

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY
Minutes of the Faculty Senate
Executive Summary
March 3, 2020

1. Call to Order

Hans Kellner, Chair of the Faculty

Chair Kellner called the twelfth meeting of the sixty-sixth session of the NC State Faculty Senate to order at 3:01 p.m.

2. Announcements

Hans Kellner, Chair of the Faculty

Announcements:

1. Pandemic Preparation in the UNC Code – Code 300.2.15
2. NCSU on Waiver of Recruitment Process
<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#search/waiver/FMfcgxwHMGBGLVnfwbBHCMvHGBSLMxGc>
3. NC State Global Courtyard Dedication Ceremony
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nc-state-global-courtyard-dedication-ceremony-registration-95265931967>

3. Approval of the Minutes, Regular Meeting No. 11 of the 66th Session, February 18, 2020

Phil Sannes, Associate Chair of the Faculty

Associate Chair Sannes called for a motion to approve the minutes for the eleventh 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. Comments

Hans Kellner, Chair of the Faculty

5. Provost's Remarks and Q/A

Warwick Arden, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost

Provost Arden provided a comprehensive overview regarding issues and circumstances regarding the Coronavirus.

6. Remarks

Doug Morton, Vice Chancellor for Facilities

Vice Chancellor Morton provided information regarding new and ongoing projects and plans on both Main and Centennial Campus.

7. Faculty Senate Elections

*Hans Kellner, Chair of the Faculty
Candidates for Chair-Elect of the Faculty*

Chair Kellner recognized Dr. Jade Berry-James, candidate for Chair-Elect of the Faculty, and asked Dr. Berry-James to provide a brief statement of interest and background to the Faculty Senate.

8. 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

9. Adjourn

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY
Minutes of the Faculty Senate
March 3, 2020
3:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting No. 12 of the 66th Session

Faculty Senate Chambers

March 3, 2020

Present: Chair Kellner, Associate Chair Sannes, Parliamentarian Funkhouser; Senators Ashwell, Bass-Freeman, Bernhard, Berry-James, Boyer, Carrier, Collins, Cooke, Darhower, Feducia, Fitzpatrick, Flinchum, Havner, Jordan, Kuzma, Lubischer, Nelson, Kotek, Kuznetsov, Little, Lunardi, McGowan, Monek, Thakur, Vincent, Williams

Excused: Senators Carver, Kirby, Rever

Absent: Senator Aspnes, Barrie, Isik, Jacob, Liu, Murty, Parker, Pinkins

Guests: Doug Morton, Associate Vice Chancellor, Facilities; Marris Berry-James, guest of Rajade Berry-James; Roy Baroff, Faculty and Staff Ombuds; Katharine Stewart, Vice Provost, Faculty Affairs

1. Call to Order

Hans Kellner, Chair of the Faculty

Chair Kellner called the twelfth meeting of the sixty-sixth session of the NC State Faculty Senate to order at 3:01 p.m.

2. Announcements

Hans Kellner, Chair of the Faculty

See the back of the agenda each week for committee activity and announcements.

Chair Kellner asked the guests attending the meeting today to introduce themselves.

Announcements:

1. Pandemic Preparation in the UNC Code – Code 300.2.15
2. NCSU on Waiver of Recruitment Process
<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#search/waiver/FMfcgxwHMGBGLVnfwbBHCMvHGBSLMxGc>
3. NC State Global Courtyard Dedication Ceremony
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nc-state-global-courtyard-dedication-ceremony-registration-95265931967>

3. Approval of the Minutes, Regular Meeting No. 11 of the 66th Session, February 18, 2020

Phil Sannes, Associate Chair of the Faculty

Associate Chair of the Faculty, Phil Sannes, called for a motion to approve the minutes for the tenth 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. Comments

Hans Kellner, Chair of the Faculty

5. Provost's Remarks and Q/A

Warwick Arden, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost

Remarks on Coronavirus

Provost Arden greeted the Faculty Senate and provided an update regarding the Coronavirus and the campus response. He stated, "The tone of this discussion really is this; as campus leaders, I really want you to help lead a tone that is aligned with preparation, not panic. This is really important."

