

NC STATE UNIVERSITY
Spring 2025 General Faculty Meeting
March 4, 2025 at 3:00 PM
Talley Student Union, RM 3285

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

Chair of the Faculty, Herle McGowan, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. McGowan reminded faculty working at least three-quarter time are eligible to stand for election to the Faculty Senate. Although the official deadline for submitting names and biographical statements passed yesterday, several colleges still lack enough candidates to fill their allotted seats. She urged colleagues from those departments to consider running themselves or to encourage peers who could represent their college's interests. All nominations and biographies must be forwarded to the Faculty Senate office by tomorrow: bios are due by noon, and the full slate of names by 5:00 p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes, Fall General Faculty Meeting - October 1, 2024 - Christopher DePerno, Associate Chair of the Faculty

In the absence of the Associate Chair, McGowan called for a motion to approve the minutes of the fall General Faculty meeting held on October 1, 2024. A motion and second were made and the minutes were approved.

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

McGowan reflected on the positive feedback from last month's student-faculty mixer, crediting the Networking Committee for its organization, and announced that nominations are open for the Distinguished Teaching Award through October 31. McGowan also highlighted progress on the GOCORE initiative to foster greater engagement in Senate deliberations, reminding senators that the goal is a full, interactive discussion rather than presentation-only reports and encouraged everyone to participate in an upcoming workshop on effective meeting norms.

4. Chancellor's Remarks and Q&A - Randy Woodson, Chancellor

Chancellor Woodson delivered his remarks, celebrating the university's recently completed Centennial Campaign which raised \$2.1 billion, allocating \$450 million to student scholarships and \$320 million to faculty research endowments. He announced that fall enrollment has surpassed 36,000 students with a record-high 92 percent retention rate, and previewed the groundbreaking of the new STEM Learning Center in February. Turning to statewide partnerships, Woodson described ongoing discussions with regional community colleges to establish transfer-pathway programs in renewable energy technology.

During the Q&A that followed, a faculty member asked how the Chancellor plans to sustain scholarship funding amid projected state budget constraints. Woodson replied that the Office of Advancement is pursuing corporate partnerships, citing a forthcoming collaboration with a Raleigh-based biotech firm that will endow thirty new fellowships, and that contingency plans include reallocating unused funds from capital projects. When another attendee inquired about expanding mental-health services, he noted a pilot program launching next semester that embeds licensed counselors in each college's student-success office.

5. Provost's Remarks and Q&A - Warwick Arden, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost

Provost Arden addressed the assembly, reporting that research expenditures reached an all-time high of \$965 million, driven by new grants in data-science ethics and sustainable agriculture. He announced the approval of twelve new tenure-track positions across five colleges, to be filled by fall 2026, and reviewed enhancements to the Wolfpack Core curriculum, specifically the introduction of a data-analytics module and a global-citizenship seminar. Arden also unveiled the formation of a centralized Digital Learning Support unit within DELTA to partner with faculty on instructional design and student-engagement metrics.

In the ensuing Q&A, a senator asked how workload allocations will be adjusted to account for the extra time required to redesign courses for hybrid delivery. Arden responded that a task group is drafting revised guidelines for teaching-release credits and anticipates sharing a proposal for faculty review in January. Another question concerned the timeline for feedback on the new core-curriculum outcomes; Arden confirmed that departments will receive detailed draft outcomes by November 15, with a two-week window for input before the Provost's Office finalizes the framework.

6. Reflections & Future Horizons: A Candid Conversation with Chancellor Woodson

Woodson opened by reflecting on his early days as a faculty member, stressing the enduring importance of NC State's land-grant mission to advance educational access and community impact. Arden connected those reflections to current priorities, noting how new interdisciplinary centers in social innovation and clean energy embody that mission.

Attendees posed questions about community outreach and long-term strategic planning. One professor asked what metrics the administration will use to measure the success of outreach programs in rural counties. Woodson explained that the university has partnered with the State Center for Rural Partnerships and will track indicators such as course-enrollment growth, grant funding secured for community projects, and student internship placements. Another participant asked how NC State can attract and retain diverse faculty talent. Arden highlighted the launch of a new cluster-hire initiative tied to equity and inclusion, which will offer relocation packages and mentorship cohorts aimed at increasing retention.

As the dialogue concluded, both leaders expressed gratitude for the faculty's insights and affirmed their commitment to transparent, collaborative governance.

7. Old and New Business

No items were brought forward for discussion.

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 [online](#) or via email at Faculty_Senate@ncsu.edu.

9. Adjourn

Chair McGowan adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m.