

**Minutes of the Faculty Development & Welfare Subcommittee  
Faculty and Institutional Affairs Committee  
UNCP Faculty Senate  
April 13, 2006**

Members Present: Meredith Storms, Pamela Barkett, Jim Frederick, Emily Long, Anita Guynn, David Young, and David Nikkel (chair).

Members Absent: Will Collier, Anne Coleman, Swannee Dickson, Barbara Synowiez

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, David Nikkel, at 3:38 p.m. in room 308 of the Education Center.

Approval of the February 9, 2006 Minutes:

The minutes were approved unanimously by the Subcommittee.

Approval of the April 13, 2006 Agenda:

The agenda was approved unanimously by the Subcommittee as distributed.

Old Business:

Faculty Leave Fund Update. The Chairman updated the Subcommittee members on the entire Faculty Leave Fund issue. He stated that he had spoken to Elizabeth Denny, chair of the Faculty and Institutional Affairs Committee. She stated that the whole issue has gone into a "black hole." David hopes to get some clearer guidance before next year's Subcommittee convenes.

Electronic Faculty Forum. The main issue which the Subcommittee was to consider was whether or not faculty should post issues to a website once a semester. Elizabeth Denny had told David that FDW could always do this on their own without FIA approval. The Subcommittee members were polled about this issue. Anita Guynn, David Nikkel, and Pamela Barkett agreed to work on this project and could possibly begin posting issues in Fall 2006. An e-mail message would be sent out to faculty before the fall semester to see if a listserv could be established. Jim Frederick suggested putting a link on the Faculty Development & Welfare website. Pamela Barkett added that results of the forum should be opened up to interested students as well.

New Business/Issues For Next Year's Subcommittee:

The Subcommittee announced the following items as possible topics for the next academic year:

- Accountability in higher education
- The role of remedial courses
- Blackboard classes and student computer literacy
- Growing enrollment and class sizes; growing use of adjuncts
- The possibility of a plan to increase faculty salaries

Announcements:

Pamela Barkett announced that a new software package called *SkillSoft* could be used to assist faculty here with classes, student performance, etc. She indicated that *SkillSoft* is already being used successfully at UNC-Wilmington for staff development and for students (prerequisites for admission to school).

Pam also stated that the State Health Plan will be providing a Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) alternative to interested faculty and staff. There will be an information forum on April 19, 2006 at the main gym to discuss the State Health Plan and the PPO's. There is an open enrollment period for this plan from May 22-June 30. All of this information is also available on the State Health Plan website (<http://statehealthplan.state.nc.us/>).

This is the last meeting of the 2005-06 Faculty Development & Welfare Subcommittee.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Young  
Secretary