Technical corrections to this item were reported to the Board of Governors at its September 2020 meeting.

Technical corrections are made pursuant to Section 100.2 IV. of the UNC Policy Manual.

The entire UNC Policy Manual is accessible at: https://www.northcarolina.edu/apps/policy/index.php?tab=policy_manual
Policy on Chancellor Searches and Elections

The Board of Governors adopts the following policy regarding the chancellor search and election process.

I. Purpose. The search for and election of a new chancellor of a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina requires the participation, involvement, and collaboration of the board of trustees of the constituent institution, the chancellor search committee, the president, and the Board of Governors, each of which performs distinct roles and functions. Within the University, chancellors report to the president. The president therefore has the primary responsibility for ensuring there is a thorough and reliable process for chancellor searches, culminating in the election of the chancellor by the Board of Governors.

Consistent with the statutory responsibilities of the board of trustees, president, and Board of Governors, this policy establishes requirements for the chancellor search and election process, and describes the resources that shall be provided through the UNC System Office and the constituent institutions during each search.

II. Search Process

A. President. As further described in this policy, the president shall have the overall responsibility for overseeing System Office staff with responsibility for managing and supporting chancellor searches, helping determine search committee membership, charging the search committee, developing chancellor leadership competencies, interviewing chancellor finalists, participating in the reference checking process, negotiating the terms of employment for a chancellor-elect consistent with state law and Board policy, and offering a chancellor-elect for final consideration by the Board of Governors.

B. Board of Trustees. As further described in this policy, members of the boards of trustees shall serve as members of the search committee, shall consider candidates proposed by the search committee as potential finalists, and shall refer a final slate of candidates to the president for additional vetting and consideration.

C. Board of Governors. As further described in this policy, selected members of the Board of Governors shall provide input and advice to the president on a slate of finalists and the governors both in committee and then as the full body shall consider and vote on a proposed chancellor-elect.

D. Search Committee

1. The search committee shall be composed of representatives of the board of trustees, the faculty, the student body, the staff, the alumni, the local community, and other campus constituencies as may be deemed appropriate, which can ordinarily be
achieved with a committee of no more than 20 members.

2. No member of the Board of the Governors may serve as a member of the search committee.

3. The chair of the board of trustees in consultation with the president shall identify a chair of the search committee; the chair of the board of trustees may also serve as chair of the search committee with the agreement of the president.

4. As further described in this policy, the search committee shall work on behalf of the board of trustees and the president to receive the input of institutional stakeholders and community members, to develop a leadership statement that describes the desired qualities for the new chancellor, to conduct interviews and consider the qualifications of candidates, and to propose a slate of finalists for consideration of the board of trustees, who recommends the slate to the president.

E. Budget and Staff. Upon the establishment of the search committee, the chair of the board of trustees, in consultation with the president, shall establish a budget and identify staff for the committee. With the exception of assigned System Office professional staff and their direct expenses, the costs for a chancellor search are the responsibility of the constituent institution. This shall include the fees and expenses of any engaged outside professional search and/or background investigation firms.

F. UNC System Office. The UNC System Office shall provide the necessary resources and support to effectively carry out a chancellor search, including but not limited to qualified human resources staff with expertise in executive search, logistical and administrative support to the chair of the search committee, and training materials which shall serve to orient trustees and search committee members with respect to their roles and responsibilities in the search process. The System Office may also obtain the support of the constituent institution in providing local logistical support to the operations of the search committee.

G. Search Status. Members of the Board of Governors may elect to receive public notices of search committee meetings and chancellor search open forums. The chair of the board of trustees shall ensure that the president receives periodic updates concerning the status of the search and the projected schedule for concluding interviews and delivering recommendations of two (2) candidates to the president.

H. Engagement of Key Stakeholders

1. The chair of the search committee shall assure that the search process engages a broad cross-section of institutional stakeholders to obtain well-rounded input on candidates. At the discretion of the search committee chair, such engagement could involve students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members.