"So I'm not going to diminish the Coronavirus or what's happening. It is significant and it is important. But what you need to know is that we take campus continuity and emergency preparedness very, very seriously. We have been planning for incidences such as these and many other incidences for a long time. I don't know how many of you know Dr. Amy Orders. She reports to Dave Rainer. Amy is our designated individual to whom we entitle Emergency Preparedness and Mission Continuity. Amy, along with Dave and many others, has contributed to a lot of preparation documents, including infectious disease preparation documents."

"That isn't to say that we don't need to adjust as time goes on, but don't mistake the fact that I'm not sending you a memo every day or twice a day with the fact that we are not thinking, working and meeting and working very hard on this. We are, indeed, doing this."

"It also doesn't meant that whatever we come up with is going to be perfect, because what I would tell you is that this virus is moving very, very quickly within the U.S. and the world. Just in the last 24 hours there are two cases in Georgia, and I would bet we will probably have cases here in N.C. within two weeks, maybe one week."

(Senator Ashwell interjected, "The Governor is about to speak, that we have our first confirmed case.)

"You heard it first right here. So that may be more than anything, related to the fact that Coronavirus testing became available in N.C. today. So we may have actually have had cases before that we didn't know about. Part of the issue with Coronavirus is that in 80% of the people that have it, the symptoms are relatively mild to moderate; maybe mild flu, bad cold kind of cases. So it may be possible to be around for a while and those individuals may not have even gone to the doctor. The bottom line is, it is coming, and we will find out soon how quickly it is coming. We need to be prepared, and we are thinking and we are prepared, to a certain degree."

"There are three parts to this discussion. One, you can see from the memos that I and Charlie Maimone sent out over the past couple of weeks. The first consideration was for our study abroad

students and for our faculty who are abroad, and figuring out exactly where they were and what advice we should give them. It has been revolving and changing as countries move from CDC level-1 to CDC level-2 and level-3. Initially, it was only China that was level-3, then South Korea, then they added Iran and Italy. Italy only added last Friday, just hours after I sent out the last memo.”

“As of the end of last week, we had 323 of our students studying abroad. We had a couple left in China who are Chinese Nationals who are here as international students but had gone home for the Christmas break on personal travel so we didn’t have that in our system, since we don’t track personal travel. They contacted us when they either wanted to stay and study at a University in China and transfer the credits back for a semester, which happens fairly frequently, or return to the U.S. So we knew we had a couple of students left in China. We had three students in South Korea, who have all been told to come home. We had 56 students in Italy. Of those, the majority of students were in Florence, but four of the students were in Milan. We had one student who was at the Prague Institute who went to Milan and came back and within two weeks had a fever and was showing flu symptoms. The Czech government had her self-isolate but did not run a Coronavirus test. That 14-day isolation has now passed and that individual is fine.”

“Of the 56 students that we have asked to come back – and I have to think of three things: I have to think about who’s going out, who’s already there, and of those who are coming back, and what visiting scholars we might have from other institutes. So the bottom line is we have put a hold on all out-going travel – faculty, staff and students – to all level-2 and level-3. The only level-2 country left, at the moment, is Japan. The others are all level-3.”

“You might say why did we include level-2 since we didn’t in the first memo? That is because it was moving so quickly, we knew level-2’s were going to go level-3 pretty quickly. So why would I let a group of students go to a level-2 when I’d have to call them back the next day. So it happened within an hour or so of sending that memo out that Italy went from a level-2 to a level-3.”

“We are calling back students from level-3. Most of our students have been very compliant and understanding with this. I talked with the Chancellor at Chapel Hill Friday and they sent out a similar memo on Thursday about students in South Korea and he said he had a mailbox full of nasty-grams on Friday morning because a lot of their students wanted to stay in South Korea. So they are still working through that. He also said they have 70-something students in Italy and they are still working through that as well.”

