

# FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** 11/20/20 via WebEx Events

<https://nccu.webex.com/nccu/onstage/g.php?MTID=e12b43eac4fd3dea1f617432dad84351e>

**Time:** 2:00 pm

**Minutes Submitted by:** Leslie Johnson, Faculty Senate Secretary

## **Attending Senators, Alternates:**

(Senators and Alternates were verified via the WebEx Participant List)

Amy Linder, Brian Horton, Bruce Lapenson, Catherine Dorwart, Charity Watkins, Charles Johnson, Dayami Lopez, Deborah Swain, Erma Smith-King, Gail Hollowell, Jennifer Barrow, Jessica Ganao, Kellyn Hall, Kimberly Chavis, Kimberly Powell, LaHoma Romocki, Lakisha Rice, Larrisha McGill-Youngblood, Leslie Johnson, Levette Scott, Lisa Paulin, Milicia Tedder, Ralph Barrett, Regina Alston, Sean Tikkun, Shauntae Brown White, Tamara Slenn, Tameka Williams, Tirupapuliur Damodaran, Tiya Hines, Tonya Gerald-Goins, Toya Daye Green, Tracie Locklear, Tyjuanna LaBennett

## **Attending Guests:**

Yolanda Anderson, Angela Banner, Sarah C., Angela Coleman, Sean Cobert-Lewis, Janice Dargan, Tia Doxey, Deborah Fortune, Jon Gant, Jerome Goodwin, Lorna Grant, Ayana Hernandez, Karen Jackson, Alisha Johnson, Leah Kraus, Monica L, Kristin Long-Witter, Dayami Lopez, Michelle Mayo, Eric Morris, Fenita Morris-Shepard, Phillip Mutisya, Anthony Nelson, Jacqueline Okoh, EK Park, Zaneta Ponton, Shannon Pugh, Jaleh Rezaie, W. Russell Robinson, Mari Ross-Alexander, Gia Soublet, Yolanda VanReil, Delores Williams, Carlton Wilson, Andrea Woodson, Al Zow

<b>Time</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>
2:10	<b>Meeting called to order by FS Parliamentarian, Dr. Sean Tikkun</b>	
2:10	<b>Welcoming Remarks by FS Chair, Dr. Ralph Barrett</b>	
2:12	<b>Motion to Adopt Agenda</b> Motion to approve the agenda was made by Dr. T. Green, and seconded by Dr. L. Rice. Vote (via the Q&A section) was called by the Chair and the agenda was approved by simple majority.	
2:16	<b>Motion to Approve Minutes</b> Motion to approve the minutes from the 10/9/20 FS meeting was made by Dr. T. Green, and seconded by Dr. L. Rice. Vote (via the Q&A section) was called by the Chair and the minutes from the 10/9/20 meeting and were approved by simple majority.	
2:17	<b>Chancellor's Report by Chancellor Johnson Akinleye</b> We will finish this Fall semester strong with a successful completion and everyone involved deserves a round of applause. We did not shut down or send students home. We carried on without major disruptions as faculty and staff managed with careful deliberation and thoughtful	

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processes to promote student success. Another success is that we will graduate more than 700 students this semester.

The Chancellor wants to personally thank the Committee on Operations and Continuity Taskforce, which was formed in March. Also, critical to recognize the following: Dr. Long-Witter and her team, Dr. Angela Coleman and her team, as well as Dr. Yolanda Anderson and her team.

A COVID vaccine is close, but may not arrive to us until late next year- we need to remain vigilant, continue to be prepared, continue to keep our university open, and continue to maintain COVID protocols upon returning in the Spring. Our positivity rate is below 2% given the hard work of our staff.

State budget outlook- BOG convened this week. Meeting materials and minutes are posted to their website. State budget seems to be optimistic in terms of tax revenue base, though we are not entirely sure where we will be in January. We need to maintain fiscal prudence, continue to follow stewardship of our finances as we are not sure what the budget will look like. Over the next several fiscal years, we are planning for financial growth across the UNC System with 4 priorities as noted by the BOG:

- 1) Budget request for enrollment growth: We need to work together to make sure we work towards high enrollment as state funds are based not on projected enrollment, but actual enrollment. Anticipated budget of 60-70 million (for 2021-2022 FY) and 90-110 million (for 2022-2023 FY).
- 2) NC Promise Funding- Funding for WCU, Pembroke, and Elizabeth State for \$500 tuition and cap for out of state students. (20 million for 2022-2023 FY)
- 3) Building Reserves – this refers to funding to maintain and manage new buildings in operation (i.e. NCCU’s new School of Business Building which will be coming online in 2022), this is not the same as funding for repair and renovations.
- 4) Faculty and Staff Salaries: attempting to create equities with other state agencies; there is a projected ~1% equity increase for this budget item for our university, though the specifics are not known. We haven’t had any salary increase in 2 years.

