

Faculty Council Meeting Minutes September 1, 2021

Meeting called to order by Josh Selander at 12:48pm.

In attendance:

Josh Selander (Chair), Lauren Vilchik (Vice Chair), Karen Beres, Chancellor Brian Cole, Allison Gagnon, Jeff George, Martha Golden, Marci Harvey (Secretary), Renata Jackson, Elizabeth Klaimon, Steve Lacosse, Janna Levin, Rosemary Millar, Ben Morgan, Andy Paris, Jared Redick, Eric Rimes, Ellen Rosenberg, Patrick Sims, Abby Yager.

Chair's Report:

- Faculty Council still needs faculty volunteers to serve as Chair of Campus Development Committee and Film Rep for Faculty Welfare Committee.
- Discussion focused on the value of serving for rank promotion and our commitment to shared governance.
- Possible causes and/or obstacles include recent retirements, covid, salary compression, lack of faculty raises, and eligibility requirements.
- Current eligibility requirements in the current Faculty Manual were shared:
7.2.1 Eligibility
Faculty must be in at least their four-year contract period and fourth year of continuous full-time employment in order to serve on the Faculty Council, the Faculty Standing committees, the Faculty Assembly and other committees as specified by the Faculty Manual. Faculty may serve on arts school or division committees after the first year of the first three-year contract but should not be considered for the chair of any committee dealing with issues outside their specific field of expertise during the first three-year contract period. (Approved by Faculty Council 5/6/09). Library personnel, likewise, should at least be in their fourth year of continuous full-time employment to serve as Library representative (or alternate) to Faculty Council.
- Covid update: UNCSA campus is 88% vaccinated and covid dashboard numbers are updated. UNCSA will continue to promote vaccinations, masking, distancing and hand-washing. Administration will continue to monitor conditions on our campus and if the UNC system updates protocols, they will respond as necessary. For now, students and faculty are encouraged to follow protocol and attend school and work as scheduled.
- Excellence in Teaching Award email has been sent out. Adjunct faculty are not eligible. Discussion was tabled and moved to Faculty Welfare Committee in conjunction with Teaching & Learning Center, who oversees the award process.
- UNCSA Joint Faculty Statement on Covid-19: First paragraph of current statement includes "especially those who are at high risk of severe illness due to age, race, or medical status." Motion to amend this phrase: Janna Levin. Motion seconded: Martha

Golden. Discussion led to vote being tabled. Group formed to make changes: Karen Beres, Patrick Sims, Andy Paris, Janna Levin. Discussion and vote at next meeting.

- EDI Governance Committee: More info will be coming out soon. A standing committee towards shared governance, giving more faculty an opportunity to serve, and for those who have a stake in the work. Rollout mid-October. Paperwork and documentation being done now.

Chancellor's Update:

- Covid Update: Health and safety protocols have been effective to date. Conversations with SGA and other organizations has been positive. Policies and protocols will continue to be monitored. At the state level, no changes to mandates. President Hans has no new info from Public Health Commission now that Pfizer is fully approved by FDA. Our system follows rules set forth by Public Health Commission.
- Budget: Proposals passed by Senate and House. House proposal excluded nonfaculty EHRA positions. House leadership replied this was an error and are working to correct it. Both budgets include one-time funding for delayed maintenance. Both include Stevens Center repairs. Optimistic that we will reach a budget this year. 2% increases for next 2 years, as well as one-time bonuses for some. Senate proposed 1.5%, House 2.5%, and Gov 3.5%. Hopefully will have a budget by end of month.
- Cole will be visiting each school's faculty meetings in the coming months, as will Provost Sims. Oct. 1 release of new strategic plan.

Provost's Update:

- EDI Governance committee: once this committee is defined and formed, it will be a standing committee. Designed to be an advisory committee to Chief Diversity Officer. Will convene 2 hours each month; immediate focus group for campus; where can we work towards improving EDI opportunities and addressing issues. This creates accountability for how we address EDI as an institution.
- Priorities for hiring: Chief Diversity Officer search will begin this semester with goal of Spring semester, summer at latest. Looking for outside funding for this. Dean for DLA search will begin. Announcing a search for Budget analyst/Budget officer. Not new allocation but funded from current budget.

Committee Updates:

- Faculty Rank, Faculty Welfare and Faculty Development Committees will be meeting in the next weeks.
- EPC will meet next week. Calendar discussion for intensive arts period will be on the agenda.

Faculty Assembly Update:

- Rosenberg and Klaimon have a meeting on Friday. New delegates have training on Thursday. Will report at next meeting.

Adjourn:

- Meeting was adjourned by Selander at 2:00pm.

Upcoming Meetings

September 15

September 29 (Shared Governance Introduction)

October 6

October 20 (Possible All School Faculty Meeting)

November 3

November 17

December 1

December 15