“All of the students that are coming back to us – they don’t have much reason to come to campus since they are not registered for courses on campus and it’s too late to get them into courses. Many of them will take online courses offered by the Universities they were studying at in Italy and some of them will actually just lose a semester all together, which is very difficult and very sad. We have a couple of students that will need some accommodations on campus. We are necessitating a 14-day isolation period. We do have some facilities available for that and they will not be allowed onto the main part of campus for 14 days.”

“So we have been working through that whole process over the last couple of weeks as things continue to evolve, but I think we are at a pretty good state. All of our students who were in Italy are headed home. I feel pretty good about where we are with study abroad students. The only issues that are raised by some Universities and even the CDC – if you go on the CDC website, they are saying all study abroad students should be called home. Even those in level-0, 1 and 2. We haven’t gone near there yet, but Universities are talking about it and you need to know that.”

“The next thing I want to talk about is one thing that Hans alluded to, is what we call academic continuity. Which is, if you as a faculty member cannot be in your class, if one of your students can’t be in the class or if all of the students can’t be in the class, or if we literally close campus, what are we going to do about that? It’s not enough to simply say well tough, they’re just going to lose the semester. Because the system and in fact, most folks, expect us to figure out how to teach at the semester – as an expectation. Also, the students have paid a lot of money and the state has given us a lot of money so unless you feel like writing a check for a few hundred million dollars to refund folks, then we’d better figure out how to continue out the semester. My personal belief on this, and I will have a memo coming out later this week I hope, is not to be too heavy-handed from a college or a departmental perspective, but what I don’t want to do is say to a particular department or college, you will deliver the content this way, and everybody has to do it this way. At the end of the day, it’s your class. And what I want to do is provide you with options and also resources to support you. So the memo will come out and say the expectation is that everybody who teaches on this campus, which is most of us, will have an academic continuity plan in place and on file with the department within a very short period of time. However, I am not going to be prescriptive about how you do that. When you think about it, there are a lot of options. There are a lot of ways of doing this and I would like to give the faculty as much autonomy and flexibility as possible, as much support as possible. Delta is geared up and this effort will be led by both Dr. Stewart and Dr. Miller at Delta to give you as much support as possible.”

“The only thing that I am going to insist on is that right now, you begin thinking about how you would do that. This is not something that you have the luxury of taking three months or even one month to think about. It’s something that we are going to have to have in place by the end of spring break. Spring break is next week so it’s going to be a quick turnaround time. You don’t have to have everything worked out in great detail, but think about if I have to convert my course to deliver in some way other than face-to-face with students sitting in my lecture theater, how am I going to do that? You’ll be given options and you will be given support.”

“There are difficulties here. The simplest is didactic lectures, but we have lab courses and all kinds of courses that we have to think through. Delivering lab courses is not nearly as easy as trying to figure out how to deliver didactic materials. So I’m not saying this is going to be easy or is something we can flip a switch on. But it’s something I want to give as much autonomy to you as I can. The only thing I’ll say is that we need to get serious about figuring this out. Everybody who teaches should have a strategy. There will be more on this on a memo that will come out later this week and we will follow this up at the spring faculty meeting on March 17th and beyond.”

“The lessons that we have learned so far from other pandemics and other epidemics and from other countries who are dealing with this is that certain things are effective in retarding transmission of viruses such as this. The most important one is called social distancing. Social distancing and personal hygiene. What we mean there is that we all have to start thinking about doing our daily business a little differently. It is not just about our work in the classroom; it’s meetings such as this. If Coronavirus were to become prevalent on our campus, meetings like this are the worst thing you can do, quite frankly. In fact, we all spend way too much of our time going to in person meetings. We need to start thinking about how we can conduct a lot of our business differently. There are a lot of formats – Zoom is a very popular and common one, as well as Skype, Google hangouts, etc. Do be thinking about this and look at your calendar. I’m talking less about one-on-one meetings and similar; I’m talking more about the 6, 8, 10-person + meetings. How can you have more social distancing in your daily lives. Personal hygiene – what has been shown to be effective is not face masks, quite frankly, but hand-washing. This is probably the single most important thing you can do. Handwashing with soap and water is actually number one. Twenty-three seconds or singing Happy Birthday twice is optimal. If you

don't have access to soap and water, then Purell or something similar.”

