

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY
Minutes of the Faculty Senate
January 24, 2023
3:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting No. 9 of the 69th Session

Hybrid Meeting

January 24, 2023

Present: Chair McGowan; Associate Chair Collins; Parliamentarian Bird; Senators Ange-van Heugten, Bernhard, Blessing, Breen, Carrier, DePerno, Edmisten, Ghosh, Koch, Kuznetsov, Lee, Lunardi, Morant, Phukan, Reiskind, T. Robinson, W. Robinson, Stallmann, Taveirne, Tourino, Verhallen and Zagacki

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

Chair McGowan called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Chair McGowan made the following announcements:

- The Sisterhood Dinner is Monday, February 27 in the Talley Ballroom. Both full tables and individual seats are still available for purchase; the deadline is Friday, January 27, 2023 or until they are sold out.
- This is Data Privacy Week. Related events will take place throughout the week, with a keynote presentation on Friday discussing “Transparency in Smart Devices.”
- Additional information on the Sisterhood Dinner and Data Privacy Week can be found on the 2nd page of the agenda.

2. Approval of the Minutes, Regular Meeting No. 8 of the 69th Session, January 10, 2023 - Maria Collins, Associate Chair of the Faculty

Associate Chair Collins called for a motion to approve the minutes for the eighth meeting of the 69th session of NC State Faculty Senate. A motion and second were made and the minutes were approved.

3. Chair’s Remarks - Herle McGowan, Chair of the Faculty

In her remarks to the ninth meeting of the 69th session of the Faculty Senate, Chair McGowan stated, “Today we will revisit the resolution calling for an Official NC State University Land Acknowledgement Statement. We are joined by several guests who can address many of the questions and concerns you had after the first reading last semester. We will also have the opportunity to discuss changes in the wording to the resolution itself.”

Chair McGowan went on to share the changes to the UNC System Policy Manual. She shared that, “Last week, the BOG subcommittee on University Governance passed revisions to the section on “Political Activities of Employees” that directly affect the hiring and promotion

processes for faculty and staff, as well as the application process for students. These revisions will likely be adopted on February 23, as they are on the Consent Agenda full BOG meeting. To the best of my knowledge, wide-spread feedback from faculty across the system was not sought prior to the vote on these revisions; however we have some opportunity to provide feedback now. An email will be sent to you with the changes in redline and with an FAQ document that has been provided by the System Office. I encourage you to read these and send me any feedback or questions you have. Since this change would affect the entire system, I am working with the Faculty Assembly to gather additional information, which your questions will inform.”

4. Provost’s Remarks and Q&A - Warwick Arden, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost

Provost Arden reminded everyone that the University Standing Committee Preference Survey is available online now through January 30, 2023.

Provost Arden provided the following leadership updates. The first round of campus interviews will be selected this week for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and College of Engineering searches. Candidate selection will begin on January 30th for the College of Sciences search. The search for the Vice Provost for Global Engagement will kick off soon.

Provost Arden shared that the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures is changing its name to the Department of World Languages and Cultures; this follows a trend that many departments of the UNC System and across the country are doing. Provost Arden stated, “The new name reflects the inclusivity that NC State promotes and shares and more accurately reflects the focus and teaching of the department.”

The Department of Music merged with the dance faculty and are changing their name to the Department of Performance, Arts and Technology, which acknowledges the new curricular pathways that have been added, such as the B.S. in music technology.

Lastly, Provost Arden shared that the Office of the Provost and the Office of Faculty Excellence have been updated. If you notice an error, contact provost-communications@ncsu.edu.

Question and Discussion

Question: In regards to the UNC Systems Policy Manual changes, to what extent will they constrain questions that are asked of the dean's candidates in their interviews?

Provost Arden: The language of the change is designed so that a candidate should not be judged on the basis of their current political and social views. It is designed to protect free speech and faculty rights. At this point, the final version is unknown as are the guidelines for implementation.

Question: I am currently on one of the committees, should I still complete the Faculty Committee Preference Survey?

Katharine Stewart: Yes. The office keeps track of how many years each faculty member expresses interest in a particular committee; we try to give preference to faculty who have consistently expressed the desire to serve on a particular committee.

5. Land Acknowledgement Statement - *Brian Peters, Chair of the American Indian Advisory Council; Gavin Bell, Assistant Director of Multicultural Student Affairs; Honiah Locklear, President of the Native American Student Association; McKenzie Cummings, President of the American Indian Science & Engineering Society*

Chair McGowan introduced the guest speakers. Mr. Peters, Mr. Bell, Ms. Locklear, and Ms. Cummings led a discussion about the history of the Land Acknowledgement Statement and the hopes for what a unified land acknowledgement statement would accomplish going forward.

Mr. Peters stated that the American Indian Advisory Council's goal for the last four years has been to have a university-wide land acknowledgement for the University. This became more important as several colleges posted acknowledgements on their websites. The Council made a point to rectify historical inaccuracies in order to connect with indigenous communities within the state. In 2020-2021, the Council created a sub committee that engaged in extensive research on the land acknowledgements developed at peer institutions and UNC System colleagues.

In Fall 2021, the Council worked with University Communications to draft messages to State tribes to inform them of what the Council was working on and to get their feedback. In 2022, the Student Government Association passed their resolution that then sparked further conversations for the Council to move forward, adopting much of the student's wording.

Speaking on behalf of the Native American Student Association, Ms. Locklear remarked that, "One big thing that we wanted to accomplish with the land acknowledgement statement was using this foundation for things to come, so when it says 'increase space and create space', that can mean support for scholarships, housing, or increasing the amount of housing available to native students on campus." She went on to say that NASA supports the land acknowledgement statement because it will act as the foundation for when native students need resources from the university.

Mr. Bell added that, "Student well-being and supporting and encouraging is crucial to the wording that is presented in the land acknowledgement. I also want to use this as a strategy point for deeper rapport with native communities. Many students from these communities are coming from agricultural backgrounds. Architecture is also very popular in these communities. A lot of students desire to come to NC State, but a lot of that is contingent on the cultural and the communal dynamics that NC State has with these populations."

Ms. Cummings shared with the group that the land acknowledgement statement is not for the university to feel better. She stated, "This is for the native students that are represented on

this campus to feel better. It's for us to feel included, to feel heard, and have something that is not only an acknowledgement, but goes far beyond that.”

6. Old and New Business

- a. Resolution: Call for an Official NC State University Land Acknowledgement Statement

Chair McGowan reviewed the wording changes of the Official NC State University Land Acknowledgement Statement. The Faculty Senate membership voted to delay the second reading of the resolution. The vote was unanimous.

- b. Proposed Amendments to Faculty Senate Bylaws

A motion was made and seconded to accept the proposed changes to the amendments:

“If both the newly ascended Chair (the previous Associate Chair) and the newly elected Chair-Elect of the Faculty agree, the Chair-Elect may assume the office of the Chair prior to July 1, complete the current term and commence their standard two-year term on July 1. When the Chair-Elect assumes the role of Chair of the Faculty, the previous Associate Chair will return to their role as Associate Chair to complete their term.”

The vote passed unanimously; 18 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

7. 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 at Faculty_Senate@ncsu.edu

8. Adjourn

Chair McGowan adjourned the meeting at 4:53 p.m.