2. The search committee chair is encouraged to engage selected members of the Board of Governors who may live within proximity to the institution or otherwise have a particular interest in or knowledge of the institution and its mission to attend constituent forums, candidate receptions, or other events at which candidates are present.
3. All individuals provided the opportunity to meet with chancellor candidates on
campus will be expected to sign confidentiality agreements equivalent to that signed by
members of the search committee.

I. Confidential Searches and Confidentiality

1. Consistent with state law protecting the identity of applicants, searches for
chancellors of the University of North Carolina shall be conducted as “confidential
searches,” which shall mean the identity of candidates, semi-finalists, or finalists shall not
be disclosed to the general public. Conducting confidential searches is intended to
maximize the quality of the candidate pool by not discouraging the interest of individuals
who would not otherwise apply in the event of a publicly disclosed candidate pool.

2. Any individual involved in the search process, including but not limited to
members of the Board of Governors, the search committee, the board of trustees, and
staff, shall keep confidential all search-related records and information that are required
by law to be kept confidential. Confidential information includes, but is not limited to,
personnel records and information of candidates, attorney-client communications, and
closed session deliberations and information.

III. Search Philosophy, and Candidates for Chancellor, and Other Items

A. Each chancellor search committee and the boards of trustees for constituent institutions
shall, in consultation with the president, make reasonable efforts to recruit and
consider a diverse pool of exceptionally well-qualified individuals for chancellor vacancies,
including candidates with both traditional academic experience as well as
candidates with alternative backgrounds in business, industry, government, the military, and the
not-for-profit sector.

B. In order to support proactive talent identification and effective succession planning
efforts and to benefit future applicant pools for the position of chancellor, The president, in
consultation with the officers of the Board of Governors, shall undertake reasonable efforts to
develop potential chancellor candidates an internal pipeline of talent within the University of
North Carolina and that shall serve to benefit future applicant pools for the position of chancellor.

C. The president shall, ensure that opportunities for chancellor vacancies shall be
promoted in a manner that encourages interest from well-qualified candidates who are current
residents of the State of North Carolina. In any chancellor search, the president shall have the
discretion to designate up to two individuals from the president’s succession planning efforts to
become candidates upon their submission of complete applications. Candidates designated by
the president shall participate in search committee interviews and at least one (1) of such
candidates shall be part of the slate referred by the board of trustees for the president’s
consideration in accordance with Part IV of this policy.

CD. In keeping with Board policy in order to avoid actual or potential conflicts of interests, no
presently serving member of the Board of Governors or a board of trustees shall be eligible to be
appointed as an acting or interim chancellor or to be considered for the position of chancellor
unless they first resign their position on said body.
IV. Board of Trustees Recommendations to the President. The board of trustees, following receipt of the report of the search committee shall, subject to the direction of the president, recommend an unranked slate of no fewer than two (2) candidates for consideration by the president in designating a nominee for the chancellorship.

V. Consideration by the President. Once the slate of candidates is received from the board of trustees, the president may choose to interview one (1) or more of the candidates and may include members of his or her senior staff in the interviews, as deemed appropriate. The president may also consider asking the appointed officers of the Board of Governors and the chair and vice chair of the Committee on Personnel and Tenure to participate in these interviews to advise on the suitability of the candidates and to build support for a selected finalist before advancing to the next stage of the search process.

VI. Review of Candidate Qualifications and Background Investigation

A. Timing. The president shall initiate a detailed background investigation on one or more of the candidates received from the board of trustees for determining their suitability for election as chancellor.

B. Scope. Any candidate presented to the Board of Governors for election as chancellor must have had a completed background investigation that includes, but is not limited to verification of prior work history and educational credentials, confirmation of most recent total compensation, reference checks, criminal background check, credit check, civil litigation check, and scans of relevant social media and news media references applicable to the candidate. This investigation may address any other issues deemed of relevance to the president to confirm the candidate’s suitability to serve as a chancellor.

C. Review of Results. The final results of this background investigation shall be reviewed by the president, appropriate members of the president’s senior staff, the officers of the Board of Governors, and the chair and vice chair of the Committee on Personnel and Tenure. This information may be shared with other members of the Board of Governors only with the direct authorization of the chair and the president when deemed necessary for the proper conduct of a search.

