NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY
Minutes of the Faculty Senate
October 4, 2022
3:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting No. 3 of the 69th Session: Hybrid Meeting   **October 4, 2022**

Present: Herle McGowan, Chair of the Faculty; Maria Collins, Associate Chair of the Faculty; Carolyn Bird, Parliamentarian and Senators Ange-van Heugten, Auerbach, Bernhard, Blessing, Breen, Carrier, DePerno, Edmisten, Friend, Ghosh, Hakovirta, Hergeth, Jacob, Koch, Kuznetsov, Lee, Lunardi, Marchant, Morant, Narayan, Phukan, Reiskind, T. Robinson, W. Robinson, Roland, Stallmann, Taveirne, Tourino, Verhallen, and Zagacki

Absent: Senators Allen, Edwards, and Scalise

Guests: Warwick Arden, Provost; Kim Duckett, Associate Head of Research & Information Services; McKenzy Heavlin, Student Body President; Katie Phillips, Student Senate President Pro Tempore; Adam Schmidt, Vice President of External Affairs, Graduate Student Association; Courtney Simpson, Senior Director of TRIO Collegiate Programs; David Tully, Librarian for Student Success and Affordability

1. **Call to Order and Announcements -** *Herle McGowan, Chair of the Faculty*

   Chair McGowan called the third meeting of the sixty-ninth session of the NC State Faculty Senate to order at 3:00 p.m.

   Chair McGowan made the following announcements:

   ○ The University Open House is on October 15th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This is an opportunity to talk with prospective students about what your discipline and NC State have to offer. Volunteers should contact their DUP or department head.

2. **Approval of the Minutes, Regular Meeting No. 2 of the 69th Session, September 6, 2022 -** *Maria Collins, Associate Chair of the Faculty*

   Associate Chair Collins called for a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting No. 2 of the 69th Session Faculty Senate held on September 6, 2022. A motion was made and properly seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

3. **Chair's Remarks**
   Herle McGowan, Chair of the Faculty

   Chair McGowan started by saying, "There are two important discussions. The first, motivated by early results to your interest survey, addresses student success, which is the number one goal of our

current strategic plan. There are many contributors to student success and resources that support student success on campus; we will hear from representatives of three: University Libraries, a scholarship program, and, most importantly, the students themselves.

Our second discussion about a proposed new regulation allows us to exercise the consultative role of shared governance."

4. **Provost's Remarks and Q&A**
   Warwick Arden, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost

Provost Arden greeted those in attendance and began by providing leadership announcements. A five-year, comprehensive program review for Peter Harries, Dean of the Undergraduate School, will be on Monday, November 14, 2022. All members of the campus community are invited to participate.

NC State has launched its third academy. The Global One Health Academy will build upon university strength in agriculture, plant health, veterinary medicine, domestic animal health and the health of biodiverse ecosystems in human societies. It is one of only a few similar programs in the world. Sid Thakur, a global leader in One Health, has been named executive director of the Global One Health Academy, effective September 1. Thakur is a professor of Molecular Epidemiology in the College of Veterinary Medicine and director of the college's Global Health program.

Finalist search for the director of the Institute of Emerging Issues leadership will be held this fall.

Questions and Discussion

Question: When will faculty be informed on the makeup of the search committee?

Provost Arden: All three of the committee announcements and the makeup of the committee, chair and trustees will be announced soon.

5. **Student Success**
   - Courtney Simpson, TRIO Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program

     Ms. Simpson began by providing background information on the TRIO program. TRIO is a set of federally-funded college opportunity programs that motivate and support students from disadvantaged backgrounds in their pursuit of a college degree. More than 800,000 financially under resourced, first-generation students and students with disabilities–from sixth grade through college graduation– are served by over 3,100 programs nationally. TRIO programs provide academic tutoring, personal counseling, mentoring, financial guidance, and other supports necessary for educational access and retention. TRIO programs provide direct support services for students, and relevant training for directors and staff.

     The purpose of the Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program is to help qualified undergraduate students prepare for admission to doctoral programs and the successful pursuit of PhD degrees. Eligible students must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents who are also first-generation and meet income requirements or be a member of a group traditionally underrepresented in graduate education (African-American, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Hispanic/Latino, or Pacific Islander). The McNair Scholars Program provides

undergraduates with research experiences, GRE preparation sessions, faculty mentoring, professional skills, and assistance with the graduate school application process at no cost to the student. The goal is to increase the attainment of Ph.D. degrees by students from underrepresented segments of society.

