

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

Minutes of the Faculty Senate

Executive Summary

September 24, 2019

1. Call to Order

Hans Kellner, Chair of the Faculty

Chair Kellner called the third meeting of the sixty-sixth session of the NC State Faculty Senate to order at 3:02 p.m., and asked the guests to introduce themselves.

2. Announcements

1. Chair Kellner announced that any Senator who has not been assigned to a University Standing Committee, to please let him know. There is a place on the new Educational Technology Committee that needs to be filled.
2. Chair Kellner announced that there is a place in the UCCC that needs to be filled. Please let him know if you can serve.
3. Chair Kellner announced that the Provost Office is setting up some strategic communications plan, for which there will be four focus groups held in the first and second weeks in October. He stated that anyone interested in the strategic communications plan to facilitate effective internal communications, please be aware that these will be broadly advertised and your participation is encouraged.
4. Chair Kellner announced that communications with particular colleges and units is complicated. He asked each College unit to choose a lead Senator. This is an informal position and you can choose in any method that works. Please provide those names to Chair Kellner.
5. Chair Kellner recognized members of the Senate for their recent accolades and activities. Those he mentioned are: Donna Carver, CALS and Sid Thakur, CVM, in the area of Microbial Resistance. Rajade Berry-James, CHSS, has been elected to the National Academy of Public Administration.
6. Chair Kellner announced that the Board of Trustees met last week where they talked about the enrollment at NC State becoming majority female in the undergraduate population for the first time.
7. Chair Kellner announced that the Chair of the Board of Governors, Harry Smith, spoke in the Faculty Assembly last week and spoke about leadership. He was asked if he thought Chairs of the Faculty should be members of the Board of Trustees, and was surprised to learn that they are not.

3. Approval of the Minutes, Regular Meeting No. 2 of the 66th Session, September 10, 2019

Phil Sannes, Associate Chair of the Faculty

Associate Chair Sannes called for a motion to approve the minutes for the second meeting of the 66th session of the NC State Faculty Senate. A motion and second were made and the minutes were unanimously approved, with noted grammatical corrections.

4. Provost's Remarks and Q/A

Warwick Arden, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost

Provost Arden updated the Faculty Senate about the status of current leadership searches and new appointments, as well as status on the planning phase of the new Strategic Plan. He also updated the Senate about the recently approved Paid Parental Leave program and praised the NC State Council on the Status of Women for their diligent and tireless efforts over the past couple years to help make this a reality.

5. Remarks - How Policy Works

Katharine Stewart – Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

Courtney Thornton – Associate Vice Provost for Academic Personnel and Policy

Katharine Stewart and Courtney Thornton spoke to the Faculty Senate regarding an overview of the policy landscape at NC State.

6. Remarks - Athletics and Academics

Michael Kanters – Professor and Interim Dept. Head, Parks, Recreation & Tourism Management

Boo Corrigan - Athletics Director, NC State

The Faculty Senate heard from Athletic Director, Boo Corrigan and Dr. Michael Kanters, who is the Chair of the Faculty Academic Committee for the Council on Athletics.

They provided an overview of the policies and culture that drives the Athletics Department under the newly-appointed leadership of NC State Athletic Director, Boo Corrigan.

7. Issues of concern

Faculty Issues of Concern can be submitted at any time to a Senator, the Chair of the Faculty, or to Faculty_Senate@ncsu.edu

8. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

Minutes of the Faculty Senate

September 24, 2019

3:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting No. 3 of the 66th Session

Faculty Senate Chambers

September 24, 2019

Present: Chair Kellner, Associate Chair Sannes, Parliamentarian Funkhouser, Provost Arden; Senators Aspnes, Bass-Freeman, Bernhard, Berry-James, Boyer, Carrier, Collins, Cooke, Darhower, Feducia, Fitzpatrick, Flinchum, Havner, Jacob, Jordan, Kirby, Kotek, Kuznetsov, Little, Lubischer, Lunardi, Monek, Murty, Nelson, Pinkins, Rever, Thakur, Vincent, Williams