VII. Nomination to the Board of Governors. Following interviews and successful completion of an appropriate background investigation, the president may either identify one candidate for nomination to the Board of Governors or return the slate to the board of trustees with instructions for further action.

VIII. Negotiation of Terms and Conditions of Appointment. The president shall consult with the Board of Governors officers and the chair of the Committee on Personnel and Tenure about the president’s proposed nomination and negotiation of conditional terms and conditions of appointment. The negotiated terms and conditions may include: compensation (including base salary, consistent with the Board of Governors approved market salary ranges), retirement plan participation; deferred compensation incentive and retention plans; stipends, and allowances; and written contract provisions, including length of appointment and retreat rights.

IX. Election of the Chancellor

A. The Board of Governors shall vote on the president’s nominee and the proposed terms of
appointment.

B. All the members of the Board shall have no less than seven (7) calendar days to review written materials for the proposed candidate for chancellor-elect prior to being asked to vote on said nomination.

C. Prior to being considered by the full Board of Governors, the Committee on Personnel and Tenure shall convene to consider and make a recommendation concerning the president’s nomination and the proposed terms and conditions of appointment, including the elements of any employment contract. The Committee on Personnel and Tenure meeting shall be scheduled so as to reasonably accommodate participation by Board of Governors members in person or by telephone.

D. Any Board of Governors member who shall have a concern regarding the veracity or accuracy of any element of a candidate’s background for chancellor shall address such concern directly to the president. The president shall have the responsibility to investigate and follow-up on such concerns with the Board of Governors in a timely manner.

E. The chancellor-elect shall not be physically present at any board meeting at which such vote shall be undertaken.

X. Other Matters

A. Effective Date. The requirements of this policy shall be effective for chancellor searches that are initiated on or after the date of adoption of this policy by the Board of Governors. apply to all chancellor searches, except that the amendments to the policy adopted by the Board of Governors on September 17, 2020, shall be effective only for those chancellor searches that commence after September 17, 2020.

B. Relation to State Laws. The foregoing policies as adopted by the Board of Governors are meant to supplement, and do not purport to supplant or modify, those statutory enactments which may govern or relate to chancellor searches.

C. Regulations and Guidelines. These policies shall be implemented and applied in accordance with such regulations and guidelines as may be adopted from time to time by the president.
CHAPTER VI- ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND TENURE

SECTION 603. DUE PROCESS BEFORE DISCHARGE OR THE IMPOSITION OF SERIOUS SANCTIONS.

(1) A faculty member who is the beneficiary of institutional guarantees of tenure shall enjoy protection against unjust and arbitrary application of disciplinary penalties. During the period of such guarantees the faculty member may be discharged from employment, suspended without pay, or demoted in rank for reasons of:

(a) Incompetence, including significant, sustained unsatisfactory performance after the faculty member has been given an opportunity to remedy such performance and fails to do so within a reasonable time;

(b) Neglect of duty, including sustained failure to meet assigned classes or to perform other significant faculty professional obligations; or

(c) Misconduct of such a nature as to indicate that the individual is unfit to continue as a member of the faculty, including violations of professional ethics, mistreatment of students or other employees, research misconduct, financial fraud, criminal, or other illegal, inappropriate or unethical conduct. To justify serious disciplinary action, such misconduct should be either (i) sufficiently related to a faculty member’s academic responsibilities as to disqualify the individual from effective performance of university duties, or (ii) sufficiently serious as to adversely reflect on the individual’s honesty, trustworthiness or fitness to be a faculty member.

These sanctions may be imposed only in accordance with the procedures prescribed in this section. For purposes of serious sanctions under of this Code section, a faculty member serving a stated term shall be regarded as having tenure until the end of that term. These procedures shall not apply to nonreappointment (Section 604) or termination of employment (Section 605).

SECTION 610. RIGHTS OF SPECIAL FACULTY MEMBERS

(1) Faculty members who are appointed as visiting faculty members, adjunct faculty, lecturers, artists-in-residence, writers-in-residence or other special categories are regarded as “special faculty members” for purposes of the University Code. Special faculty members may be paid or unpaid.

