9:00 - 9:05 - Welcome from Faculty Assembly Chair Tim Ives

Chair Ives convened the meeting and explained the agenda and how the meeting would take place. The first hour and twenty minutes would be used as worked sessions by the Faculty Assembly committees followed by reports and then presentations by invited guests. The September 11, 2020 faculty assembly meeting minutes were approved.

9:05 - 10:25 - Faculty Assembly Committee meetings

Six committees met in separate Zoom sessions - Communications, Educational Policy, EDI, Faculty Welfare, Governance, and HMSI (view all committee rosters here).

10:30 – 10:45 Committee reports

The Communications Committee reviewed progress on its five charges with a focus on three: #3) Developing a Digital Learning online journal for the UNC System, #4) Preparing “A Day-in-the-Life-Of” video/campaign that tells the faculty story of what they do, and #5) Strategically partnering with other stakeholders.

The Educational Policy Committee discussed the impact of COVID-19 on faculty and have had several additional meetings.

The Faculty Welfare Committee discussed concerns about faculty welfare during the fall and spring semesters.

The Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee are reviewing the completeness of the UNC System policy and taking a closer look at what is happening on each campus.
The Historically Minority Serving Institutions (HMSI) Committee discussed how to better promote HMSIs.

The Governance Committee is reviewing the Assembly’s Bylaws.

10:45 – 11:00 Update from Academic Affairs (Senior Vice President Kimberly van Noort)
Dr. van Noort provided an update on academic affairs. She noted a potential change to a policy that changes the number of minutes required moving away from 75 days is being discussed.

The current freeze on new program approvals will be lifted using a phased approach. Improving transfer student success is another priority.

Dr. van Noort advised that final census on recruitment for next year and retention will be available in the second week of November. Across the board, the UNC System appears to be up 1% - slight increase for undergraduate and graduate students while slightly down for freshman and transfer students. Seven UNC Systems have had their highest enrollments.

11:00 - 11:30 System Office update (Chief of Staff Norma Houston)
Ms. Houston noted the impressive leadership of UNCA during a recent campus lock down that may have been related to the BLM mural. The situation that allegedly triggered the lockdown never emerged and was resolved without incident.
Ms. Houston outlined President’s Hans’ four key priorities: 1) Fully funding student enrollment - recurring funds; 2) Fully funding NC Promise; 3) Fully funding building renovations; 4) Compensation increases for faculty and staff.

Chair Ives provided highlights for the next Faculty Assembly meeting taking place on 11/13 meeting:

11:30 Adjourn