



Minutes of the Meeting of the UNC Faculty Assembly

May 14, 2021, via Zoom

Meeting Attendees:

ASU Barbara Howard; Jim Westerman; Gayle Turner; Louis Gallien; Michael Hambourger
ECU Purificación Martínez; Jeff Popke; George Bailey; Jeni Parker; Pamela Reis; Ralph Scott
ECSU Scott Bradshaw; Kacey DiGiacinto; Hirendranath Banerjee
FSU Chet Dilday; Robert Taber
NCA&T Julius Harp; Nicole Dobbins; George Stone
NCCU Ralph Barrett; Russell Robinson; Sean Colbert-Lewis, Sr.; Lorna Grant
NCSSM Phillip Rash; Floyd Bullard
NCSU Hans Kellner; Richard Spontak; David Berube; Chris Ashwell; Carolyn Bird
UNCA Marietta Cameron; Melodie Galloway
UNC-CH Mimi Chapman; Megan Williams; Jenny Womack; Eileen Dewitya; Chaitra Powell; Jan Hannig
UNCC Joel Avrin; Susan Harden; Karen Ford-Eickhoff; Vaughn Schmutz; Debra Smith
UNCG Anthony Chow; Wade Maki; Sarah Daynes; Hamid Nemati
UNCP Jennifer Wells; Reneè Lamphere; Heather Kimberly Sellers; Irina Falls; Cherry Beasley
UNCSA Mike Wakeford; Elizabeth Klaimon; Ellen Rosenberg
UNCW Derrick Miller
WCU Vicki Szabo; Kadie Otto; Nancy Smith
WSSU Vincent Snipes; Nancy Smith; Jack Monell; Carol Cain

9:00 – 9:05 AM Welcome, and Approval of the Minutes of the February 13, 2021 meeting – Dr. Timothy J. Ives

Faculty Assembly Chair Ives:

Welcome and reminders to get the names of new delegates to Kelley Gregory. We are planning to meet in person/hybrid in the fall. This will be a long summer of transition, and we will be organizing the committees over the summer. It was emphasized to all to think about the areas in which each of member of the Assembly wishes to contribute in the coming academic year. Digital learning webinars will continue over the summer and the next session will be on June 25th and it will focus on adaptive learning.

Another priority for Senate Chairs, for those who are not already members, is to continue seeking to serve as a non-voting constituent representative on each institution's Board of Trustees.

Committee Reports:

Historically Minority Serving Institutions (HMSIs) Committee (Dr. Mesia Steed) - They are thankful for the continued support of colleagues. This year, they increased communication between HMSIs, and worked on how to better highlight what they do.

Faculty Welfare Committee (Drs. Russell Robinson, Melodie Galloway) - One of their primary foci of the committee was on faculty mental wellness. They have been working closely with the System Office. The web address to the health and safety website is <https://myapps.northcarolina.edu/hr/health-safety/fac-staff-resilience/>.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion was another priority - one of the questions that they examined is what does inclusive excellence look like? This committee worked closely with the Racial Equity Task Force. COVID-19 was another big priority. Human resource directors are going to make sure links to mental health services will be more readily available on their respective campus websites.

Educational Policy Committee (Drs. Melodie Galloway, Renè Lamphere) - Had a lot of excellent work and communications with the committee members. They worked on the new programs and policy statement to address requirements for new programs. Also looked at student internships and worked with Bart Goodson to make sure our comments were constructive and helpful.

Governance Committee (Drs. Jeff Popke, Russell Robinson) - They addressed several ongoing concerns around governance. They worked on two statements in the fall: The Chancellor Search Process Policy and the Diversity of the Board of Governors members. Mid-year, they passed the principles of shared governance but remained unsure about the impact this has had on some campuses. The revised chancellor's search process remains a concern for faculty.

Communications Committee (Drs. Anthony Chow, Kacey DiGiacinto) - Several major accomplishments this year. The first was the Day-in-the Life project which generated a number of stories and was the catalyst for the System's [Essential UNC website](#). We also helped create a [new website for the UNC Faculty Assembly](#) which includes videos, images, rosters, and agendas/minutes. We are also delighted to announce that the Journal of Digital Learning Innovations is about ready for launch and a call for submissions will take place in June. Finally, communications was a high priority and listservs for the entire Faculty Assembly, Executive Committee, and Senate/Council Chairs were created.

Racial Equity Task Force (Dr. Nicole Dobbins) - We produced the resolution that helped generate the UNC System's Racial Equity Task Force. The hope is that the Board of Governors will honor the task force's recommendation and act in the future.

Session on Budgeting of Higher Education in the UNC System:

Representative Jon Hardister, Chair, House of Representatives Standing Committee on Education –

Universities. He thanked the BOG and the UNC System for their continued work and contributions to the State. Passing a budget is a collaborative process. This year, the Senate is responsible for looking at the budget and discussing budget priorities. They will pass their budget and then it will go to the House. Funding for faculty and staff is a priority and he has been communicating with universities across the state. He recognized that we are following behind in the area. Remember to work closely with your institution's legislative liaisons.

James L. Holmes, Jr., CPA, Chair, Committee on Budget and Finance, UNC System Board of Governors

Governor Holmes was thankful for the opportunity to join the Assembly for this session. He felt that the targeted budget requests this year increased the likelihood of getting them addressed and raises for faculty and staff are a top priority. He would like to continue working to see increased authority levels for each institution's Board of Trustees while making sure capital needs are met. He feels more engaged with everyone throughout the System, and he would like to get to know more faculty and staff.

Bart Goodson, J.D., Senior Vice President of Government Relations

The UNC System has a very focused agenda this year with only four tasks and budget priorities that fit on a one-page handout - UNC System Enrollment Funding, NC Promise Program, Building Reserves, and Faculty and Staff Salaries. He continues to push on all four priorities and is strongly optimistic that we are going to see a good outcome from the Senate. Right now, his team is tracking over 200 bills that could impact the UNC System. HB 324 has a lot of people concerned but it is important to remember that just because a bill has been filed does not mean it will get passed. Remember to use the process and go through your liaisons and your academic leaders as much as possible.

Faculty Assembly Resolutions

Dr. Nicole Dobbins - She presented a resolution ([view here](#)) asking for the Assembly to support North Carolina A&T University's senate resolution that was approved on March 5, 2021, which fully endorsed the work of the UNC System's Racial Equity Task Force and its six main recommendations. The resolution passed unanimously.

Dr. Anthony Chow - He presented an historical overview of anti-Asian and Pacific Islander sentiment in the United States ([view slides here](#)) and asked the Assembly to support an Anti-Asian Violence and Racism Statement Resolution ([view here](#)). The resolution passed unanimously.

Dr. Jeff Popke - He presented a list of revisions to the Bylaws ([view list here](#)). One requested amendment to the requested edits was to change the word from "shall or will" to "may" for Article V, which addresses "Expectations around attendance and participation clarified for elected delegates, alternates, and UNC System faculty." Friendly amendment was accepted, and the revisions to the Bylaws were approved.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30.