



GENERAL MEETING OF THE FACULTY
Tuesday, April 21, 2020
4:00pm | Remote Meeting - Zoom
MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm.

Approval of the General Meeting of the Faculty Agenda

The agenda was approved without objection.

Approval of the April 17, 2019 Minutes

The April 17, 2019 minutes were approved without objection.

Announcements and Communications

Faculty Senate Chair - Luger

- Thanks to President Feinstein and Provost Anderson for taking a tremendous step in the right direction in terms of shared governance. They have invited me as Faculty Senate Chair to attend the extended cabinet meetings and the Deans council.
- Faculty Senate activity during the 19/20 academic year:
 - Revision to the Academic Appeals Procedure
 - Revised policy for contract-renewable faculty to be converted tenure-track without a national search
 - New policy outlining the role of faculty in administrative searches
 - Revised policy for granting honorary degrees
 - Revised policy for tenure clock extension to account for closures of the University for *force majeure* events, such as the current pandemic
 - Upon approval of the President and the Board of Trustees, it would be in place before the next evaluation cycle.

Administrative Reports

President Feinstein

- The administration and coronavirus task force have been working since early in the Spring term to address potential impacts on the University.
- In March, we made decisions that would impact University operations for the remainder of the Spring term. Thanks to faculty for their ability to transition to online courses in such a short time. We greatly appreciate your efforts.
- We are in frequent contact with students to gain insight on their perspectives and the challenges they are facing. Here are some ways we are addressing student concerns:

- Faculty Senate approved an S/U grading option for Spring 2020.
- We are providing credits for housing/dining and refunds for student parking fees.
- Spring commencement is postponed until December 2020 based on student feedback.
- We are suspending on-campus events through July 31st, and all Summer courses will be held online.
- The decision on how to proceed with Fall delivery will come as more guidance is available from the State in the coming weeks and months. We recognize faculty will need time to prepare; we're hoping to have a decision in early July. For the time being, plan to offer courses online. We acknowledge the extra effort of preparing for two different delivery modes.
- The Board of Trustees is holding a special meeting on 4/22 to discuss impacts to the University budget. Please tune into the meeting and budget presentation from 9:00-11:00am. Michelle Quinn and I will hold a Q/A session after the meeting. The meeting recording will be made available for those who wish to listen afterward.
- Faculty can go to their offices on campus right now to retrieve materials; individuals need to coordinate with UNC Police to gain access. We just don't want people to stay and work in their offices at this time. During Summer there might be a possibility to work in offices as guidance changes from the Governor's Office.
- We've applied for the CARES Act funding, which totals 7.65 million dollars for UNC. Half must be used for students, and half may be used for institutional needs. There's no clarity yet from the Department of Education on how to distribute the student portion of the funds. We will put together a plan to share with the Department of Education.
- The impact of the pandemic is huge not only for UNC but to higher education nationally. Even if we open in Fall, we could face a 10-15% reduction in revenue.
- The faculty have done remarkable work making sure our students make progress toward degree completion. Thanks to everyone for their efforts, flexibility, and patience in addressing these challenging times.

Provost Anderson

- Thanks to all faculty who have done a phenomenal job pivoting to the online format in such a short time. We have done an excellent job as a University responding to the pandemic.
- We are only down about 5% in overall Summer enrollment, and we're still early in the registration cycle.
- We are engaging CETL and IDD to provide support to faculty to develop robust online course delivery.
- New Student Orientation and on-boarding experiences for new students will be provided online.
- We have hired three Deans who will start on July 1: Dean of the Monfort College of Business, Dean of University Libraries, and AVP of Research & Dean of the Graduate School.
- We have also hired a new AVP for Enrollment Management who starts on June 8.
- We closed the search for Dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences. The search will relaunch in Fall.
- The search for Dean of the College of Performing and Visual Arts will start in Fall.

- We will be working with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to seat a search committee for the EBS and PVA Dean positions.
- The financial impact of the pandemic on the budget will affect faculty workload. Decisions about workload occur at the unit level, not at the Academic Affairs level. We are asking units to consider how best to utilize faculty to meet the needs of our students and the teaching, research, and service obligations of the University.

DISCUSSION:

- Right now, it is hard to tell how Fall enrollment will be impacted and how significant the budget implications are. We don't know how much support to expect from the Federal government in the coming months; support for the current pandemic is presently much lower than that provided after the 2008 financial crisis. The State does not have the money to support us; we are expecting a decrease in State funding for FY21.
- All options are on the table as far as cost-saving measures, including layoffs and furloughs. Furloughs/layoffs need to be strategic and correspond to areas of operations where demand is diminished during the pandemic. We want to maintain supporting our permanent employees.
- We will examine options to ensure the integrity of course assignments and exam proctoring. This will be especially important if we are in an online environment for Fall.
- For those currently in the tenure review process, Academic Affairs is finishing up reviewing dossiers and will be communicating with those faculty members in May.
- Tenure clock extension is an option for faculty who wish to extend the tenure review process.
- We will honor GA/TA and faculty positions that have already been offered.

Comments to the Good of the Order

- Luger – I encourage everyone to tune into the budget presentation at the BOT meeting tomorrow. The Senate Executive Committee has agreed to meet weekly over the Summer to maintain formal interaction with the administration. In my 30 years at UNC, 25 of those in faculty governance, we have never encountered problems like the ones we are facing with the current pandemic. However, I am confident in the leadership President Feinstein and Provost Anderson are providing in handling this crisis. Thanks to everyone who participated in this meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52pm.

Stan Luger
Faculty Senate Chair

Betsy Kienitz
Recording Secretary