

North Carolina State University
Minutes of the General Faculty
Tuesday, October 3, 2017
Talley Student Union, Mountains Ballroom
3:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Chair Bird called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

2. Remarks from the Chair

Chair Bird welcomed the faculty and introduced the Officers of the Faculty Senate. She introduced Jeannette Moore, Immediate Past-Chair of the Faculty, and Kimberly Ange-van Heugten, Associate Chair.

Chair Bird recognized members of the Faculty Senate and asked them to stand. She expressed her appreciation for the Senators' dedication and service to Faculty Senate.

Chair Bird spoke about the "new" Faculty Research Commons space in DH Hill Library and invited the Faculty to view the website to book their room reservations online. She informed them that there was a kitchenette in the space, along with a Keurig coffee machine and a refrigerator. She added her thanks to the Chancellor and the Provost for the space and noted that the space is already being utilized regularly by members of the Faculty. Chair Bird encouraged the Faculty to check it out when they are able to do so.

Chair Bird reminded the audience to set-up Duo Factor authentication in order to secure their electronic communications. She displayed the website information and other resources that are available for assistance.

Chair Bird then reviewed the meeting agenda and recognized Kimberly Ange-van Heugten for approval of the March 21, 2017 General Faculty meeting minutes.

3. Approval of the March 21, 2017 General Faculty Meeting Minutes

Associate Chair Kimberly Ange-van Heugten recognized a motion for approval of the minutes.

The motion passed to approve the minutes as submitted.

4. Remarks and Discussion – *Randy Woodson, Chancellor*

Chancellor Woodson updated the Faculty on several points. He stated, "NC State continues to be seen across the country as one of the best values in higher education." He added that this is a testament to North Carolina's long and rich investment into the higher education system in the state and is a reflection of the quality of education that our students receive at NC State. "The top five best values in public higher education – there were two from the UNC system; Carolina was number one and we were number

five.” We are included on a great list of great Universities. Because of that value, we continue to have a lot of interest in NC State. We had another record year for applications – almost 27,000 perspective students applied to NC State and of those, we have enrolled about 4,700 freshmen and about 1,300 transfer students for the fall. Additionally, spring enrollment will increase this year due to deferred admission to 1,000 students, resulting in over 400 students who will join us in the spring. He thanked DASA for thinking creatively about what we can encourage those deferred students to do in the fall semester. “One example of it is there are 30 of those students who are at the Prague Institute this fall, studying abroad and getting a kick-start on their education.”

Chancellor Woodson recognized Al Rebar and the people in the Research Office and particularly the faculty and staff for a record year in terms of sponsored awards. “NC State had a record number of grants - \$407,000 million in extramural sport coming into NC State from the faculty’s hard work, which is represented by over 2,800 projects that have been funded. This is a great reflection on the faculty and staff here.” He added that research expenditures for the past year increased to \$489 million, which puts NC State in the upper echelon of the tier one universities and in the top five of universities without medical schools. He stated that we also have a record of 15 start-up companies this year, 169 licenses executed, and 241 patents filed.

Chancellor Woodson reported that on the advancement side, there was another record for NC State, which was bringing in over \$225 million in new gifts and commitments. “A lot of people have stepped up to contribute to NC State through the campaign. We just reported the size of our endowment, which is \$1.12 billion at this point.” He reminded the audience that number represents 3,450 individual endowments that support individual efforts, based on the wishes of the donor – endowed Chairs, scholarships, etc. Examples of what that money has done this year include 11 new endowed professorships, which brings the total at NC State to over 200. Additionally, this year 71 new scholarship programs have been created, which fund multiple scholarships. “If we want to continue to improve graduation rate, we’ve got to invest in Financial Aid.” He added that we have many students at NC State who are working hard to stay in college and we need more flexibility to help those students, especially those that are so close to the finish line.