(2) Special faculty members who are paid shall be appointed for a specified term of service, as set out in writing in the letter of appointment. The term of appointment of any paid special faculty member concludes at the end of the specified period set forth in the letter of appointment, and the letter of appointment constitutes full and timely notice that a new term will not be granted when that term expires. The continued employment of a special faculty member during the term of appointment may be made expressly contingent on items such as the continued
availability of funding from any source, on enrollment levels, or any other contingency established by the institution, in which case the appointment letter must state such contingency.

(3) Special faculty members who are not paid may be appointed for a specified term of service or at will. Their pay and appointment status should be set out in the letter of appointment.

(4) During the term of their employment, special faculty members are entitled to seek recourse under Section 607 of the University Code (relating to faculty grievances).

(5) Special faculty members, whether paid or unpaid, are not covered by Section 604 of the University Code, and that section does not accord them rights to additional review of a decision by a constituent institution not to grant a new appointment at the end of a specified fixed term.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Code / UNC Policy Manual</th>
<th>UNC Policy Manual - Chapter</th>
<th>Policy/Regulation/Guideline</th>
<th>Section(s)</th>
<th>Technical Correction(s)</th>
<th>Effective Date (Posted to Webpage)</th>
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Policy on Grievances Filed Pursuant to Section 607 of The Code

Effective Date: This policy shall apply to all faculty grievances submitted on or after January 1, 2004

I. The Purpose of the Grievance Procedure—Section 607 of The Code provides a process for faculty members to seek redress concerning employment related grievances. The function of the grievance procedure is to attempt to reach a consensual resolution of the dispute and, if that fails, to determine whether the contested decision was materially flawed, in violation of applicable policies, standards or procedures. The grievance process is not intended to second-guess the professional judgment of officers and colleagues responsible for making administrative decisions.

II. Initiation of the Grievance Process

aA. Any faculty member who has a grievance, as defined in Section 607(3) of The Code, may file a petition for redress in accordance with the procedure established by the constituent institution. The petition of the faculty member shall be in writing and shall set forth in detail the nature of the grievance and against whom the grievance is directed. The petitioner shall set forth any information that he or she considers pertinent to the grievance. The faculty member shall deliver a copy of the petition to the respondent administrator by certified mail or by another means that provides proof of delivery.

bB. When a decision not to promote is made at the same time as a decision not to reappoint a faculty member, all challenges to those decisions will proceed pursuant to Policy-Section 101.3.1 of the UNC Policy Manual. When a decision not to promote is not made as a part of a reappointment decision, campus policy shall determine which faculty committee has jurisdiction to hear such disputes.

cC. Unless the parties to the grievance have participated in mediation prior to the faculty member’s filing the petition, before taking any action on the petition, the faculty grievance committee shall refer the matter for mediation in accordance with the policies of the constituent institution.

III. Mediation of Grievances

aA. Mediation is a procedure in which disputing parties enlist the assistance of a neutral party to help them in achieving a voluntary, bilateral agreement that finally and definitively resolves all or portions of their dispute, without resorting to adversarial procedures such as grievance hearings, administrative hearings or litigation. Any such mediated agreement that the parties are able to negotiate will be embodied in a written agreement.

bB. The appropriate functions of a mediator are to assist the parties in defining, clarifying, communicating about, and ascertaining the substantiality and relevance of the issues that appear to divide the parties and to aid the parties in generating, considering, and communicating with each other about possible bases for resolving the dispute.
Ce. Each constituent institution will have a policy either that requires the parties to a dispute made under Section 607 to participate in mediation as a prerequisite to access to the formal faculty grievance process or that permits the parties voluntarily to do so. While there can be no requirement that forces a party to reach a mediated agreement, a constituent institution may have a policy that require the parties to participate in a mediation process about the dispute. If a constituent institution requires participation in mediation, the mediator may assess the value of continuing the mediation. If the mediator determines that the parties are not amenable to a settlement, then the mediator may end the mediation, and the formal grievance hearing process will then begin.

Dd. Each constituent institution will have a mediation process available which:

1. Has available the number of campus mediators necessary based on the size of the campus and the estimated need. Mediators may be trained members of the faculty or staff, outside mediators from the community, or mediators from other campuses within the University. Mediators may not be members of the faculty hearing committee that hears Section 607 grievances.