“Those three single basic things and thinking critically about how we do our work, what kinds of meetings do we have every day and how we do that, and simple handwashing and so forth, have been shown to dramatically decrease the transmission of these viruses.”

“You will be hearing a lot more from me over the next several weeks to months. This is an evolving conversation. We will be adding a lot more detail as we go along. I want you to know that we are thinking and working hard on these and we do have plans in place. Academic continuity is going to be really big for all of us in the next few weeks. Then thinking about how we conduct business.”

“I'm even having conversations with the Chancellor about University events. Luckily, we have our last home basketball game this week. We have Watauga this week, Board of Visitors this week. In a couple of weeks it may be difficult to have some of these events, to be honest. I've even asked the Chancellor to look at his calendar and think about those large events that could be rescheduled, shifted, downscaled or done a different way. The big one is going to be Commencement. Let's face it. It's not just important because we have thousands of people together in a stadium for multiple hours, but many of those graduates have families who fly in from all over the world. So this will be a tough one, a really tough one. I'm letting you know that those are the kinds of decisions that will have to be made over the next period.”

“This is the first shot across the bow from me – you will be hearing a lot more from me on this. The focus is on sensible, logical preparation. It's absolutely not a panic. We do have one big thing in our favor which is that with respect to our 35,000 students on campus, data suggests so far that individuals under the age of 25 are at very low risk of mortality. Mortality is highest in those who are older and have pre-existing conditions, including immune suppression, for example. We are concerned about their welfare and their safety, but as much as anything, we are worried about their role in incubating this and spreading it to the community.”

“We don't have all the answers and it's very easy to get in the weeds very quickly. There are a lot of complex questions and a lot of issues to go through. Right now I'm having people run down alternatives for spring break. I want to know where people are going. We are concerned about spring break because we don't track peoples' personal travel and we have no clue where our students are going for spring break, and then they'll all come back to campus. That worries me, quite frankly. Same for faculty.”

“There are a lot of complex questions. This is rapidly evolving and there are a lot of in the weeds issues. We are working through those and I really need your input and your leadership.”

Questions

Senator Berry-James: Can you give us an update on academic continuity plans at other institutions that we might model? I have a question about faculty travel, in particular, travel that is sponsored by the institution. Several of us are planning to go to conferences that are connected to our profession over break. I wonder how do we manage that? I have already purchased my ticket. How does that get bought out in terms of what is the obligation of the faculty?

Provost Arden responded that a lot of professional conferences are canceling everyday. So that conference may or may not be being held right now. We are unlikely to get to a point where we regulate domestic faculty travel. At the end of the day, you're going to have to make some personal

decisions that weigh the risk, and otherwise. I spoke with Dr. Miller yesterday. He is taking 16 students to California for the annual Entrepreneurs visit that they have done every year in Silicon Valley for the past 16 years. These students have all paid, they have their tickets, and they're ready to go. At the end of the day, we are not, from the University's perspective, going to regulate or limit certainly domestic travel. There may come a time when what we have done to limit international travel to CDC 2 and 3 countries becomes moot. If we have as high an incidence as South Korea, for example, why would we travel there? So we're going to have to work with this. I can tell you that we're very highly unlikely to get into limiting faculty travel. So think very seriously about your own professional travel and what the risks are associated with that. I would add to that, think very carefully about your own personal travel as well. We don't regulate that and quite frankly, there's nothing today that would entitle me to say to you, "you can't take a personal trip to Italy tomorrow." You could do that and I'd never know about it and you could come back and be back in the classroom next week. So that worries me. But we are not going to get into beginning to try to monitor or regulate peoples' personal travel. I don't believe that we can do that. What I can tell you is that Dr. Orders, who is head of our campus preparations, was due to leave Thursday for a long-planned family vacation to Great Britain for a week and a half. And she has canceled that, as of today. So these are tough decisions.

