MINUTES

January 15, 2021
Via Zoom

Meeting Attendees:

ASU  Michael Behrent; Barbara Howard; Jim Westerman; Gayle Turner
      Pamela Reis

ECU  Purificación Martínez; Jeff Popke; Ralph Scott; George Bailey; Jeni Parker;
      Pamela Reis

ECSU Scott Bradshaw; Hirendranath Banerjee; Kacey DiGiacinto; Lloyd Mitchell

FSU  Chet Dilday; Kimberly Tran; Robert Taber

NCA&T Julius Harp; William Randle; Nicole Dobbins

NCCU Ralph Barrett; Russell Robinson; Lorna Grant

NCSSM Keethan Kleiner; Floyd Bullard and invited guest Robin Boltz.

NCSU Hans Kellner; Christopher Ashwell; Carolyn Bird

UNCA Marietta Cameron; Lisa Sellers; Melodie Galloway; Lora Holland

UNC-CH Mimi Chapman; Megan Williams; Eileen Dewitya; Chaitra Powell; Jennifer Womack;
      Jan Hannig

UNCC Joel Avrin; Susan Harden; Karen Ford-Eickhoff; Debra Smith; Rosemary Hopcroft;
      Vaughn Schmutz

UNCG Anthony Chow; Wade Maki; Sarah Daynes; Hamid Nemati; Joyce Clapp

UNCP Cherry Beasley; Renee Lamphere; Heather Kimberly Dial Sellers; Rachel Morrison; Jennifer Wells

UNCSA Mike Wakeford; Ellen Rosenberg; Elizabeth Klaimon

UNCW Derrick Miller

WCU  Kadie Otto; Vicki Szabo; Wes Stone; Bill Yang

WSSU Mesia Steed; Nancy Smith

CAUCUS MEETINGS:
Areas of discussion included status of the Faculty Assembly delegations on campus, role of the
del egations in the Assembly and on campus, roles and expectations of Caucus Representatives, and
planning for Caucus elections in April 2021. Caucus 2 noted that caucus members may not know each
other as well as they would like and appreciated the time to meet. Caucus 3 noted that Zoom meetings
have changed the dynamics of how they interact. They discussed how their caucus and the Faculty
Assembly could best advise the President; they noted a need to have a call of action at the end of each
meeting. Caucus 4 discussed the need for faculty leadership development and the need to codify and
establish a blueprint for what leadership looks like and opportunities for the future at each institution;
they emphasized the importance of establishing the process so that it is consistent as administration
changes. Caucus 5 noted that the size of schools does not necessarily define or differentiate them; they
talked about vaccinations and their role in assisting communities and smaller universities.

UNC President Hans:
Mental health and COVID coordination are top priorities. Norma Houston, UNC System’s Chief of Staff,
provided information on COVID vaccine efforts across the state. Higher education has a role to play in
bringing the pandemic to an end. Current national unrest further emphasizes the need to provide more
educational opportunities to more people. Priorities over the next five years include continuing to
improve graduation rates, increases in rural students, research productivity, helping people advance their
social mobility, and providing flexible degree opportunities across the life span. While the System budget looks to be challenging. North Carolina is in much better shape than other states. Increasing faculty and staff compensation remains a focus. Retaining and rewarding people who are working hard remains a top priority. This is the message that will be brought to the legislature.

**Report from Strategic Initiatives:**
Senior Vice President for Strategy & Policy Andrew Kelly, Ph.D., and Samantha J. Carney, Ph.D., Senior Associate Vice President for Strategy & Policy discussed strategic initiatives (see slides). There are four priorities. Three workgroups have been convened to work on student mental health with a final report to be submitted in April. Common Course Numbering is another priority and one third of students are transfer students. A task force on tuition pricing has also been convened. COVID has highlighted that online tuition (not changed since the late 1990’s) rates are not on par and the system is working on a coherent way to articulate tuition and fees across institutions. Finally, the System continues to recognize its role in teacher preparation for public schools and is seeking to develop a common framework for literacy education across the System.

**Report from Academic Affairs, UNC Peer Evaluation and Common Course Numbering:**
David English, Ph.D., Vice President for Academic Programs, Faculty, and Research provided an update on UNC System Peer Evaluation (see slides | see study results). The peer study is a periodic analysis to see how we compare with our peer institutions. The peers were approved in November 2020 for each institution.

**Joint Discussion of Strategy and Policy and Academic Affairs:**
Drs. Kelly, Carney, English led a discussion around common course numbering (see slides) at 11:40 am. Working toward finding a common numbering system with course mapping and focus on lower-level undergraduate courses.

**Digital Learning Announcement:**
Vice President, Digital Learning James Garner Ptaszynski, Ph.D., announced that the Designing Effective Online Courses workshops have served close to 2600 faculty members. The next cohort begins February 5th (register here).

Chair Ives discussed the theme for the February Faculty Assembly meeting. Upon calling for new business items from the body, there were none and the meeting was adjourned at 12:20p.m.