Excused: Senator Barrie, Senator Kuzma

Absent: Senators Ashwell, Carver, Isik, Liu, McGowan, Parker

Guests: Coleman Simpson, Student Senate President; Kathy Horton, Provost's Office; Roy Baroff, Faculty and Staff Ombuds; Courtney Thornton, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Personnel and Policy; Marc Hoit, Vice Chancellor for OIT; Boo Corrigan, NC State Athletic Director; Katie Graham, Assistant Dean and Director, Academic Support Program for Student-Athletes; Shawn Troxler, Assistant General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Michael Kanters, Interim Department Head and Professor, Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management; Katharine Stewart, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

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Provost Arden asked the Senators to consider either making or encouraging your colleagues to make an Honorary Degree nomination. "This is the highest honor the university bestows and is a great way to acknowledge the outstanding individuals who contribute to your field or multiple fields. We are seeking candidates who have extraordinary achievements and lasting distinction. It would be nice if they could also speak at Commencement." He added that the Commencement speaker is not necessarily an Honorary Degree recipient and Honorary Degree recipients are not necessarily commencement speakers; sometimes they are separate. "I can tell you in years gone past when we have an Honorary Degree recipient and then they go down the road to Duke in the afternoon and give the Commencement address, we prefer not to have that. The process is pretty simple. Go to the Provost's website under faculty resources/honorsandawards, and get started online to initiate the process. The Honorary Degree committee would then do an initial evaluation. Please give some thought to that."

As an update on searches, Provost Arden announced that the Vice Provost for Equity and Diversity search is conducting interviews of the two finalist candidates this week. The Dean, College of Natural Resources search was announced yesterday and will be Chaired by Paul Lund, Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine. The first committee meeting will be held on October 7th and candidates will be

on campus early in the spring of 2020 for interviews and open forums. Lastly, in the search for Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs will begin later in the fall.

In regard to leadership changes, Provost Arden announced that there is a new Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration, Charlie Maimone, coming to NC State from UNC Greensboro. “This will be his third appointment within the UNC system. He was at Wilmington before he went to Greensboro. He is very experienced and we are really looking forward to working with him. He will begin here on September 30th. Vickie Pennington, in the Provost’s office as the chief budget and financial person, is retiring after many years at the end of 2019.” He stated that Vickie has been awesome to work with. “I don’t think there’s anybody who really understands certainly the Provost’s Office budget and College budgets better than Vickie. It’s going to take a lot to replace her.”

Regarding the Strategic Plan, Provost Arden stated that we are currently planning for the Strategic Plan and want this to be a very inclusive process. “There will be multiple opportunities to engage as we develop task forces. You will also be able to give input online and we will have meetings and forums with Faculty Senate, General Faculty Assembly, with Staff Assembly and with students. Please help us make this a very inclusive process. I mentioned that our SACS five-year report is due at the beginning of 2020. We are going to have our five-year visit and review early next year. This is different from the ten-year review but it is still a lot of work. Dr. Rashad Crawford has been leading that effort.”

Provost Arden spoke about Paid Parental Leave policy that was recently-approved by the UNC Board of Governors “This is a big deal.” He reminded the Senate that there was a discussion in the last session of the Senate regarding the Paid Parental Leave proposal, led by the Council on the Status of Women. This group began working on this three or four years ago. It has now been approved by the Board of Governors, and by the time it is implemented, the plan will cover every benefits-eligible employee within the UNC System. “This is very impressive. My understanding is the policy will provide eight weeks of fully paid parental leave to employees who have given birth to a child and four weeks of paid leave for non-birth parents in circumstances involving the birth of a child, as well as adoption, foster placement, or other legal placement of a child within the eligible state employee status. So this is a pretty big deal and I really want to give a shout out to the Council on the Status of Women. They weren’t the only group in this, but they were very heavily instrumental in this. It is great to see something follow through from a concept and an idea, from lots of great research that was done including comparative research with other universities that really made it evident that we weren’t in the ballgame compared with peer universities.”

Questions and Discussion

None

5. Remarks - How Policy Works

Katharine Stewart – Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

Courtney Thornton – Associate Vice Provost for Academic Personnel and Policy

Katharine Stewart and Courtney Thornton spoke to the Faculty Senate regarding an overview of the policy landscape at NC State.