Senator Ashwell: I am a program director for a spring break study abroad and we decided to cancel it this morning.

Provost Arden responded that from a University perspective, you can technically take that trip to Prague, because it's not CDC level 2 or 3.

Senator Ashwell: But it just made sense. Because the students were going to conduct research projects. They were going to be on two campuses in Prague that are now closed because of Coronavirus. They were going to be interacting with people in the community. So the students' flights and our program directors' flights, Delta has refunded the entire amount with no cancellation fee. We can use that for future travel. They were non-refundable tickets but Delta cancelled them without a fee. I was surprised. That was a good thing on their part.

Senator Kuznetsov: I'm a little bit concerned about teacher preparedness. In our department, we are already at the brink and limit so a 90-student class with no TAs. I cannot imagine how we can do it with no resources.

Provost Arden responded that we will give you as much assistance as we can. There's a lot of infrastructure there in place already through DELTA. I think not doing it is not an option, and I don't have unlimited resources. I will help where I can. That's probably not a satisfactory answer.

Senator Feducia: As far as communicating with our students about this, I got an email this week that said before we send out anything, it needs to be vetted. Are we going to get anything about that?

Provost Arden responded that they are trying to centralize communications through central University Communications, who are working with individual college communications. The reason for that is that I think the worst thing that you can do for your student body is to bombard them with slightly varying or extremely varying messages from different sources. So we have to be consistent. A big part of this is

accurate information. When this all broke and I needed to figure out how many faculty and students were abroad, and I'm given lists of people who might travel over the next six months, I said I don't care. I want to know who's abroad today and where they are. So getting accurate information I think is really important. Then I think timely and consistent communications out to our constituency – your fellow faculty, our staff, our students – is really important. So we worry about everybody blasting out there with all kinds of emails.

Senator Feducia: So I'm curious, with now the case in North Carolina, people are just going to want information.

Senator Ashwell: It says Wake County. They travelled to Washington state and were exposed in the long-term care facility.

Katharine Stewart: They visited the nursing home where several had Corona and has just come back and has tested positive.

Senator Ashwell: They are isolated at home and doing well.

Provost Arden: One thing that President Roper emphasized in our conference call I was on this morning, is testing positive for the virus or not doesn't alter how you're treated. You treat, based on the symptoms. Someone's got severe respiratory disease, you treat that whether they're positive for Corona or not. If they're good and healthy, then you're not going to admit them to hospital and start treating them. If somebody comes in with severe symptoms and they are positive, that's going to get a lot more attention than if they're just positive for flu.

Senator Nelson: So I know the continuity plan is moving forward or developing and evolving at this point, and a few weeks ago we heard from Pack Essentials that there are a number of students who are food insecure as well as homeless on the campus. I have been teaching online for the past 18 years, so I know that a technology divide does still exist, primarily affected under-represented minorities, rural communities, etc. I just want to know will that be a consideration – student access?

Provost Arden responded that yes, it will. The vast majority of our students have access, but we will be paying close attention to those that do have limited access and, in my mind, this is not too different from the base financial aid that we need to be figuring out a way or a program for those students to have appropriate access. That is a great point.

Senator Cooke: So I know we are thinking about academic continuity, but we are also getting ready to think about the new semester with fall registration. Are there going to be recommendations for advising and how we should move forward with that? I know that's one-on-one; not so much as a large group.

