

**MINUTES**

January 15, 2021

Via Zoom

**Meeting Attendees:**

- ASU** Michael Behrent; Barbara Howard; Jim Westerman; Gayle Turner
- 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 delegations 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.