gap.
 - iii. Institutional Engagement plans to do the same for faculty.
 - iv. Sims followed by expressing our collective desire for UNCSCA to be an environment where everyone feels welcome, supported, and appreciated. Although as a state institution we are limited in what we can express politically, we do hear, see, and celebrate everyone in our community.
7. George adjourned the meeting at 2:00.