

**Faculty Council Meeting**  
**September 3, 2025 12:45p - 2:00p**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:**

Steve LaCosse - Chair  
Cliff Odle - Vice Chair  
Frazier Smith - Secretary  
Bill Volz  
Zak Stevenson  
Elizabeth Klaimon  
Chris Dorr  
Christopher Bruhn  
Claire Fort  
Joseph Mills  
Jeff George  
Clint Smith  
Angie Sansone

Kara Andersen  
Anson Koch-Rein  
Rosemary Millar  
Dmitri Vorobiev  
Martha Golden  
Abby Yager  
Joe Lopina

**Administration Present:**

Brian Cole  
Richard Whittington  
Karen Beres  
Patrick Sims  
Latonya Wright

1. Attendance
2. Approval of Minutes from 5/9/25 meeting
  - *Correction of name spellings*
  - *Volz moves to approve, Millar seconds the motion, unanimous approval*
3. Shannon Wright, Senior Director of Development, Annual & Family Giving
  - *Unable to attend today's meeting; will move to 9/17*
4. Comprehensive Campaign
5. Richard Whittington, Associate Vice Chancellor of Advancement
6. Homecoming
  - *Alumni, Parents & Family, Students, Faculty, and Staff are all encouraged to participate in Homecoming*
  - *Whova app available to keep people up to date on Homecoming events*

- *New location/concept for Golden Pickles Reception*
  - *Chancellor's Welcome Breakfast on Saturday (vs. Friday evening event)*
  - *Added events: Pickles & Pints for each Conservatory on the Friday (5p-6p)*
  - *Expanded Campus Block Party*
    - *Contracting alum Houston Odum's Circus EVO*
    - *Food trucks, games, inflatables*
    - *Alumni-owned Local Businesses Showcase*
    - *Tie-Dye for 60th Anniversary*
    - *Silent Disco*
    - *NEW LOCATION: Athletic Field (Next to Fitness Center)*
  - *Brick appeal for Homecoming installation*
  - *60th Anniversary!*
- *Registration fee staying at \$25/person*
- *Homecoming registrants will receive a dining hall voucher*
- *Alumni Beaux Arts event on Saturday from 9p-12a is also open to faculty*
- *Schedule of Events will be sent to LaCrosse and made available on the website*

## 7. Chair Report

- a. *Grievance Policy*
  - *Due to rushed nature of discussion at the end of last school year, LaCrosse and George have agreed to table alterations of the policy and procedures until a later date*
  - *Previously agreed upon changes will not be included in the Faculty Manual this school year*
- b. *Faculty Search Policy Update*
  - *LaCrosse will reach out to the committee for updates*
- c. *Board of Trustees and Foundation Board, September 24, 25 (Wed/Thus)*
  - *Joint workshop between BoT and Foundation Board*
- d. *Syllabus*
  - *All additions to syllabi this year were created in order to put the university in compliance with SACSCOC reaccreditation*
  - *Future discussion should happen at a later date regarding the possibility of creating a sub-committee to work on streamlining the information needed in course syllabi to reduce the size of many course syllabi*
  - *Concerns that the more information contained in the syllabi, the less likely that students will remember the policies contained within the syllabi*
  - *Question to discuss further: What is the function of the syllabus meant to be?*
- e. *Faculty Endowed Scholarship*
  - *LaCrosse will be having meetings soon regarding the scholarship policies*

- f. Chancellor Report
    - *See below*
    - g. Employee Appreciation Week
      - *October 1-3*
      - *Won't conflict with the All School Meeting*
- 8. Chancellor Report
  - *UNCSA Symphony Orchestra conductor (and school alum) Robert Franz passed away after battling cancer*
  - *Main focuses early in the semester have been:*
    - *Personnel and salary caps created by UNC System in anticipation of likely budget cuts to come when the state legislature passes a budget*
    - *Almost \$700,000 over the salary cap in August*
    - *Currently almost \$5,000 under the salary cap*
    - *We are currently in compliance with the BoG policies*
    - *New policy for every BoT to have a sub-committee that monitors the compliance of the institution*
    - *Expand the work of the Chancellor's A.I. Task Force under Bruhn*
    - *Looking at convening an Arts and A.I. Summit funded by the Kenan Institute of the Arts*
- 9. Provost Report
  - a. SACSCOC report will be submitted this week! Big shout out to Elizabeth, Sarah and company for getting us to this point.
  - *Accreditation group will be visiting February 16-19, 2026*
  - *The report being submitted to SACSCOC will be made available to the public*
- 10. Standing Committee Reports
  - a. Campus Development Chair: Michael Dodds
    - *Recently met and discussed goals for this school year*
  - b. EPC Chair: Joe Lopina
    - *Committee has set up the schedule for moving forward this school year*
  - c. Faculty Development Chair: Rosemary Millar
    - *10/10/25 is the fall grant deadline*
    - *3/20/26 is the spring grant deadline*
    - *1/30/26 is the deadline for reassigned time*
  - d. Faculty Rank Co-Chairs: Steven LaCosse and Bill Volz
    - *Committee has signed NDAs in preparation for the work coming in this year*

- *Mid-10 year reviews have been moved to the spring*
- *If you aren't retiring the year of your Mid-10 year review, you still have to go through the review*
  - e. Faculty Welfare Chair: Anson Koch-Rein
- *Agenda has been set for the year*
- *An anonymous submission form has been created with hopes of making it available on the Faculty Welfare sub-page on the website*
  - f. Faculty Assembly: Elizabeth Klaimon, Cliff Odle
- *Group meeting 9/12 on Zoom; will be attended by Klaimon and Odle*
- *October meeting will be at System; LaCosse will be in attendance*
- *Questions regarding reimbursement of travel expenses; possibility of reimbursement coming from System*
- *Klaimon will send out a call for feedback on a draft for the commission for public higher education accreditation standards*
- *Sims: Processes in place are good for now; holding pattern regarding CHPE*
- *UNC System is not currently concerned with any state legislative decisions similar to UT System's recent decision to dismantle faculty councils and senates at system schools*

#### 11. Other Business

- *Latonya Wright, head of Staff Council, in attendance to say hello and reiterate Staff Council's commitment to furthering partnership with Faculty Council*
- *Campus Police has been going to a local school in the WS/FCS district once a week to read to students*
- *Staff Council is encouraging faculty and staff to volunteer in reading and other outreach programs geared toward schools in the WS/FCS district*
- *Chili Cook Off taking place during Employee Appreciation Week*
- *Film faculty Lauren Vilchik just finished shooting a \$5 million budget feature film with Academy Award-winning screenwriter Kevin Willmott; production employed over 30 current students and alumni in various roles*
- *Reminder that CSI rollout meetings will take place on the first Collaborative Day, Sept. 19 with schools grouped together for morning meetings*

#### 12. Adjournment

- *LaCosse motions to adjourn, Klaimon seconds, unanimous motion to adjourn*

## **Fall Meeting Schedule**

Wednesday, September 17

Wednesday, October 1

Wednesday, October 15

Wednesday, October 29 - ALL SCHOOL MEETING

Wednesday, November 5

Wednesday, November 19

Wednesday, December 3???