The Chancellor wants to recognize those who have been involved in grantwriting and are actively working to engage NCCU in the forefront of research, and the indirect costs support the institution in many areas where state funding may be lacking. We have a total of ~\$34 million in sponsored research. We are also making a push with Dr. Gia Soulbet and her team (University Advancement), who has been here for ~3 months, working hard to centralize fundraising opportunities. We are hoping to launch a capital campaign in the next year or so to raise additional money for scholarships, capital projects, faculty funding, etc. We have been advised to stay financially vigilant as the ~2-3% reduction in costs may still be enforced. We have done well and have fulfilled all critical faculty positions and critical need areas, but we must continue to be good stewards of this. Enrollment looks good for the fall, but we need to continue to be vigilant.

In closing, the Chancellor appreciates what you have done, your cooperation, and your sense of team spirit. We will continue to work together. Be mindful of protecting yourself and your family so that when you come back in the Spring you can help us fulfill the mission of the university.

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	<p><b>Faculty Senate Chair Report by Dr. Ralph Barrett</b> The Chair delayed his report given time constraints.</p>	
2:40	<p><b>Provost’s Report by Provost Yolanda Anderson</b> Dr. Anderson thanked everyone for your hard work to make this semester successful. We have received funding from the UNC System for remote proctoring, to upgrade classrooms, and for classroom technology. The request from students for a P/F option was not accepted. They can withdraw with extenuating circumstances. Don’t forget: the teaching awards deadline is November 30, 2020.</p> <p>Spring semester- first day of class is Jan 11<sup>th</sup>. We all need to be prepared to start fully online if needed. If you need to retool your course, there are many options available: OFPD, Office of eLearning all available to aid faculty with transitioning courses online. We are well prepared with these resources. The semester will end April 27, removed spring break, no Saturdays (except for 1 Saturday in the second mini session). Our course delivery is 70% online for spring, 17% hybrid, 13% F2F. Need to be prepared to pivot to online again should COVID increase again. Additionally, we will be offering some mental health days (had 1 this fall semester); perhaps 1 a month for 2-3 months. You are encouraged to take advantage of these for yourself and your students. This will not be a condensed schedule as the Fall semester was. The mental health days will likely alternate M/W/F and T/R classes – instruction should be available for students to review at their leisure.</p> <p><b>Dr. Angela Coleman:</b> We have a low COVID positivity rate and are a model in the UNC System in terms of testing, tracking, and keeping a low positivity rate. As of July 1- 4,232 COVID tests have been administered, 89 positives, 2.1% positivity rate which is a slight uptick in the past few weeks- similar to what is happening nationally. There is quarantine and isolation space on campus- 202 total beds in Martha Street Apartments, McLean Hall and Rush Hall, there is a management team dedicated to Q&amp;I- currently 21 students there. Wants to thank leadership and faculty for pivoting quickly and working with the students during this difficult time, especially as students have gone thru testing and needed accommodations.</p> <p>For Spring semester, we will require all students to test as re-entry to campus- this is different from the Fall. Both a rapid test as well as a swab test (which is sent to a lab) will be given. If test positive on rapid- move immediately to isolation; self-quarantine until other lab results are back (turnaround time ~24 hours). This will all happen prior to start of classes and move in will require an appointment. Surveillance testing begins on January 25<sup>th</sup> with residences halls and special populations, as well as symptomatic and asymptomatic students who have been in close contact with a + COVID contact. Testing will be available M-Sat, go to myEOL to set up an appointment. Expanded testing for students who are coming to F2F classes and hybrid classes is planned.</p>	
3:00	<p><b>Faculty Assembly Report by Dr. Sean Colbert-Lewis</b> This was a very politically charged meeting- the main theme was for there to be a push for faculty to be more grassroots when working with BOG, BOT, State Representatives. There is concern across campuses that some Chancellors may not be supportive of some faculty needs because they want to construct the narrative, which may differ from what the faculty wants. David Powers, a BOG member has provided his contact information (336-829-9639; <a href="mailto:dpowers@bog.northcarolina.edu">dpowers@bog.northcarolina.edu</a>) for faculty to discuss things with him as needed. There is the</p>	