2. Requires every mediator to have successfully completed formal mediation training substantially equivalent to that required for certification by the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts or to have been formally trained in mediation specifically designed for use in a university setting.

3. Determines under what circumstances, if any, attorneys will be allowed to participate in the mediation process.

4. Assures the parties that a decision by either party not to pursue mediation beyond the campus required minimum will not be held against that party in any way and that no blame will to attach to either party if mediation does not produce a settlement.

5. Provides that no record of a failed mediation process will be produced by the mediator other than an unelaborated written statement to the appropriate authority necessary to invoke the next step in the grievance process, i.e., that mediation was attempted but settlement was not reached.

6. Prohibits the mediator from being called as a witness in any subsequent proceeding, and prohibits anything done or said by either party during a mediation process from being referred to or used against a party in any subsequent proceeding.

Ee. The adopted mediation policy of each constituent institution must provide that any mediation agreement that obligates the university must be signed by a university official with the authority to bind the university concerning the particular agreement.

Ff. Any time limit adopted by a constituent institution or by Board of Governors policy concerning the formal resolution of Section 607 grievances will be suspended for the duration of a mediation process being held pursuant to this policy.

IV. Administrative Decision

Aa. If the grievance is not resolved through the mediation process, then the matter will be reviewed by the faculty grievance committee established pursuant to Section 607(1) of The Code.
Bb. Standard for determining contested grievances. In order to prevail in the grievance process, a faculty member must establish that the faculty member experienced a remediable injury attributable to the alleged violation of a right or privilege based on federal or state law, university policies or regulations, or commonly shared understandings within the academic community about the rights, privileges and responsibilities attending university employment. Examples would be if the decision-maker disregarded an established standard for evaluation, relied on impermissible considerations such as race or sex, or failed or refused to consult with or receive information from mandated advisory bodies.

Ce. If mediation fails to produce a voluntary resolution, the faculty grievance committee must decide whether a hearing should be held in response to the petition. The submission of a petition shall not result automatically in an investigation of or hearing on the petition. The committee shall determine whether the facts alleged merit a detailed investigation. The committee is to consider the content of the grievant’s petition. Assuming the truth of the information contained in the petition, the committee is to determine whether the contentions advanced by the grievant justify a hearing. A petition properly is dismissed if the grievant fails to allege an injury that would entitle the faculty member to relief in accordance with the standard set out in paragraph IV.B., above. Dismissal is also required if the petition addresses a problem that is not within the committee’s jurisdiction.

Dd. If the petitioner has presented an apparently substantial issue within the purview of the committee’s responsibility, the committee will hold an evidentiary hearing. At the hearing, which is to be attended by the grievant and the respondent, the faculty member is to present evidence in support of the faculty member’s contentions and the person charged with wrongdoing is to be given an opportunity to respond. The committee is to maintain a complete transcript of all evidence received. Only the evidence so compiled is to form the basis for committee conclusions about the case and any resulting advice to the responsible administrator and the chancellor. The burden is on the grievant to establish by a preponderance of the evidence that the faculty member has experienced an injury that would entitle the faculty member to relief in accordance with the standard set out in paragraph IV.B., above.

Ee. If, after hearing the matter, the faculty hearing committee determines that an adjustment in favor of the aggrieved faculty member is appropriate, the faculty grievance committee shall so advise the faculty member and the dean, department head, or other respondent administrator. If the relevant administrator does not make the recommended adjustment, or a different adjustment satisfactory to the faculty member, within a reasonable period of time, the faculty grievance committee shall advise the chancellor of its recommendation that an adjustment is appropriate.

Ff. If, after reviewing the petition or hearing the matter, the faculty grievance committee determines that no adjustment in favor of the grievant is appropriate, it shall so advise the faculty member and the chancellor.

Gg. The chancellor shall base his or her decision on the recommendation of the faculty committee and the record from the faculty grievance committee hearing. The chancellor may, in his or her discretion, consult with the faculty grievance committee before making a decision. The decision of the chancellor is the final administrative decision.

