

Meeting Minutes, Faculty Senate, full meeting, November 22, 2022

These minutes were reviewed and approved during the Faculty Senate meeting on February 28, 2023.

In attendance:

Faisal Alkaabneh (S); Bishnu Bastakoti (S); Stephen Bollinger (S); Kelvin Bryant (S); Kimberly Bunch-Crump (S); Subrata Chakrabarty (A); Dominic P. Clemence; Robert Cobb; Zachary Denton (S); Nicole Dobbins; Marka Fleming (S); Yvonne Ford (S); Tiffany Fuller (S); Corey Graves (S); Scott Harrison (S); Jessica Han; Nina Ingram; AKM Kamrul Islam (A); Geetika Jaiswal (S); Liesl Jeffers-Francis; Yahya Kamalipour (S); Stephanie Kelly; Cindi Khanlarian (S); Lyubov Kurkalova (S); Mahmoud Mahmoud (A); Nicole McCoy; Kimberly McNeil (S); Ahmed C. Megri (S); Devang Mehta (S); Carmen Monico (S); Robert Newman; Emmanuel Obeng-Gyasi (S); Venktesh Pandey (A); Ginger Redd; Kristen Rhinehardt (S); Checo J. Rorie; Jacqueline Roebuck Sakho (S); David Schall (S); Amy Schwartzott (S); Belinda Shipps (S); Vijay Singh (A); Arwin Smallwood; Kalynda Smith (S); Davi Thornton (S); C. Dinitra White; Maylee Vazquez (A); Jeff Wolfgang (S); James Wood (S); Xueying Zhang (A); Qing-An Zeng (S); and a representative from the Student Government Association

(S): Senator

(A): Alternate

Meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by the Faculty Senate Chair, Dr. Scott Harrison. Roll call was taken by Dr. Harrison and Dr. Fuller.

Minutes from the October 25, 2022 full Faculty Senate meeting were reviewed. Dr. Ford motioned for their approval and Dr. Bollinger seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

For a Faculty Assembly report, Dr. Dobbins indicated that the UNC System Board of Governors had met recently. Topics included the reviewing of post-tenure review (PTR) and expectations regarding the role of a chancellor. Regarding PTR, there has been some proposal to establishing a committee within the faculty assembly to develop recommendations and best practices and principles. Reports from committees included the following. Dr. Ford requested nominations regarding a university research task force that was being assembled. For the Educational Policy committee, there was some mention of a need to further clarify and standardize academic minor offerings at our university. The Calendar committee reported on the indications of wellness days at the end of the university Spring 2023 calendar. It was pointed out that the incorrect year (2022 instead of 2023) was indicated for those days.

An attendee from the Student Government Association, Ashleigh Jackson, inquired about wellness days. It was discussed that wellness days were indeed in place for Spring 2023. Further discussion related to the general manner and associated opportunities with respect to wellness days. In general, opportunities for togetherness and friendship within relaxed situations of interaction appeared to be of possibly best interest. Overall, feedback presented from the student community was for wellness days to be spread out across the semester, and to be kept simple.

The Faculty Senate discussed recent tragedies to have befallen students at various university campuses especially including our own university. Wellness forums, continued remembrance, and the need for overall support for the student were proposed and emphasized.

Dr. Eric Muth, the Vice Chancellor for N.C. A&T's Division of Research and Economic Development updated the faculty on research support initiatives and research-related outcomes at our university. Dr. Muth described the newer research proposal and administration system, InfoEd and also acknowledged some technical issues with this newer system. Different performance metrics were presented regarding the university's colleges, and Dr. Muth indicated strong appreciation to the faculty for rising accomplishments in award dollars. Research space, facilities and administration costs (F&A) were also discussed.

Also, within the meeting, Dr. Cobb mentioned the need for evaluating and improving upon post-tenure review standards and happenings at our institution, and further emphasized that needed attention be given to potential loss of disenfranchisement, accountability and critical communications with respect to university leadership. Stephen Bollinger mentioned the need to further address circumstances regarding salaries within our institution in comparison to other institutions. Finally, Dr. Pedroni disclosed his retirement from the university. Gratitude and congratulations were offered to Dr. Pedroni on his exceptional work and service at the university by numerous attendees of the meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.