Courtney Thornton reviewed the handout (linked at the end of this section) and pointed out a few specific items, including the new Parental Leave policy and how that would be handled at the university. Additionally, she pointed out, items that occur in the federal landscape and the things we

need to do because of our regulatory environment. All of those things are possible influencers in our landscape. She touched on a few specific things that are in the UNC code, and also paid special attention to the information related to the UNC Policy Manual. “The policies must be approved by the UNC Board of Governors, which is not a small lift to get accomplished. However, regulations and guidelines, which are “must do’s” and which exist to provide guidance, these can both be changed at the President level.” She pointed out that at NC State there is a model in our PRR model that follows along those same lines; we have policies, or must do’s that are approved by our NC State Board of Trustees, and then regulations and rules. “Our rules are must-do’s as well. A lot of the rules that you are probably most familiar with live in your departments for reappointment, promotion and tenure, and post-tenure review. That is the bulk of the rules that we have here at NC State in the policy manual.” She pointed out that the last note on the end of the front page says that we have other documents that we reference on campus. Some departments have bylaws, and we have SOP’s for a variety of things. Those exist outside the manual and if they are ever found to not be in alignment with something that is in our PRR manual, the PRR carries the day. That is important for you to know.

Questions

None

Katharine Stewart spoke about NC State and how things happen on this campus. “The Faculty Senate is involved in PRRs in a couple of different ways. PRRs can be revised in a number of different ways. Each policy, regulation and rule at NC State has an authority assigned to it. A senior officer of the administration is responsible for each given rule. The Provost is the PRR authority for many of the rules, if not the bulk of the rules that govern faculty life. But the PRR authority is not the only person that can request a revision of a regulation or rule.” She stated that an office, such as the Office of Faculty Affairs, or a committee, such as the Lifelong Faculty Involvement Committee, or a task force, could request to the authority that they would like to initiate a revision of the rule, and then the revision of the rule can commence. “In one of the most recent cases, the Governance and Personnel Policy Committee of this body did a lot of work about the issue of professional track faculty and made some specific recommendations about the revision of the regulation that is currently titled Non Tenure Track faculty appointments and promotion. That revision is now underway, with the Provost’s approval.”

She added that the other role the Senate has to play is often as part of the approval process, depending on what is being revised. Dr. Stewart stated that for rules that exist in your academic departments, the department DVF and the department head can do those revisions, send it forward to the Dean and the Dean must review and approve before sending it to the Provost’s office. “Courtney and I are the people who check those rules. What we are looking for is to be sure that any revisions that are made to the rules do not conflict with any regulations or rules that are already in existence. We are not there to say we think this is necessarily good or bad. If we see something that we think might create headaches for your department, we may ask a question back to ask for clarify. If we think there will be an issue with a conflict with another regulation or rule, we will come back and say we need you to take a look at this. But that is really what we are there to do. Then it goes to the Provost for approval and to the Office of General Counsel for final review and for posting.”

Dr. Stewart explained that university regulations are different and go through a slightly different process, as is shown on the back side of the handout. “For regulations that affect faculty work, and that’s a lot of what I spend my time looking at; regulations related to scholarly reassignment, or regulations related to retired faculty or regulations related to the evaluation of teaching. The Faculty Senate is a body that should be looking at those, so the way that happens procedurally is that I am

usually the person that is asked to bring those forward. I bring them to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and the Executive Committee decides whether to refer to one of the Senate committees for further review or they can go ahead and approve on behalf of the Faculty Senate. Then it goes back to the PRR authority, who does a final review and then sends to the Chancellor's Cabinet for discussion and review before it is reviewed and posted by the Office of General Counsel."

Dr. Stewart pointed out that in thinking about your role as perhaps a reviewer and perhaps a reviser of regulations and rules, some of the things that you might want to think about your own questions regarding the criteria. "One of the ones that I think about a lot in this role, and having worked with you and various departments over the years is walking the tightrope, particularly for a regulation that affects the entire university. Walking the tightrope between language in the regulation that will be clear enough that you can follow it, provide enough consistency that the process will be fair for faculty across the university, but not so rigid that it disrespects the diversity of faculty and departments that we have on campus and the different ways that faculty work." She added that as you can imagine, that is a very delicate tightrope to walk sometimes. Different people can read a regulation or a rule and think that regulation is erring too far on one side or the other. That is appropriate then to raise those questions and have those conversations, because it is a hard balance to achieve."