Program services included at no additional cost to the participants include:

- Individualized academic and personal support from the McNair Scholars Program Staff
- Experience conducting research
- A paid summer research experience or internship
- Faculty, graduate student, peer mentoring
- GRE preparation
- Opportunities to participate in research conferences and visit graduate schools
- Assistance in locating and applying to graduate schools
- Workshops on the graduate school application process, financial aid, scholarships and fellowships
- Supplemental Tutoring (as needed)

The application deadline is set for October 14, 2022.

Ms. Simpson ended by providing two ways for faculty to get involved:

- Encourage undergraduate students to apply for the program
- Serve as a Faculty Mentor: go.ncsu.edu/mcnairfacultymentor

Question and Discussion

Question: Why aren't Asian American students considered for the program?

Courtney Simpson: Within graduate school education, Asian American students enroll and graduate at higher rates than the other populations that are listed that the Department of Education have deemed as areas where we can spend our focus on. Any student may still qualify if they meet the low income and first generation criteria. Two-thirds of our student population must meet the first generation and low income requirement and one-third could be those students who meet the criteria based on underrepresented in graduate school education based on race. Our figures come from the Department of Education.

Question: Where is the biggest challenge in getting McNair Scholars to complete their Ph.D.?

Courtney Simpson: What we have seen is the lack of funding for programs has played a major role. We've also found challenges with our scholars in the best match for faculty.

- The Student Perspective on Student Success
  McKenzy Heavlin, Student Body President
  Katie Phillips, Student Senate President Pro Tempore
  Adam Schmidt, Vice President of External Affairs, Graduate Student Association

Student representatives of undergraduate shared governance, Katie Phillips and McKenzy Heavlin, spoke on their perspectives on student success and how faculty may better help them. One of the main concerns discussed in the Student Senate is the idea of open access to resources. Constituents believe that there are resources that are made available to the university but are neglected in favor of a paid option. There have been suggestions to consolidate information on platforms like Moodle so that students are not having to look in many different places for information needed to complete their work.

Two larger issues discussed in the Student Senate are the transitions that students and faculty experienced during the pandemic and the use of Panopto and recorded classroom lectures. Students really appreciate the use of technology. Being able to go back and listen to lectures at our own pace, from the professor, is enormously beneficial in the success of students obtaining their degrees. Faculty Senate members are encouraged to use it and to have conversations within your department about what using Panopto effectively for your students looks like, and how are you using it to support the students?

The last issue is that oftentimes faculty can be one of the first steps and line of defenses for students in crises and experiencing crisis, and for getting information on campus resources.

Question and Discussion

Statement: Some resources are very good at one thing only. For example, I use Moodle for the grade book, Piazza for a message board, Google Drive for content and Grade Scope for submitting assignments.

Katie Phillips: It would be helpful if all of the resources are linked in one place that acts as a landing page. For instance, if Moodle could also have an out link to all of the other resources that you are using, it would be very helpful.

Question: I am hearing that students are being charged for some resources. Is this common?

Katie Phillips: Yes, I have paid for Web Assign.

McKenzy Heavlin: I have also had to pay for books with access codes to my homework.

Some of my classes use a free resource called Web Work instead of using the paid version of Web Assign. Many faculty members are not aware that other alternatives exist and that resources exist on campus. The student government has been working on an initiative to get the ulterior costs associated with classes so students will be aware of the costs upfront.

Question: What is the university doing to ensure that faculty are not just reading the UNC directive to lower course costs/textbook costs, but are actively attempting to decrease student costs?

Provost Arden: This has been an active process. Greg Raschke, Senior Vice Provost and Director of Libraries is the best person to provide a comprehensive update on this issue.

Question: I am not familiar with the different platforms, some of which are paid. What is the added functionality of them and is it worth paying? If it's worth paying, should the university be interested in efficiency and pay for it?

McKenzy Heavlin: They have some functionality but there has to be other options that are not paid for.

Provost Arden: These are great questions and great responses by the students. The topic of additional costs, whether it's textbooks or online platforms or otherwise, is something that warrants a standalone discussion.

Adam Schmidt, Graduate Student Association Vice President of External Affairs gave a presentation on specific concerns that graduate students have at NC State University.