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	<p>continued potential of budget cuts. The equity raises mentioned by the Chancellor earlier is different than what the FA heard previously. Dr. Colbert-Lewis asks that the faculty advocate for themselves as much as possible without risking your job and encourages the Chancellor to do so as well. The Chancellor responded that he is constantly pushing for his faculty and that many times faculty do not see what Chancellors do behind the scene on their behalf. He has pushed to the BOG that our faculty members need to be highly compensated, and has noted the lack of equity especially when we compete with larger schools. He stated that there are indeed politics at play as well, but FA has a voice, faculty engagement is very important, and faculty must engage in the conversation in a polite and direct way. Dr. Sean Colbert-Lewis thanked him for his continued support.</p>	
3:10	<p><b>University Advancement Report by Dr. Gia Soublet</b>            The Division of Institutional Advancement looks forward to working with faculty in their fundraising endeavors. Dr. Soublet stated her vision for the department, including centralized fundraising operations; continuously cultivating many donors; adequately supporting the colleges and schools to meet their donation goals; and establishing a culture of philanthropy throughout campus. Recommended that University Advancement needs to oversee all fundraising activity (not related to research), which must now must also be authorized by the Division of Institutional Advancement. This will allow to us coordinate activities. Research related grants will still go through the OSRP. Advancement will be hosting several workshops in the spring to discuss this further, many likely cohosted with the OSRP. Faculty need to meet with your assigned development officer (one assigned to each department/school) and participate in the process as appropriate. They can help you develop a submission plan and work with you and the university to find the most optimal means of fundraising.</p>	
3:20	<p><b>Sponsored Research Report by Dr. Eun Park</b>            For FY 2018, 2019, 2020 NCCU has exceeded its targeted grant amounts generated. BBRI and the Office of the Chancellor have generated the most grant fundings. Total awarded was over \$34 million last year. Office has been working to provide funding calendars for STEM and NONSTEM areas to deans (examples of these calendars have been posted to the FS Bb folder for this meeting); run workshops for faculty as requested; use of the Hanover group to provide feedback and services related to grantwriting. Don't forget: all proposals need to go through the OSRP.</p>	
3:40	<p><b>Faculty Moment: Dr. Sean Tikkun</b>            This was deferred given time constraints of the meeting.</p>	
3:40	<p><b>McLean Hall Name Change Proposal</b>            Dr. Gershenhorn's report was previously sent out for review that followed up his presentation in our August 2020 meeting. Briefly, taking McLean's name off of the resident hall is an important step in showing that NCCU rejects systemic racism and white supremacy. By doing so, we can promote our core value of showing respect for diverse cultures.</p>	
3:47	<p>Quorum was reestablished and the Chair asked for a vote to move this to the Chancellor's office. Dr. K. Hall moved to pass the name change in the FS and move the proposal forward to the Chancellor's office, Dr. L. Paulin seconded; brief discussion ensued related to the topic. Vote (via the Q&amp;A section) was called by the Chair and the motion passed by simple majority.</p>	

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3:50	<p><b>Committee Updates</b> (Please see comprehensive updates posted to the FS Bb site for additional details)</p> <p><b>Academic Policy Committee (Dr. Kellyn Hall, Chair, presenting):</b> The committee has met and have reviewed several applications related to academic policy submissions.</p> <p><b>Campus Relations and Welfare (Dr. Sean Tikkun, committee member, presenting):</b> The committee has met and reviewed the Mental Health Working Group; looking at common areas of concern across domains with open meetings with students, staff, faculty to find common grounds.</p> <p><b>Faculty Research and Professional Development Committee (Dr. Toya Green, Chair, presenting):</b> The committee will meet after the Thanksgiving holiday to discuss tasks related to consulting with the OFPD on possible synergies and with the OSRP on grant training programs and support for non-STEM faculty. Dr. Green also reviewed important information from the University Research Committee meeting, including December 4<sup>th</sup> deadline to submit the strategic plan documents Goals and Priorities for Research and Scholarship for FY/AY 2020-2021 (Please note the December 4th deadline is shared with report submissions for Academic Affairs for the Provost Office’s Strategic Plan), need for grant proposals to be submitted to OSRP 5 days in advance for review, and December 19<sup>th</sup> Crisis of the Moment streaming at 3:00pm.</p> <p><b>Governance Committee (Dr. Charles Johnson, presenting):</b> The committee has met and made several recommendations related to FS representation based on college realignments, areas in need of revision of the FS Bylaws and Constitution, and anticipate a report Spring semester 2021.</p>	
4:05	<p><b>Honorary Degrees and Awards Committee (Dr. Kimberly Powell, Chair, presenting):</b> The committee met and voted unanimously to recommend Emeritus Faculty status to Dr. Beverly Washington Jones. A motion to accept the recommendation for Emeritus Faculty status for Dr. Jones was made by Dr. T. Green, and seconded by Dr. K. Hall. The Chair called for a vote (via the Q&amp;A section) and the motion carried by a simple majority.</p> <p><b>Intellectual Climate Committee (Dr. Charles Johnson, presenting):</b> The committee has met and discussed continuing the “Brown-Bag” seminar series, developing a TEDX series for NCCU, and reviving the Soaring Magazine.</p> <p><b>Curriculum and Academic Committee (Dr. Kimberly Powell, committee member, presenting):</b> The committee has met and voted to recommend the approval of the documents sent to them from the Fashion, Apparel and Textiles Design Studies (Add Program, Letter of Intent for New Degree Program- both previously disseminated to the FS).</p> <p><b>Other committees deferred updates at the present</b></p>	
4:10	<p><b>Motion to adjourn meeting</b> made by Dr. K. Hall, and seconded by Dr. T. Gerald-Goins. Vote (via the Q&amp;A section) was called by the Chair and motion was approved by simple majority.</p> <p><b>Meeting adjourned by Dr. Barrett</b></p>	

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