Questions

Senator Lubischer: So in the box of various groups that review or approve, how directed is that? Do all things that touch on academic policy, are they supposed to come through Faculty Senate, or is it just recommended?

Dr. Stewart responded that there are some things that end up being changed that are classified by the Office of General Counsel as administrative changes that are not regarded as substantive changes; those do not come through a review process. In my experience, a lot of the regulations revisions that the Faculty Senate hears do not come through the full Senate; they either are discussed at the Executive Committee level or they are discussed in one of the committees. It might be that a regulation is reviewed by the Executive Committee or that you, as a Senator, are not serving on and you might not hear about it.

Senator Kurty: Who is the PRR authority?

Dr. Stewart responded that the PRR authority will be different for each policy, regulation or rule, depending on the subject matter. A regulation that has anything to do with benefits, for example, the PRR authority will be either the Vice Chancellor for Human Resources or the Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration. It is usually the cabinet-level member of the university administration in whose area that regulation resides. The PRR authority for the policies that affect faculty work is Provost Arden.

Immediate Past Chair Bird: So if you want to propose a new rule, does it have to be nested or grow from something that already exists or can it be just a new rule that you think needs to be established?

Dr. Stewart responded that if you see a need for a new regulation or rule, then you should try to figure out if there is a regulation or rule that is already close to that topic that you're looking at, to then ask the question, "is this really more appropriate to be a revision of an existing regulation or rule." It may be that there is an existing regulation that either needs to be expanded or elaborated on. Then I would say that if you really believe that no, I don't think that's really it, finding a regulation that's closest in topic and looking at who that PRR authority is and going to that person and asking what to do about

that. It would be the PRR authority who would say let's take a look at this and see what we need to add. For many of the policies that affect your work, as faculty of the university, you will find my phone number is the number that is listed for those PRRs. It is very common for people to call me with questions about the interpretation or adaptation of a regulation or rule.

Chair Kellner: I am curious about the role of the UNC code, in that it seems to be between the state law and between the UNC policy manual. So where does it fit in there? You have experience with the UNC system before you came here.

Dr. Thornton responded that there are some areas of the code that replicate what is in state statute and then there are others that are foundational policies that they add there on top of that. The policy manual is maybe just the next layer in the weeds around actual program areas or operational areas.

Dr. Stewart added that it is generally fairly broad statements about there shall be a group that does this and there shall be a way to do this at each constituent institution. So it sets out the authority of the Board of Governors and it sets out the authority of the Chancellors.

Chair Kellner: Who wrote the code?

Dr. Stewart responded that the Board of Governors writes the code.

Chair Kellner: Who writes the policy manual?

Dr. Thornton responded that policies are approved by the Board of Governors. Regulations and guidelines are approved by the President. They can be authored by the Board or different staff.

Dr. Stewart added that Faculty Assembly may be consulted on policies, regulations or guidelines in the policy manual. There may be times when Faculty Assembly is consulted on a question related to code.

Please view presentation information here:

<https://faculty senate.ncsu.edu/files/2019/10/NCSU-Policy-Landscape-092419.pdf>

6. **Remarks - Athletics and Academics**

Michael Kanters – Professor and Interim Dept. Head, Parks, Recreation & Tourism Management
Boo Corrigan - Athletics Director, NC State

Michael Kanters represented the Faculty Athletic Representative, Joel Pawlak, who was unable to attend. Dr. Kanters is the Chair of the Faculty Academic Committee for the Council on Athletics.