The Graduate Student Association (GSA) represents all graduate students at NC State. The GSA is made up of 55 smaller, departmental GSAs and 8 executives that help manage at the University level. The GSA also represents graduate students at the University Level.

Graduate student concerns range from finances, advising, and work-life balance. The biggest concern is trying to survive on graduate student stipends. Another concern is the advisor and advisee power dynamic. You really depend on your advisor for many things. You expect this person to be a mentor. They are your supervisor. They're your manager, and then to a large degree, they also decide when you are ready to graduate. In this relationship, the faculty member has almost all of the power.
Other issues include unclear expectations and graduation timelines, navigating university power structures, declaring NC residency and social isolation and support system.

Resources that support graduate student success are money; graduate students are paid very little. Setting clear expectations is another way to support graduate student success: What do I have to do to graduate? What do you think is an achievable timeline for that? How are you going to measure that? How often will we check in?

Specific ways faculty can make a difference are to use purchase cards to pre-pay for a conference registration or a flight; create a statement of mutual expectations; discuss graduation timelines and milestones; be a good manager and mentor; know your campus resources.

GSA supports student success by advocating for and representing graduate students. The GSA has played a big role in having the Graduate School develop a database of graduate student stipends. The GSA also provides funding for travel, GSAs and poster competitions.

Questions and Discussion

Statement: I've paid my student fees for the last 20 years.

Adam Schmidt: I don't know to what degree a lot of faculty do that or how allowable that is, depending on where your research money comes from.

Provost Arden: There is a lot of difference between departments and even within departments on whether or not to pick up student fees. We are not allowed to pay student fees with Federal funds. Some departments have the resources to increase graduate student stipends to cover the cost of student fees.

Question: There seems to be a housing issue among graduate students. Is this an issue that GSA is aware of?

Adam Schmidt: Rent in Raleigh has increased dramatically the past few years, but they are feeling the pinch now more than ever. There are housing options available for graduate students through university housing but those are limited and don't really serve the need for all of our students.

- ○ University Libraries Resources to Support Student Success
  Kim Duckett, Head of Research Engagement
  David Tully, Librarian for Student Success and Affordability

Kim Duckett and David Tully gave a presentation focused on the ways the Libraries focus on student success. There is a range of support for students: teaching & learning, access to course materials, outreach & campus partnerships, scholarships, and student community engagement.

The Libraries Instruction Program partners with faculty to integrate instruction into courses and offers workshops for campus programs. Course-integrated instruction assists users with finding and accessing information, data and visualization, archival research and specialized technologies software.

Teaching and partnership opportunities with campus groups include:
- Office of Undergraduate Research
- Graduate School - Engineering Cafes
- Women and Minority Engineering Program

The Libraries partners with the Bookstores and offers textbook lending to students, providing at least one print copy of every required textbook and ebook access to many others.
The Libraries invests heavily in technology lending. Device checkouts vary according to type with longer checkout periods available upon request.

The Libraries have access to open educational resources and librarians can partner with faculty members on licensing resources, using digital repositories, and creating and publishing their own open educational

resources. The Libraries also provides grants every year with support from Delta. Libraries assist faculty members who are interested in exploring alternatives to textbooks by providing a minimum of $2500 to support the project.

In 2019 the Personal Librarian Program was introduced. All incoming students are auto-enrolled into the Personal Librarian Program. The program offers guidance and information on how to access and make the best use of the vast array of resources and services available at the Libraries.

Since 2020 the Libraries has partnered with Colleges to provide additional support to needs-based scholarships. Additional support includes paying for textbooks and access codes, year-long laptop loans, and additional enrichment opportunities.

Chair McGowan made a motion to extend the meeting. A motion was made and seconded. The motion was approved.

6. **Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace Regulation**
    Timothy J. Danielson, Associate Vice Chancellor for NC State Human Resources

    Timothy Danielson introduced the Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace Regulation. He reviewed key points to the Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace Regulation. Faculty senators were given a chance to provide consultation and feedback on the regulation that is being developed.

7. **Old and New Business**
    - ○ Exam modality
    - ○ Agenda input survey

    Chair McGowan moved to address old and new business at the October 18th Faculty Senate Meeting.

8. **Issues of Concern (IOCs)**
    Faculty Issues of Concern can be submitted at any time to a senator or to the Office of the Faculty Senate via email Faculty_Senate@ncsu.edu.

9. **Adjourn**

    Chair McGowan adjourned the meeting at 5:21 p.m.