AGENDA

UNC Faculty Assembly Meeting: Thursday, April 2, 2020-Friday, April 3, 2020
Online via Zoom
Theme: Finishing the Academic Year during Extraordinary Times


8:00AM–8:30AM Faculty Assembly Chair, David Green’s Report | See Slides
Chair Green and UNC System VP of Digital Learning Jim Ptaszynski, discussed Zoom features and online meeting protocol to help orient faculty assembly members before starting the meeting.

Chair Green noted that during the Covid-19 crisis it is most important to keep in mind students and that their success is our highest priority. Faculty leaders at each institution should be working with their chancellors on preparing their respective campus impact statements that will go to the UNC System office. Faculty Assembly leadership remains in close contact and communication with the Board of Governors leadership. There are strong applicants in the presidential search pool but the July 1st deadline to make a final decision does not look likely at this point. Faculty remain a strong voice in the process.

The FA Governance Committee submitted their formal report (view here) which highlighted three main areas of focus during the 2019-2020 academic year: 1) To enhance collaboration on every campus and across the System, 2) To improvement faculty engagement and collaboration, an Advocacy Primer (view here) was
developed for members of the Faculty Assembly, and 3) A call to action: As a part of the process of shared governance, a list of best practices for faculty governance, at all campuses needs to be developed.

9:30AM–10:00AM Jeff Popke, Chair, Faculty Assembly Welfare Committee: Civility Statement
Dr. Jeff Popke, Chair of the Faculty Assembly Welfare Committee, noted that the focus shifted away from civility to collegiality as the former could focus on personal differences. Discussion around the statement ensued and the Collegiality Statement passed with consensus. The Statement on Collegiality and Professional Conduct from The University of North Carolina System Faculty Assembly can be viewed here and is intended to, “...affirm the importance of collegial relations and interactions in the pursuance of UNC’s mission, and to serve as a way to frame discussions around this issue in cases where constructive cooperation is hindered by a lack of collegiality” (Faculty Assembly, 2020). The lived application of Collegiality, “... entails a shared responsibility to promote the collaborative interactions and reciprocal relationships that are necessary for shared decision-making and the pursuit of common goals. Collegial interactions are built around mutual trust and facilitated by a value system that appreciates and shows respect for differences in background, expertise, and points of view. Collegiality is enhanced by an environment characterized by civility and a spirit of mutual support and engagement.”

10:00AM–11:00AM UNC System Leadership Updates
Dr. William Roper, UNC System Interim President, thanked the FA and all system faculty and staff for their hard work during the COVID-19 crisis. He humorously noted that three weeks ago he did not know what a “Zoom” was and now we are all experts. A question and answer session with the FA ensued. Dr. Roper is the former Director of the CDC and issued this formal video COVID-19 statement.

Dr. Kim van Noort, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Chief Academic Officer, noted that indeed Zoom is keeping us connected while maintaining social distancing. She and her team continue to look at how they can identify and remove barriers. What tools are missing? How can we help? From her understanding, the UNC System will receive funding from the CARES Act and it will require that 50% go directly to students and 50% to the university. The UNC System has set up a COVID-19 Resource Center website.

Dr. Bethany Meighen, Chief Student Affairs Officer, stated that the System and our institutions are still delivering high quality services, especially through telehealth, which has been successful. They are also tracking student challenges and issues to help best understand how to use CARES funding.

Matt Brody, Senior Vice President for Human Resources, provided an HR update.

Dr. Jim Ptaszynski, Vice President for Digital Learning, announced the successful launch of dli.northcarolina.edu, which is an online resource center for digital learning across the system. Webinars will be offered twice a month now - proctoring is a major issue. What can we do now that libraries and testing centers are closed? A System license is being explored. Continual training and support is essential - online learning support resources for students are available at https://onlinelearning.northcarolina.edu/ and Online Learning 101. Systemwide, over 50k courses are now online. Summer is coming - what can we do to help prepare? Adaptive courseware perhaps?
Drew Moretz, Vice President for State Government Relations, provided an update on legislative activity. The CARES Act is expected to bring approximately $4 Billion to North Carolina. For the April 28th session, COVID-19 is likely going to be the only agenda item. He is still fighting for H. 966.

11:00AM–12:00PM Elections (Secretary, At-Large Delegates, 5, 4, 3, 2 Caucus, and HMSI)
General elections were held for open positions on the Faculty Assembly Executive Committee, which included FA Secretary, two At-Large Delegates, and delegates representing the four different sizes of delegations. The Faculty Assembly Executive Committee provides representation for each of the delegation size-groupings, and the HMI institutions, and is elected for one-year terms. One delegate each is chosen by caucuses of campuses by delegation size:

- Five delegate (ECU, NCSU, UNC-CH, UNCC)
- Four delegate (ASU, NCAT, UNCG, UNCW)
- Three delegate (FSU, NCCU, UNCP, WCU, WSSU)
- Two delegate (ECSU, NCSSM, UNCA, UNCSA)
- HMI delegate

Delegation size to the Faculty Assembly is proportional to the number of budgeted full-time faculty positions on a campus; the representation system allows for 2, 3, 4, or 5 member delegations (view current delegation here).

The elections were successfully held, and the Faculty Assembly Executive Committee for 2020-2021 is:

- Chair, Tim Ives, MD, UNC-CH
- Vice Chair, Barbara Howard, EdD, ASU
- Secretary, Anthony Chow, PhD, UNCG
- HMI delegate, Mesia Steed, PhD, WSSU
- 5-delegate, Jeff Popke, PhD, ECU
- 4-delegate, Nicole Dobbins, PhD, NCAT
- 3-delegate, Renee Lamphere, PhD, UNCP
- 2-delegate, Kacey DiGiacinto, PhD, ECSU
- At-large, Kim Tran, PhD, FSU
- At-large, Melodie Galloway, PhD, UNCA

Special thanks and a salute was given to Law Professor and Faculty Assembly Chair (2018-2020) David Green for his leadership, vision, and tireless representation and advocacy for all UNC System faculty. All outgoing delegates and Executive Committee members were also thanked for their service and commitment.

12:00PM: Adjourn