Hh. The chancellor shall notify the faculty member and the respondent administrator in writing of the chancellor’s decision. The notification shall include a notice of appeal rights, if any, and, if the decision is appealable, it shall contain the information specified in paragraph V.C.2.V.C.ii, below.
The faculty grievance process is a process available to current members of the faculty of a constituent institution. A faculty member whose employment is terminated during the pendency of a grievance proceeding is not entitled to continue to pursue the grievance. If the employment of a faculty member is terminated after the grievance is filed, the chancellor may, however, in the chancellor's discretion, determine that it is in the best interest of the institution to continue the grievance process.

V. Appeal to the Board of Trustees

Aa. Decisions which may be appealed.

1.i. If the faculty grievance committee did not advise that an adjustment in favor of the grievant was appropriate, then the decision of the chancellor is final and may not be appealed.

2.ii. If neither the relevant administrative official nor the chancellor makes an adjustment that is advised by the faculty grievance committee in favor of the aggrieved faculty member, then the faculty member may appeal to the board of trustees of the constituent institution. The decision of the board of trustees is final.

Bb. The board of trustees may delegate to a designated committee the authority to make procedural decisions and to make final decisions on behalf of the board concerning appeals of faculty grievances submitted pursuant to section 607 of The Code.

Cc. Timeline for Appeals

1.i. A grievant who seeks to appeal the chancellor's disposition of his grievance must file written notice of appeal with the board of trustees, by submitting such notice to the chancellor, with adequate evidence of delivery, within 10 days after the grievant's receipt of the chancellor's decision. The notice shall contain a brief statement of the basis for the appeal. If the board agrees to consider the appeal, it will do so on a schedule established by the chancellor, subject to any instructions received from the board or from a committee of the board which has jurisdiction of the subject matter of the grievance. The board will issue its decision as expeditiously as is practical. If the grievant fails to comply with the schedule established for perfecting and processing the appeal, the board in its discretion may extend the time for compliance or it may dismiss the appeal.

2.ii. If the chancellor's decision is appealable, the chancellor's notice of the disposition of a grievant's case must inform the grievant: (a1) of the time limit within which the grievant may file a petition for review by the board of trustees, (b2) that a written notice of appeal containing a brief statement of the basis for appeal is required within the ten day period and, (c3) that, after notice of appeal is received in a timely manner, a detailed schedule for the submission of relevant documents will be established. All such notices of decision are to be conveyed to the grievant by a method which produces adequate evidence of delivery.

3.iii. To ensure full understanding by the faculty, the appropriate informational document regularly published by the institution (e.g., the faculty handbook), shall include a statement of the time limits established by the Board of Governors or Board of Trustees policy.

Dd. Standard of Review. Unless a board of trustees provides by policy for a broader scope of review, in order to prevail before the board of trustees, the faculty member must demonstrate that the
chancellor’s decision was clearly erroneous, that it violated applicable federal or state law or university policies or regulations, or that the process used in deciding the grievance was materially flawed.

VI. Other Matters

A. Effective Date. The requirements of this regulation shall be effective upon the date of adoption of this regulation by the president.

B. Relation to Federal and State Laws and Policies. The foregoing regulation as adopted by the president is meant to supplement, and does not purport to supplant or modify, those statutory enactments, regulations, and policies which may govern or relate to the subject matter of this regulation.

Effective Date: This policy shall apply to all faculty grievances submitted on or after January 1, 2004.
Appendix for Policy 101.3.2
Process for Faculty Grievances

1. Faculty Files Grievance
2. Does Campus Require or Do Parties Agree to Mediation?
   - Yes: Mediation Successful?
     - Yes: Dispute Resolved
     - No: Faculty Committee Determination
   - No: Recommendation to Respondent Administrator
3. Faculty Member Satisfied?
   - Yes: Dispute Resolved
   - No: Recommendation to Chancellor from Faculty Committee
4. Chancellor Makes Decision
5. Faculty Member Satisfied?
   - Yes: Dispute Resolved
   - No: Appeal to Board of Trustees
6. Process Ends
7. Chancellor and Faculty Committee Agree?
   - Yes: Process Ends
   - No: Faculty Member Satisfied?