Provost Arden responded that between here and the fall there are a lot of issues. There's the immediate on-campus with students, there are spring break abroad trips, then I'm going to worry about summer – both summer study abroad and summer on campus. Then we get to the fall. The fall is important for a number of reasons, if this is still a problem in the fall. There's a lot of suggestion that this virus doesn't do well in hot weather and so there's going to be a significant ease off in the

summer. One of the biggest issues for us in the fall is international students who would not rejoin us in the fall. We have 1200 students from China, and if those students cannot get Visas and come in the fall, that is a huge impact for our graduate programs and for funding. Then there are issues, as you say, about advising loads and faculty loads. So it is on the horizon for us to pay attention to it by getting through the next couple of months.

Senator Cooke: I was talking about advising for the fall.

Provost Arden responded that at the moment, we are not changing our plans for regular fall admissions. If you look at the trajectory in other countries, the number of new cases in China is already going down significantly. Countries like Hong Kong and other countries have handled this very well. This may not be an issue for longer than two or three months, but we just don't know. At the moment, there is no plan to change either our summer programming or our fall admissions. I could be standing up here in three months' time saying something completely different.

Senator Cooke: Looking at right after spring break, every professional advisor or faculty who may advise, there might be some recommendations for how we might make adjustments for term advising that will start right after spring break.

Provost Arden responded that this is a good point.

6. Remarks

Doug Morton, Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities

Associate Vice Chancellor Morton greeted the Faculty Senate and thanked them for welcoming him back to speak to them. He stated, "Today I wanted to talk about a couple things that are important for you to know. Then I'll talk about some exciting things that are planned for the campus. First is the budget for the state. Having no budget passed this year except for mini-budgets, none of which affected positively our efforts in facilities. That is concerning for us."

AVC Morton added, "We have a backlog of work on the campus, by my estimation, of about \$1.5 billion. The last year that we did get a budget, the state allocated \$4 million for us to get at that backlog. So this year's budget, as proposed, was going to allocate us almost \$14 million, still just a drop in the bucket for what we need for the campus. Instead, we got zero in that allocation."

"Along with that, some of you know that we are in the end stages of completing Fitts-Woolard Hall, the new building for Industrial and Systems Engineering, Civil and Environmental and Construction Engineering, just next to the Hunt Library. We also, in the budget, asked specifically for maintenance and operating reserves for new buildings that we complete for the state of North Carolina. That number for that building is about \$4.1 million per year recurring. That includes all of the staffing, which could be police, housekeeping staff, mechanics, all the equipment that would be required to make sure that building ran properly, all the materials that would be needed. We got zero money for that. We typically also get money to start up a building; we got no money for that. So we are taking all of these responsibilities on internally, which creates a little bit of a risk for the Chancellor and the

university because the legislature can look at us and say, 'You really didn't need that money anyway.' But it will come home to roost, because we're just going to have to rebalance our efforts on the campus and do more activity with the same amount of resources we had before. So that is a troubling development from the Legislature and I know that our leadership on campus, the system office leadership, made significant and specific appeals to the State to rectify the situation. So there is some optimism, but I typically don't get too optimistic until I see my checkbook change. And it has not been changed."

AVC Morton stated that there are many positives on the campus. "We have some major projects other than Fitts-Woolard Hall underway. The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences will be the principal recipient of the Plant Sciences building, but not the only recipient. That is our first building that we are building with an inter-disciplinary focus. So CALS is responsible for bringing that building to life, but they're also responsible for figuring out how we bring different colleges and parts of the institution together to operate out of that building. It will not just be limited to CALS faculty."

He stated that the building is about 180,000 square feet and will have bio-safety level 2 and 3 greenhouses built onto the roof and the back of the house operation to isolate that research from the front of the house where anybody could enter. "It will be set up in such a way that elevators will be able to bring from growth chambers and labs up into that rooftop greenhouse set up. So it's a real fascinating building that will take a long time to build. If you've been over on Centennial Campus, you'll see it tucked up to the top of the campus, close to the Cathedral. It's been underway for about six months and we have another two years to go until we get that building completed; so spring or late winter of 2022."