The Council on Athletics was created to provide oversight to athletics and to advise the Chancellor accordingly. "We meet once a month and we typically have a report from the Athletic Director, reports from compliance, student athletes and coaches who share their experiences with us, etc. The real purpose of the Council on Athletics and what I would venture to say is probably the most important activity that we do is we certify academic eligibility of all our student athletes after every semester. We go through every single athlete and look at their academic record and their performance up to that point in time, and we certify whether or not athletes have met the requirements for academic eligibility to compete. Some of the things that we look for as we are certifying academic eligibility are GPA, progress towards degree, special rules in regard to football, special rules in regard to baseball,

etc. We have here at NC State one of the most efficient systems in the ACC and across the nation in terms of helping faculty determine whether athletes are eligible. It is a digitized system with all of the information that we need to determine if an athlete is academically eligible is at our fingertips. We are able to focus in on things that are potentially problematic. We have all of the information we need in one place. With members of Academic Support and Compliance, we go through every single team and do a final certification, which includes all components for eligibility to play.” He added, “I can say without reservation, and I have served in this capacity for a number of years now, that the integrity of our system of certifying athletes and assuring that we are playing by the rules, is beyond reproach. I would challenge anyone across the country to come and look at our system and see what we are doing.”

Questions

Senator Aspnes: I am curious to know how your role fits in advising. You probably provide feedback to advisers for students that are marginal or becoming marginal. I just wondered how that worked.

Dr. Kanters responded that as part of the Council on Athletics, we do not do that. We do not interact directly with the athletes unless they are coming to the Council meetings. I will defer to Katie Graham, who manages all of our student athletes, ensuring they are going to class and getting the support they need and if they’re at risk, that they’re getting special attention.

Katie Graham: On our academic support staff we have 10 individuals who have the responsibility of being an academic coordinator to one or more of the different teams. They work very closely in seeing all of the information – the transcripts, the progress reports, and that sort of thing – collaborating with the campus advisers when students are of concern. If a student has a low GPA or is not passing enough credits in a term, they are working closely with the student and with the student’s campus adviser.

Dr. Kanters: There is a list of students who are academically at risk and sometimes coaches will want Katie’s office to monitor some students periodically. Katie’s office used to have classroom checkers that would go and ensure that the athletes are going to class but we now have an electronic system in place in the form of an app.

Immediate Past Chair Bird: Is academic eligibility the same across all sports?

Dr. Kanters responded no, there are some variations. Football has some special rules that student athletes have to adhere to that, say, swimmers don’t have to adhere to. But for the most part, it is standardized across all student athletes. If they’re on a roster, on a team, then we certify whether they are academically eligible or not. Our student athletes are academically amazing. I learned that by being a part of this. These young men and women are incredible; the schedules they have to keep, and their performance in the classroom is outstanding. I am so proud of the student athletes that we have not only because of what they do on the field in competition but what they do in the classroom as well. We should be very proud.

Associate Chair Sannes: This sounds like a nice organization that works well and you’re happy with it, but what remains as maybe your biggest challenges? Any ongoing issues or things that you see as something you need to fix?

Dr. Kanters responded a national championship in football. He added that nothing major or nothing that really comes to mind. Boo’s predecessor did an amazing job of organizing the athletic department in a way that puts the athlete first and academics on the same level as performance on the field and in

competition. So we have a culture in athletics now that student athletes recognize that when they come to NC State, they are coming here to get a degree and to graduate and we want that for every one of them. That doesn't mean to say there's not going to be challenges, particularly in some of these high profile, revenue sports. You're bringing some young men and women in that are all of a sudden being put in the limelight and having things put before them that they've never had in front of them before. There are a lot of temptations and that's always a challenge. Every university deals with that type of situation.

Senator Lunardi: What is the percentage of international students?

Katie Graham: About 10% of our student athlete population are international. About 55 student athletes.

AD Corrigan: I would add to that some of our sports are more prone to be international; tennis, golf, soccer may have a larger percentage than some of the other teams.

Senator Lunardi: I was watching swimming. (Several Speaking at once)

Katie Graham: We will have swimmers at the Olympics from multiple countries, yes.

Senator Nelson: Is there anything in place to make sure that the data is updated in a timely manner?

Dr. Kanters responded that it is almost instant. Sometimes the schedule is a bit challenging. The fall semester runs late so we can't do our work until all of you turn in your final grades. If you wait till the last day to turn your final grades in, that creates a bit of a challenge. But we deal with that. We will meet on Friday, December 22nd this semester to certify athletes. We are fully expecting our football team to be in a prominent bowl game, so we will be meeting to certify they are eligible to play in that bowl game, as well as the other athletes.

Katie Graham added that our system works off the Degree Audit and any updates are available as the system updates.

