

Faculty Assembly Report
September 21, 2012
Chapel Hill, NC

The assembly was welcomed by Chairperson Catherine Rigsby (ECU), and she introduced President Tom Ross and Chairman of the Board of Governors (BOG) Peter Hans to address the strategic planning process currently underway by the BOG.

President Ross identified five key strategies he believes need addressing over the next five years:

Look at what is the need in NC for degree attainment

Target 35% of citizens with college degrees by 2018

Additional AA degrees (goal likely about 60% total degrees with AA included)

Work to increase retention and graduation rates

Enhancing Academic Quality

Efficiency

Sharing services like residency determination and financial aid processing

Mission to Serve People of NC

Economic development, community service, health care

How are we going to finance higher education?

Student loan debt and keeping tuition low

Assessment of program quality and reviews

Operational efficiency

Health care and utilities

What are the metrics by which we are judged

What are the needs in the employment sector?

Budget is more stable than it was two years ago, but there are still significant issues

2B unemployment payments to Fed

4-5B in delayed maintenance

Medicaid (already running a hole this year)

Not going to be an immediate bounceback

Likely 60% of legislature will be first or second termers with a new governor as well, many of them will not have been through the budget process more than once-we will need to educate these people about what the system means and how it works

Chairman Hans gave a basic explanation of the strategic planning process:

Required to undergo strategic planning every five years and UNC tomorrow was a very useful and inclusive process carried out in the last cycle.

Objective here is to renew support from business and political structure in the state for the system.

Budget issues have required reprioritization

Political establishment had previous leaders that backed education as backbone
of state development

Will be continued downward pressure on the federal funds

State budget will hopefully be stable but will be dealing with increasing demands
Have invited some of these leaders to be involved in the process
Hope and expectation that we will be rewarded
Education is about more than developing job skills, it's about total experience

Process starts with President Ross and goes from there to working group: Chancellors, GA Staff, BOG representatives, etc. and then on to a broader steering committee (30 or so members with broad representation) and should be completed by January 2012.

Suzanne Ortega, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs updated the FA about Academics First (unified standards across system such as academic progress and standing levels, minimum admission standards and census days). She and her staff are exploring how to assess economic development and community engagement with a uniform faculty accomplishment system that crosswalks across campus/system.

Committee reports from standing committees and three new subcommittees (created by Catherine Rigsby and chaired by members of the Executive Committee) to the Academic Standards and Policies Committee.

Academic Standards and Policies-Student Success

How do we assess academic quality across the system and couple it to the performance funding model?

Academic Standards and Policies-Articulation Issues

Early discussion on community college to UNC transfers
Future will include online modes like the UNC Language Academy

Academic Standards and Policies-International

Assuring rigor and positive outcomes-best practices

Faculty Welfare

Considering Benefits in a broader sense

Governance-David Green

Separate individual appeals from campus wide processes
Request President Ross affirm his support of shared governance
Resolution on shared governance (see below)

HMI committee

Moved that Governance draft resolution on Assessing Shared Governance by the administration on each campus. Passed.
Discussion of utility of SAT and numbers of admit by exceptions being too low in Academics First.

Budget Committee

Examining effect of budget cuts relative to the academic core white paper from last year.

The Faculty Assembly passed three resolutions (included below).

For more information and details see:

<http://www.northcarolina.edu/facultyassembly/index.htm>

For the BOG strategic planning website see:

https://www.northcarolina.edu/strategic_direction/meetings/index.php

UNC Strategic Plan Input

Submitted by the UNC Faculty Assembly

September 21, 2012

WHEREAS

The UNC System is initiating strategic planning process for 2013-18 to set current and future priorities, resource planning and allocation, program planning, review and refinement of academic missions reflecting the University's deep commitment to help North Carolina respond to changing state needs and economic challenges, and

WHEREAS the Faculty of the UNC system have responsibility for developing, delivering, and assessing the curriculum, and

WHEREAS the Faculty develop, pursue, and publish original research expanding the knowledge foundation on which our future depends, and

WHEREAS the Faculty advise, mentor, and engage students in the activities that lead directly to their future occupations and improve their quality of life, and

WHEREAS all these components contribute immensely to both current job creation and our citizens' preparedness for the future, and

WHEREAS the Charter of the Faculty Assembly provides "The Assembly shall, through appropriate channels, advise the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina, the General Assembly, and other governmental agencies and officers on matters of University-wide importance, and The Assembly shall advise and communicate with the President of the University of North Carolina with regard to the interests of the faculties and other matters of university-wide importance."

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty be informed of strategic planning activities and a mechanism be created to solicit input at the campus level throughout the process so as to achieve effective outcomes and the strong faculty buy-in, and

RESOLVED that in order to define and support measures that advance the quality of the University system representatives of the Faculty Assembly be informed during the strategic planning process, and that the President of the University, in collaboration with the Chair of the Faculty Assembly, create a faculty group to interact and collaborate with the Business/Political community advisory committee for the University's strategic planning.

Affirmation of Shared Governance

Submitted by the UNC Faculty Assembly

September 21, 2012

RESOLVED that President Ross affirm his support for the principles of shared governance adopted by the faculty assembly in April 2005 and that his affirmation be conveyed to the Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer at each campus.

2012-01

Resolution on Policy Changes Related to Academics First

Approved by the UNC Faculty Assembly

September 21, 2012

Whereas:

- The “Academics First work group” was tasked with advancing the work initiated by the UNC Faculty Assembly
- The goal of “Academics First” is to enhance access, excellence, and timely undergraduate degree completion
- Changes to minimum admission requirement language (BOG Policy 700.1.1 and BOG Regulation 700.1.1.(R)) was intended to promote access while maintaining success
- A system wide minimum standard for Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and Good Academic Standing supports “Academics First”
- A system wide commitment to a minimum standard on core academic processes, such as drop/add, course repeat, grade replacement and withdrawal supports “Academics First”

Therefore be it resolved that:

The Faculty Assembly supports both the June 2012 Report of the Academics First Working Group, and the proposed changes to UNC Policy Manual Sections 400.1.5 (Improving Retention and Graduation Rates) and 700.1.1 and the related regulations (400.1.5(R) and 700.1.1(R)).