AVC Morton added, "I walked around the campus last night and looked at the second and third floor of the stacks. If you've paid attention here, we've been doing quite a bit of work here. It's going to be fascinating. We have taken the stairs that took you from the entrance on the Brickyard up to the Ask Us desk. We have opened up that ceiling two floors above, so the second and third floors are now open to the entryway. There's a grand staircase that's being developed in there, and those spaces have been completely cleared of paper books. In their place will be spaces for academic advising, for tutorials, for visualization labs; undergraduate research will be housed there; a writing lab will be in there. It will be a grand space for students as they come into the building to find the help that they need to be successful. We will finish that up later this summer, hoping to open it up for the fall semester. When we do, it will be a great place for you to visit, and some of you might even work out of there with your students. The stacks above those two floors still house quite a paper collection, which is seeing less and less use. We are envisioning what can happen in the future, and these first two floors are an example of how we can invest resources in the brick and mortar with a great outcome for us all."

AVC Morton reported on the courtyard project located behind Primrose Hall. He stated that this project was a combination in design from the College of Design. "We work with studios in the College of Design regularly and we asked them to help us envision what that space could be. It was pointed out that there was a fountain from the class of 1914 that had been sitting there. We re-positioned that to the apex of the Court of North Carolina and is tucked in right behind Peele Hall. In moving the fountain, it was not damaged at all and it is now placed in a prominent position. In its place, the global

courtyard has a nice plaza area around the pecan tree. We will put in some seating as well, and what was just a dead space behind that building will be a space that will be highly used but serves as a look-in to the campus. We are doing our best to open up this edge of our campus to the community so they can see what's going on here. We have taken down the hedge at Primrose and will continue to amend or take down hedges along the street and fashion more grand entrances where we want people to come into the campus and make their way across, making it more of an inviting campus."

AVC Morton then spoke about the area behind Cox Hall. "Across the Brickyard behind Cox Hall, we have done a complete gutting of the Bureau of Mines, and the Dean of the College of Sciences will move in there this fall. We will take that space and open it up. The Dean and part of the staff of the College of Sciences will be there." He then updated the Senators about the addition to the Recreation Center. "We have salvaged the trees that were in that space and were dying. Some of that material will be used inside the new building and the other will be stored for future use on the campus. There will be some accents in the building from those trees that were in the front. That is about an 80,000 square foot addition to the fitness center, which will be focused on aerobics, yoga studios, and other activities, as well as a test kitchen on the ground floor that will be focused on nutritional sciences and student health. That is planned to be opened up next fall just after fall break next year."

He added, "Without money or a lot of resources, how do we make it? A tool that we use is that we brought all colleges together and all of the significant units on the campus and have created this tool called the integrated priority list. This list is for projects that are over \$50,000 in value that the colleges bring to facilitate and say we have this need and we don't have the resources to support this need being fulfilled. We have gathered this list of projects and then with the help of those stakeholders, we have graded the projects. So we have graded 595 projects, which is about \$1.5 billion of work. We know what the number one need on an objective grading scale is for projects on the campus. That happens to be a water intrusion project in one of our research buildings on Centennial Campus, which is about \$100,000. It rises to the top. We think we are making some headway here. More money would help, but what the headway really is is that the campus population is thinking more about the institution. Everybody that comes to participate in this process has open access to the list of projects, to how other projects are graded, and they get to break up into teams and look at criteria of the projects. Those objective scores then give us a good indication of where we should put the meager funds that we have. We contemplate what we call the highest and best use of resources, and stewardship of those resources, which gives us a head start on where that money should be planned to go. The teaming is really good for NC State, and it bodes well for us."

AVC Morton concluded by telling the Senators that he has created customer support teams in order to really listen to the concerns and issues on campus. "My direct reports lead each of those teams and they visit each of the colleges every few months to just listen and find out what is it that you need the most from us."