Boo Corrigan, Athletics Director

AD Corrigan thanked the Faculty Senate for inviting him to the meeting and provide brief background information. "Prior to arriving at NC State, I spent 8 years at the US Military Academy as Athletic Director there. Married, three children, baby of seven kids. My father is Gene Corrigan, who was the Athletic Director at Virginia, at Notre Dame. I am trying not to screw up his legacy."

He stated that he is culturally driven more than wins and losses driven. "Wins and losses are important, but I think the culture is what will ultimately drive the day for us. I think about what my job is and I've kind of come to this over the years of being in a leadership position."

"The first thing I think about is trust, and the ability to gain trust and the ability to give trust - and that's from our coaches to our students to this group. I know it takes time and that words are simple at times. It's more your actions in which you model. So the ability to give and gain trust."

"The second thing is accountability, which is something I learned at West Point. Everyone was accountable for their actions. As the leader of the Athletic Department with 200+ employees and 550+ athletes, to let them know what the standard is. The standard doesn't change and my job is to hold

them accountable to the standard. The other side of it is that they need to hold me accountable for what I do and what I say and how I act.”

“The third thing is passion. None of us would be here if not passionate about students and about education and how we prepare and how we lead them. We have opportunities to be involved in young peoples’ lives. At the end of the day this is still about educating young people and it’s about the ability to change generations. We have a lot of first generation kids that are coming through the athletic department. The pride that they have is amazing. I met with a recruit on Saturday and was talking to the mother, a single parent. She looked at me and said this decision is a big decision because it’s going to change generations, because he was the first to go to college. I looked at the young man and said don’t let that be a weight; let that be a blessing. So the ability to be passionate.”

“The fourth thing is empathy. Everyone comes to NC State with something different and it’s our job to help them unpack that to be the best version of themselves. Our coaches are going to spend more time with them than anyone else on campus. It’s one thing to invest in them on the field or on a court or in a pool, but we are looking for leaders who want to help them unpack it academically and socially. Everyone has their own journey. So how do we help them get through that.”

“The fifth thing is that in this day and age, it’s just different. I graduated from college in the 1990’s and it’s different in 2019. The ability to raise your hand if you need help and view that as a position of strength and not a position of weakness. There’s a lot of cultural things that we are dealing with right now where it can be seen as a sign of weakness to raise your hand - whether that’s mental health or something that’s going on in your life, whether it’s academics, etc. A lot of these young people that we are bringing to this campus are really-high achieving young people. It may be the first time they get a C in a class. How are they dealing with that and are we making sure we are there for them. We talk a lot about this in the athletic department.”

AD Corrigan stated that these are the core values that he talks about everyday with the coaches, about putting the accountability on the young person. “If they really want to be here, if they’re passionate about what they do and the opportunity to be in athletics every day, it’s a decision they make to be on our teams. We want to be able to be with them, but to hold them accountable in what we are doing. Do we want to win games? Absolutely we do. Do we want to win a national championship in football? Sure. But we are not going to do it in the shortened version; we’re not going to do it in a way that gets us out of alignment with who we are. We also need to make sure that what we are in alignment with Chancellor Woodson, whether it’s from a communications standpoint or a legal standpoint or with IT or with whoever else it is, we need to be the best partner we can be. We don’t want to be viewed as separate from everything else; we want to be a part of this community and that’s how we are going to view our experience here.”

He added that they have received our notice of allegations from the NCAA and had 90 days to respond, which would have put us at October 7th to respond. He stated, “We got something on Friday saying that all responses are “stayed” until November 20th at the earliest. So this will continue. I would love to get this behind us as fast as we can. I know there are some things in the notice of allegations that we need to be held accountable for, and I think there are other things that we need to fight because I do not think they are properly categorized of who we are and what we are.”

Questions

Senator Vincent: Welcome. And I appreciate what you said about the culture. I have a question that I hope is appropriate, about finances. This is a big business here and is one that gets more and more

expensive. I have a specific question about how some of these things work. I was looking at the report that was sent in 2017 from athletics to the NCAA. At the bottom it indicated that there was over \$3 million of expenses over revenues. So I am assuming that the university picks that up. Where does that money come from and how is it repaid to go into that peculiar student fee of the athletic indebtedness? I don't understand the finances. I'm just getting an image of this from the outside. Could you give me some illumination of how this might work?

