

**The University of North Carolina at Pembroke
Faculty Senate Agenda**

Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

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Robin Snead, Chair pro tem
Mark Tollefsen, Secretary

Members of the Senate:

To 2021	To 2022	To 2023
ART Mark Tollefsen	ART Laura Hess	ART Nathan Thomas
CHS Shenika Jones	CHS Tamara Savage	CHS Cindy Locklear
EDN David Oxendine	EDN Gretchen Robinson	EDN Camille Goins
LETT Wendy Miller	LETT Robin Snead	LETT
NSM Benjamin Killian	NSM Bill Brandon	NSM Maria Pereira
SBS Jack Spillan	SBS Victor Bahhouth	SBS Joe West
At-Large Cherry Beasley	At-Large Tim Altman	At-Large Renee Lamphere
At-Large Susan Edkins		At-Large Melissa Schaub
At-Large David Young		
Chancellor Robin G. Cummings Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Zoe Locklear		

Members Present: Tim Altman, Victor Bahhouth, Cherry Beasley, Bill Brandon, Robin Cummings, Susan Edkins, Camille Goins, Laura Hess, Shenika Jones, Benjamin Killian, Cindy Locklear, Zoe Locklear, Abigail Mann, David Oxendine, Maria Pereira, Gretchen Robinson, Tamara Savage, Melissa Schaub, Robin Snead, Jack Spillan, Nathan Thomas, Mark Tollefsen, Joe West, David Young

Members Absent: Renee Lamphere, Wendy Miller

Guests: Irene Aiken (Graduate School), Ashley Allen (CAS), Robert Arndt (Library), Scott Billingsley (Academic Affairs), Polina Chemishanova (English), Nancy Fields (Museum of the Southeast American Indian), Leah Fiorentino (Kinesiology), Lory Floyd (Education), William Gay (CAS), Mark Gogal (Chief of Staff), Carole Graham (Political Science), Karen Granger (Education), Beth Holder (University College), Dana Hunt-Locklear (SGA), Tiffany Locklear (Education), Mary Jacobs (AIS), Sandy Jacobs (CCE), Jamie Litty (Mass Communication), Ashley McMillan (Liaison to Chancellor), Lisa Mitchell (Education), Ottis Murray (Sociology), Elizabeth Normandy (Academic Affairs), Jodi Phelps (University Communications), Kayonna Pitchford (USPCP Director), Christie Poteet (CCE Director), Jonathan Ricks (Counseling), Virginia Teachey (Vice Chancellor for Finance), Dana Unger (Counseling), Aaron Vandermeer (Music)

Order of Business

- I. Roll Call**
- II. Approval of Minutes:** (Appendix A) – approved by acclamation
- III. Adoption of Agenda** – approved by acclamation
- IV. Reports from Administration**
 - a. Chancellor—Robin G. Cummings
 - Covid update
 - exposure of a staff member in athletics (suspension of team for two weeks including testing and quarantine of the entire team)
 - tested 400 student-athletes several weeks ago (very low positivity rate)
 - working either with the health department of Robeson County or a private company to complete another round of surveillance tests (planned for October 28-29)
 - zero new positive tests since Monday (October 5)
 - kudos to the faculty, staff and especially the students for remaining vigilant
 - concerns about the state budget. State legislators will return in January to begin negotiations, making sure to satisfy the balanced budget requirement. Currently, there is a \$1.1 billion budget shortfall.
 - a. campus-wide 2.5% budget cuts are already occurring
 - b. new cuts will continue in consultation with Virginia Teachey
 - c. the most significant impact (cuts) will occur during the summer of 2021
 - d. state-allocated funds must be used for specific projects and cannot be transferred for other needs
 - thanks to Dr. Billingsley and his team for coordinating the upcoming fall commencement (Nov. 21) based on the success of the August 8 drive-thru commencement (approx. 300 participants out of a record 957 graduates)
 - the spring calendar will begin on January 19

- a. similar options for face-to-face, hybrid and online instruction as in the fall (fortunate so far to have only a few faculty contract the virus). Encourages faculty to strive for face-to-face instruction
 - o aims to visit every department between now and the end of the spring semester in order to receive feedback on how to move the university forward most effectively
 - o thanks to the faculty for their hard work and for participating (69% participation) in the most recent employee survey
 - a. particularly proud that faculty connected to the university's cultural heritage and were proud to be a part of it (average positive response of 80%)
 - o thanks to Dr. Abigail Mann for her efforts during the past two years. She led during challenging times
- Questions:
 - o none

b. Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs—Zoe Locklear

- congratulations to Dr. Liz Normandy for the school's progress towards SACS reaccreditation. Only one out of seventy standards not met
- accreditation visit for the counseling program is upcoming and will proceed virtually in November
- the fall commencement is on November 21. Faculty attendance is not required but volunteers are welcome
- the spring calendar will not have a spring break, but Good Friday will be observed. Assuming no issues from Covid, the semester will end as previously scheduled
- an online, winter term (Fall III Term, November 30-December 30) will occur this year with final grades due on December 31. Students may use NC Promise tuition rates and may take up to four credits. There will be thirty-five courses offered
- the number of requests to teach online is comparable to that in the fall
- course ratios will be tracked beginning October 8
- thanks to faculty for participating in faculty development opportunities
- the Academic Affairs office will send an email reminding students that the grade accommodation options used in the spring are no longer in effect
- kudos to Dr. Beth Holder for creating a first-year transition survey and for compiling and analyzing the responses. Another survey will go out later in October
- freshman and transfer applications for both the spring and next fall are looking positive
- Questions:
 - o if a student takes a three-credit course during the Winter Term, is it set at \$180 or are there additional fees for an additional credit?
 - a. there are no additional fees. We utilize a stair-step model
 - o will we consider adding a Mental Health Day for faculty in line with other universities in the system?