Questions

Senator Vincent: I have a question about funding. Duane Larick came to our committee meeting last week and talked about funding of a variety of things. He made me aware, and it was a surprise to me, that the funding for the renovation of the library was originally continuing money of \$5 million that

was kept aside for three years and then was put into this project. So I am assuming there was a good deal of discretion for the use of that funding on campus. It's not your purview to tell the administration how much of that goes to facilities, but clearly the decision was made for that rather than a number of other things on campus. Now that concerns some of us who worry about the number of teachers who aren't getting hired; that is, the number of tenure-track positions that are not being filled. \$5 million a year is 50 tenure-track positions. So my question is about how those funding decisions are made.

AVC Morton responded that the decisions are made in a collaborative manner. Some of the money that we have is specifically marked by the state to be used for facilities. There is carry-forward money as well, and in the new legislation, half of the carry-forward money has to be spent on the physical campus. The state knows that my campus has a plant value of about \$5 billion, and it is atrophying at a much faster rate than I am getting money to replace it. So the asset they have physically here, we have to invest in that to hold onto it. Just like we would our own homes. So I don't take money from the academic side. I only take it when it has a very specific academic benefit. So the Provost's staff and I, my boss Charlie Maimone, and others in the finance world, we look very closely at the highest and best use. It is a balancing act. I know that I'm only here because you are here; you are here so you draw students here. That's the reason that the state said we need a place like this. I know that I am not the purpose of the institution; I support the institution and the purpose of the institution. So I have to be extremely frugal with the money that I spend. So I am not taking money from the academic side, and I am getting monies appropriated to me specifically for facilities.

Provost Arden added, "I think there is some confusion about the money that we put aside for a project like the library. That is carry-over funds from the prior year and you cannot use it to hire faculty, for example. If we had a continuing budget line for \$100 million, and we had authority that we could carry over \$5 million of that and it happens that we get to the end of the year and we've only spent \$90 million of that \$100 million, we go out and we identify and make sure that we get that other \$5 million spent. We make sure that we spend \$95 million. That \$5 million that carries over, next year we get another \$100 million; that's the continuing part of the budget.

Chair Kellner: Is all facilities work done in-house, or do you contract with a lot of other people outside the university?

AVC Morton responded that it is not all done in-house. We know our limits and so we don't have the expertise, whether that's in the planning of a particular endeavor, or the execution of that endeavor. We go and get help. For capital work, we have to get help because the State limits us. I can only do so much work with the in-house forces I've got. I do most of the maintenance in the buildings but when you have major replacements of components, those are contracted out. It's really a limit on how much my force account can do and also the capability that they have.

Chair Kellner: What is your timetable for the electrical grid?

AVC Morton responded that that is ongoing and he is selecting and hiring a designer now. That designer will precede the construction manager by a couple of months. When I have that team onboard, my task to them is define the best way to move from Dan Allen Drive across the campus.

Then I will be communicating all of that through all the forums I can, in terms of what that destruction will be.

Chair Kellner: To what extent is this a really high level general sort of thing? We have a bizarre electrical/lighting connection here in the Faculty Senate rooms, in which three rooms are on a single switch and the only way to modulate anything to remove all the bulbs in the top, which we have done in some rooms. It's a very strange situation. Would that be possibly part of this electrical thing or an entirely different matter?

AVC Morton responded that it would not be a part of the electric distribution at all because it's inside the building. If you have a concern for the lighting and how it's set up, put in what we call a facility modification request and we will come out and take a look. If it's too pricey to do it, we might say the bulb idea is pretty good, but if it's something we think we can execute and change it to fit your use of the space, that's something my staff can do. So send me an email and I'll make sure we take a look.

7. Faculty Senate Elections

*Hans Kellner, Chair of the Faculty
Candidates for Chair-Elect of the Faculty*

Chair Kellner recognized Dr. Jade Berry-James, candidate for Chair-Elect of the Faculty, to provide a brief statement of interest and background to the Faculty Senate.

8. 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

9. Adjourn