AD Corrigan responded that his understanding that there may have been a reserve at some level.

Senator Williams: There is a fund balance. So just because revenues were less than expenditures. The university has a rule that every unit has to maintain a minimum fund balance. So it likely came from that balance.

AD Corrigan responded it is within the athletic department and it's carried year after year. So it would have come from those reserves. I believe that the student activity fee is relatively flat. (Several speaking at once)

VC Marc Hoit: Athletics does not get funding from the university. There is a student fee, but they ride on their own dollars, their own income, their own ticket sales and their own everything.

AD Corrigan stated that within the balance of the budget sheet there was money in there to cover whatever shortfall was there.

Chair Kellner: Ideally speaking, what is the relationship between the athletic director and the booster clubs at any university?

AD Corrigan responded that ideally it is an oversight position. We are set up a little differently with the Wolfpack Club.

Chair Kellner: So the Athletic Department has to oversee them?

AD Corrigan responded that we have to make sure we are in constant communication with them and make sure they are properly aligned with who we are and what we are as an institution.

Senator Little: I have a question about excused absences because syllabi typically state the number of excused absences, but because student athletes participate in university-sponsored events, often we get requests for additional excused absences. Is this some discussion you have on the athletics side? Do you track it, do you manage it?

Katie Graham responded that absences for competition only fall under the university regulation of excused absences, representing the university on official business. So we do track those and every time has to submit to their supervisor and to academics when the students for that particular team is going to miss class. Then the faculty athletics representative, and sometimes Michael is involved in the review too, Dr. Joel Pawlak, will take a look at all excused absences and try to whittle it down. They will have some tough conversations with a coach to say it looks like you guys could leave on Friday and you're scheduled to leave on Thursday - can you adjust this? So there's a lot of eyes on when student athletes miss class.

AD Corrigan added that part of it is in our control in regard to non-conference scheduling of games. The ACC games are scheduled by the ACC and we would have three non-conference games to look at

that. We don't look for those competitions to be on Tuesday; can they be over a weekend and can they be at a time where there is no missed class. My background is coming from a place where everything is heavily scrutinized. Again, this is a new frontier for me, but at the end of the day, we're trying to get young people to graduate and we want to put them into a position where they have as good an opportunity to succeed as possible.

Senator Little: The conflict comes with the syllabus saying three excused absences and then someone from athletics comes and says "I have an event that will require more than three." Who is responsible?

Katie Graham: We also work with the absence verification officer that is in DASA in cases like that so there is continuity between different types of excused absences across the university. We really lean on them as the subject matter experts as well. I think the bottom line is if a student athlete sees the syllabus and it says they can only miss three classes, excused or unexcused, and they look at their travel schedule and they're going to miss four classes, then they either have to have a discussion with that faculty member to see if it can be worked out, or they have to change their class schedule, which does happen. We try to be proactive, and it is not a perfect system. In some sports, the travel roster changes week to week, so we try to be as proactive as we can with the information that we have.

(Unidentified): It's not just athletics; it applies to all university-sponsored activities.

Shawn Troxler: The University doesn't have a university-wide definition on the number of excused absences; that is left up to the instructor, who is asked to be reasonable and work with the individual students.

Dr. Kanters: It's not just our student athletes. We have students in a whole variety of situations; students that are single parents, working full time and part time and have job-related excuses for missed classes and whether or not those constitute an excused absence. So I think what we are looking for is faculty across the board to look at the individual student's situation.

Senator Lunardi: I am from engineering. (Inaudible) We have laboratories. The issue happens with the laboratories because they have to have experiments with their partners. (Inaudible) It is very hard to teach time-management and accountability. I can give them all the time that they need but they have to prioritize. (inaudible)

Parliamentarian Funkhouser: What do you know about the future of the PNC Arena?

AD Corrigan responded that he thinks it is a big wild card right now. We have to be the best partner we can be in that building.

7. Issues of concern

Faculty Issues of Concern can be submitted at any time to a Senator, the Chair of the Faculty, or to Faculty_Senate@ncsu.edu

8. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 4:21 p.m.