Chancellor Woodson cited notable upcoming events such as the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences’ Biotechnology Discussion with the Secretary of Agriculture, as well as an upcoming trip to Prague for the inauguration ceremony of NC State’s new Prague European Center. Chancellor Woodson thanked the Faculty for all they do for NC State. He added that he would be around at the end of the meeting if there were questions or concerns that he could address.

5. Remarks and Discussion – Warwick Arden, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost

Provost Arden brought greetings to the Faculty. He thanked the Faculty for the extraordinary job they do every day. He provided updates regarding the Strategic Plan, specifically looking at student success. He stated that we are moving forward, focusing on quality not quantity at the undergraduate level, getting the processes working in place and getting students moving through the process far more quickly. He added, “As that has begun to be realized, we’ve been able to ramp up the number of students we are

taking in. We have gone from, a few years ago, a low of about 4,250 up to 4,450 and now we are up to 4,650.”

Provost Arden stated that as the Chancellor mentioned, there are other ways and pathways to NC State that are really important, which includes the spring access program that will add 400-450 students in the spring. “We have also taken about 1,300 transfer students, with almost half of those – 650 – from community colleges.” He added that since it is not enough just to have them come through the doors, the University needs to make sure that they are fully a part of the University and will share the successes that first-time, full-time students experience.

Provost Arden reported to the Faculty that when we started out with the strategic plan, there was somewhere between 71% - 72% six-year graduation rate and we set our goal for 2020 at 80%. We are at 79% already. “The real story is in four-year graduation rates, which don’t tend to get as much attention. We have had tremendous growth in four-year graduation rates, particularly in the last six or eight years.” He added that back in the 1990’s, the four-year graduation rate was 26% -- meaning that one in four students made it through in four years and now we are at a 60% four-year graduation rate. This is a tremendous gain. He went on to thank the Faculty for focusing on the strategic goal, for really helping to refine our systems so that we have become much more effective and impactful and for helping our students move through more effectively and more efficiently.

Provost Arden stated that Margery Overton is leading the charge to develop the final three-year implementation plan. She will be working with the Vice Chancellors and Deans and Department Heads and with the Faculty Senate, with hopes that it will roll out at the end of the fall semester. He added, “It is really a very important guide as to who was responsible for taking what actions to continue moving us toward the goal of our strategic plan.”

Provost Arden added that it is no understatement that we are in extraordinary, unsettling times at the moment. “Sometimes it is easy to become overwhelmed and distracted. My plea to you is to remain focused on what we need to do to continue to move NC State forward and demonstrate we are a flexible, dynamic and relevant institution. I truly believe that going forward, things swing like a pendulum at every level of government and otherwise; but going forward, great institutions of higher education that consistently demonstrate access, affordability, effectiveness and impact I think are going to be one of the keys to continue to move our society forward.”

Provost Arden concluded his comments by reminding the faculty that what they do is important, and he thanked them for that fact. He stated that he will be available after the meeting if anyone has questions or concerns for him.

6. F & A – Where does it go and is our rate too low?

Alan Rebar, Vice Chancellor for Research, Innovation and Economic Development
Scott Douglass, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration

View Presentation on the Faculty Senate website under the General Faculty tab on the homepage:

<https://faculty senate.ncsu.edu/general-faculty/gf-meetings/>

7. Open Discussion, Q & A with the Faculty

8. Old Business – Carolyn Bird, Chair of the Faculty
Report on Faculty Senate activities to date.

View:

<https://facultysenate.ncsu.edu/files/2017/10/Summary-of-Faculty-Senate-Activities.pdf>

9. New Business

10. Issues of Concern

Faculty Issues of Concern can be submitted at any time to a senator or to Faculty_Senate@ncsu.edu. Minutes from each Faculty Senate committee (Academic Policy; Governance and Personnel Policy; Resources and Environment) are posted so progress on issues/discussions can be monitored by all. <https://facultysenate.ncsu.edu/>

11. Adjourn

The October 3, 2017 General Faculty meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.