

**FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**MONDAY, February 7, 2022  
Campus Commons 2200 | 4:00 p.m.  
MINUTES**

**Present:** Feinstein, Fischer, Greene, Kyle, Levin, Maxey, Schuttler, Vaughan, Vollendorf, Wiegand

**Absent:** Luger, Senbet

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:07pm.

Approval of the Agenda

Approved without objection.

Approval of the Minutes from January 24, 2022

Approved without objection.

**Announcements**

Chair's Report (Levin) – No Report.

Academic Covid Responsiveness Group Report (Senbet & Vaughan)

- Covid impacts on campus have been trending downward.

DISCUSSION: *mask mandate*

- Members discussed how UNC might proceed with ending the current mask mandate.
  - Factors impacting the decision/timing of the decision (CDC guidance, community transmission, etc.)
  - Watching for what other institutions, counties, and school districts do
  - Direct conversations/communication with faculty/staff
  - How to balance policy with personal choice
  - Impacts to classroom expectations

**Senate Committee Reports**

Academic Policies (Vaughan) – We are working on posthumous degrees policy language and other minor catalog changes.

Codification (Schuttler) – We are reviewing chair/director policies from Welfare and the posthumous degrees policy from APC.

Elections (Kyle) – No Report.

Faculty Welfare (Senbet) – The chair/director updates will clarify the distinction between directors and chairs. Any unit leader who has 1.0 FTE in administrative duties will be a director (administrator); any unit leader who has less than 1.0 FTE in administrative duties will be a chair (faculty). This change would result in many of the unit leaders currently called directors becoming chairs. Also, we are expanding the definition of voting faculty to count faculty service (including chair service) toward eligibility requirements.

Salary Equity (Greene) – No Report.

**Standing Reports**

Board of Trustees (Fischer) – Two BOT meetings will be held this week, 2/10 and 2/11.

President (Feinstein) – We welcome our new Trustee, Annette Martinez, who is a UNC alum with strong ties to Greeley. On Wednesday, we are presenting the medical school bill at the Capitol. The search for a founding dean for the medical school is ongoing. We will be working on a capital campaign to raise funds for building the medical school facility.

DISCUSSION:

- Schuttler and Kyle asked about department storage currently held in Bishop-Lehr Hall. Departments/colleges will need to take inventory of stored items in the facility (and note any storage specifications/environmental criteria) to begin planning for new storage areas. Please bring the storage issues to the attention of unit leaders and deans.

Provost (Vollendorf) – We talked last time at Faculty Senate about the closure of the French and German programs in World Languages. We are working with all eight students one-on-one and are committed to teaching out the students. We are preparing a communication to go out to HSS broadly. We are developing a plan to improve the decision-making and communication process going forward. There are several undersubscribed programs; we must examine ways to re-configure our programs to build strengths and serve students' needs.

#### DISCUSSION:

- Members discussed strategies for dealing with faculty when programs close.
  - Contract-renewable faculty contracts may be renewed as needed to facilitate student teach out.
  - Tenure-track faculty contracts may be not renewed based on lack of need, not just for performance issues.
  - Tenured faculty are tenured to the university, so there may be opportunities for them to work in other units if their programs close.
    - Targeted buyouts might be a strategy for those close to retirement.
- Specific metrics/criteria (quantitative and qualitative) for evaluating the viability of programs need to be communicated to colleges and their units.
- An academic budgeting dashboard will be available soon that shows data about instructional costs. Also, a program review dashboard will show trends at the program level over time.
- Members expressed how important it is to ensure that faculty have access to relevant data and that faculty are involved in academic portfolio management/re-structuring.
- There needs to be a clearly articulated process for sunseting (and creating) programs; strategic communications must include all impacted groups within and beyond the college (including but not limited to admissions, registrar, libraries, CIE, HLC).
- As the university moves toward decentralized budgeting, there will be more autonomy at the college and unit levels. It's crucial that faculty have a seat at the table with regard to budget management.
- We'll discuss HB 1330 at a later meeting.

#### **Unfinished Business**

- **Faculty Senate bylaws**

#### **New Business**

#### **Comments to the Good of the Order**

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:23pm.

Oscar Levin  
Chair

Betsy Kienitz  
Recording Secretary