- a. there is an ongoing discussion at the system level about health days for faculty, staff and students. The chancellor encourages faculty to take the long winter break to re-charge
- o will students who took 16 credits in the fall term need to apply for an overload to enroll in the winter term
 - a. the answer is a tentative “no” but will be checked

V. Reports of Committees

1. Operations Committees

- a. Executive Committee—Robin Snead
 - a. Informational: Chair Election will take place during New Business, as per Governance’s memo, and new chair will run meeting from that point. Nominee listed and nominations accepted from the floor.
 - b. Informational: Budget Committee
 - c. Action Item: In light of the extraordinary circumstances of Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 and the available resources, the faculty senate recommends for these two terms that Student Evaluation of Instruction (SEIs) be collected through the online platform regardless of instructional format for all scheduled faculty evaluations as per the handbook
 - o approved by acclamation
 - d. Action Item: Approve Charge of the Special Committee to Revise ICC Proposal (Appendix C) (see also Appendix B, Background)
 - o approved by acclamation
 - e. Action Item: Approve Traits as Listed on Appendix C for overall composition of the committee and work groups to Revise ICC proposal with the expectation that members may fill multiple criteria (Appendix C)
 - o approved by acclamation
- b. Committee on Committees & Elections—Shenika Jones
 - a. Action Item: Approve Subcommittee Appointments: Laura Staal (SoE), FDW
 - o approved by acclamation
 - b. Upcoming: Faculty Senate Elections
 - o will conduct the yearly Senate elections in October according to the Faculty Handbook
 - o A question was raised about the possible reworking of divisional representation, and there was some discussion about possibly including those in the next election
 - a. the current structure will guide the upcoming October elections. Any changes would be reflected in future elections once approved
- c. Committee on Faculty Governance—Cherry Beasley
 - a. Action Item: Chair pro tem Eligibility (Appendix D)
 - o approved by acclamation
- d. Committee on the Oversight of the Faculty Handbook—Tom Dooling
 - a. no report

2. Standing Committees

1. Academic Affairs Committee—Robin Snead

- a. See above: ICC proposal
 - Two options for creating the committee:
 - a. allowing the Executive Committee to choose (from a list of volunteers) those that satisfy the representative traits sought and then to send the list to the Senate for comments
 - i. approved by acclamation
 - b. waiting for the Senate to re-convene so that it can create the member list collectively
- b. Informational: Curriculog Dates (Appendix E)
 - Curriculum First: March 10
 - a. this is an absolute deadline for all curriculum proposals
 - Special Committees First: Feb 10

2. Faculty & Institutional Affairs Committee—Nathan Thomas

- a. Informational: Status of CAS Dean and Provost Searches
 - there is no search in progress for a permanent provost. The job requirements for the CAS Dean are currently under review

3. Student Affairs & Campus Life Committee—Tamara Savage

- a. Informational: Student Name Change Policy (in DoIT workflow) and Pronoun Changes in Canvas
 - students can change their pronouns in Canvas
- b. SGA Survey Results (Appendix F)
 - there were over 1,000 responses to the student survey created by the SGA. The results were somewhat inconclusive, but a majority of students stated that their access to learning resources are limited when off-campus

4. Academic Information Technology Committee—Susan Edkins (Appendix G)

- a. Informational: SEIs: Technical and Platform
 - looking at what software to utilize
- b. Informational: Urge Faculty to reach out to DoIT with tech issues
 - Katina Blue encourages faculty to reach out to DoIT with technology issues
- c. Informational: Availability of loaner laptops for students
- d. Informational: Zoom License
 - having a Zoom license gives faculty the option of which web conferencing platform they wish to use
- e. Informational: Increased Course Storage Size in Canvas
 - this costs money. The committee asks that faculty try to find alternative ways to store files in Canvas
- f. Informational: New Software License Purchases through IT Governance Committee
- g. Informational: Group defining what an online student is

3. Faculty Assembly Updates: Digital Learning, Digital Course Enhancements, Racial Equity Task Force (Appendix H, Appendix I, Appendix J)
4. Teacher Education Committee (Appendix K, Appendix L)
5. Graduate Council (Appendix M)
6. Other Committees

VI. Unfinished Business - none

Motion to extend the time by fifteen minutes – approved by acclamation

VII. New Business

a. Election of Faculty Senate Chair

- Nominee: Joe West – elected with 100% of the vote

b. Resolution of Commendation for Abigail Mann put forward by Nathan Thomas

- moved by Robin Snead, seconded by Susan Edkins, approved by acclamation

WHEREAS, Dr. Abigail Mann served as Chair of the General Faculty and Faculty Senate from August 7, 2019 until October 6, 2020; and

WHEREAS, During that time the university encountered a multitude of unusual challenges, including those presented by a global pandemic and social unrest both nationally and locally; and

WHEREAS, These challenges required a significant amount of work during the summer months, when the Senate workload is normally quite light (and during which time she, as with most faculty, was not under contract); and

WHEREAS, She faced all these challenges with good grace, a cooperative spirit, and a fierce commitment to the best principles of shared governance; and

WHEREAS, She consistently encouraged and counseled members of the Executive Committee, other Senators, and members of the faculty, providing both wisdom and inspiration to them; and

WHEREAS, She has, through these and other extraordinary efforts on behalf of the faculty, made a substantial and lasting contribution to the betterment of the university; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Faculty Senate does hereby commend its former Chair Dr. Abigail Mann for her relentless dedication and service to the Senate, the faculty at large, the students, and the university.

VIII. For the Good of the Order

IX. Announcements

X. Adjournment at 5:00 p.m.