

MEMORANDUM

TO: UNC Faculty Assembly Delegates
FROM: Judith Wegner, Chair
RE: Nominations for officers and executive committee
DATE: March 26, 2009

Nomination Process

As you know, we talked about the election process during the January 2009 meeting of the Assembly. In e-mails about the March meeting we also invited delegates to volunteer or to nominate others to run for office or election to the Faculty Assembly Executive Committee. We understand that all of us have been running non-stop with campus obligations and worries about budget cuts that will affect our ability to do our jobs in the coming year. I'd like to use this opportunity to thank the nominating committee for their efforts on our behalf (Jeff Passe, UNCC, Ken Wilson, ECU, Subash Shah, WSSU, George Wilson, NCCU, Nina Allen, NCSU).

Our bylaws call for us to have two nominees for each position. Unfortunately, we have not been able to identify two candidates for each position, but are happy to report that we have been able to pull together a slate that includes a candidate for each position and an open slot to be elected at large for the Executive Committee so there's a place for a candidate who is inspired at the last minute. We have nominated every individual who nominated themselves or where nominated by others, and we feel that we have a good slate. We also approached some additional candidates who felt they needed to decline. We will take nominations from the floor if offered, but have tried to get things organized as best we can ahead of time given the challenges associated with running a meeting that includes some people who will be together in person in Raleigh and others who will be attending virtually. For anyone who would like to be considered and hasn't said so yet, we would greatly appreciate your contacting Judith (Judith_wegner@unc.edu) as soon as possible so we can revise the draft ballot included at the end of this memorandum.

Election Protocol

Our bylaws require secret ballots and, thanks to Subash Shah's suggestion, we have an idea of how to proceed on that front without slowing things down too much. We will use written secret ballots with those attending in person in Chapel Hill and Kelley Gregory will tally votes. For those attending via video, we will ask the senior member of each delegation to collect the ballots, count them, and report results in to Kelley Gregory (kelle yg@northcarolina.edu) immediately after the meeting. We can only count ballots of those assembled in person or at videoconference sites since there is no voting by proxy, and voting is limited to those in attendance. Since we may well have many unopposed candidates, this system should be reasonably expeditious and fair.

Candidates for Officer Positions

Chair: Judith Wegner has one more year on a two-year term

Candidate for Chair-Elect: Sandie Gravett (ASU): Statement

I have served on the Faculty Assembly for four years. During that time, I have chaired the E-Learning Task Force, chaired the Budget Committee, served on the Executive Committee, been a member of the Faculty Development Committee, ex-officio on the Governance Committee, and am Parliamentarian. I also chaired the Budget Committee of Appalachian's Faculty Senate and demonstrated my strong commitment to faculty governance by chairing the AAUP. This wide range of experience prepared me to face the challenges of the current environment. I understand the institutional structures of universities and their policies and procedures and know the importance of respecting faculty voice in planning, decision making, and implementation. My work with electronic learning positions me well to communicate knowledgeably on UNC Tomorrow plans for new program development using these tools. And I know the budget process for the state better than anyone not doing it professionally should! The chair of the Faculty Assembly needs to be tireless, a quick study, and an effective organizer and communicator. Moreover, this person must be able to provide avenues for faculty process in regard to key issues and offer both initiatives and response to the office of the President, the Board of Governors, and the Chief Academic Officers among others. I am a person who thrives on challenge, appreciates learning the intricacies of institutions, and organizes clear courses of action. In addition to my Ph.D. in Religion, I also hold a certificate in Non-Profit Management from UNCG. This work honed my skills in planning, creatively meeting demands, and generating effective organizational structure. I believe the faculty must assume a position of leadership as we confront today's pressing issues and I stand prepared to be a part of an effective team effort.

Candidate for Vice Chair: Catherine A. Rigsby (ECU): Statement

I am a professor of sedimentology in ECU's Department of Geological Sciences and have been a participant in since I came to ECU in 1993. As a past VC and past Chair of the Faculty and as current President of the ECU-AAUP I have been a part of major initiatives on ECU's campus and have witnessed the benefits of faculty involvement in university governance. I have served on most academic (and administrative) committees on my campus – Chancellor's Cabinet, Governance Committee, SACS Steering Committee, etc. During my tenure as ECU's Chair of the Faculty I oversaw the revision of the General Education program; worked with faculty and administration to develop a new Serious Injury and Disability Policy; spearheaded the creation of a new University Environment Committee; and I worked to insure transparency in administrative hiring and to revise the tenure, promotion, and faculty evaluation sections of our Faculty Manual. Since then, I have continued to work with my campus's Faculty Governance Committee as we strive for faculty involvement in administrative reviews, for improved conditions for fixed-term faculty, and for improved policies for joint appoints. Now, unfortunately (hopefully temporarily), these issues are overshadowed by budget woes. As a Faculty Assembly delegate, I have served on the Budget, the Policies and Planning, the Executive, and the Governance committees. I seek the position of Vice Chair because I want to work on system-level issues of shared governance. I am especially concerned that faculty stay meaningfully involved in the academic program development and assessment process; that FA committees work more closely with GA and are proactive in policy development; that the academic integrity of our institutions and the quality of our students' educations do not suffer under the desire for "efficiency and nimbleness"; and that faculty be fully involved in our campuses' budget cutting process.

Candidate for Vice Chair for Communications: Chet Dilday (FSU)

Dr. Chester Dilday received his BA, MSW, and PhD in Social Work from The Ohio State University in Columbus Ohio. His dissertation title was “Developing Reflective Social Policy Decision Making Through Computer Simulation”. He worked for seven years as the Research Coordinator at Family Counseling and Crittenton Services in Columbus, Ohio. He served for 14 years as Director of the Social Work Program and Chair of Social Work Department at Chadron State College in Chadron, Nebraska. He was also Social Work Practicum Coordinator there for two years. Dilday led the CSC Social Work Program through initial accreditation, reaffirmation, and approval of an Alternative Program based on distance learning with the CSWE (Council on Social Work Education). He is a member of the National Association of Social Workers, the Council on Social Work Education, the Baccalaureate Program Directors, and serves on BPD’s Technology Committee. Dilday’s research interest includes investigating uses of technology in social work education and practice such as computer simulations and digital video. He also has an interest in the recruitment and retention of Native American students in social work education.

Secretary: Suzanne Weiner (NCSU)

Suzanne Weiner is the NCSU Libraries' associate vice provost for library advancement on September 11, 2006. Weiner also serves in the key role of head of Collection Management. She holds an M.L.S. and a B.A. in environmental studies from the State University of New York at Buffalo. With a strong record of university service, Weiner was elected secretary of the faculty between 2003 and 2005. She serves on the Council of Athletics and represents NCSU on the UNC Faculty Assembly. Together with co-author Honora Nerz, their paper "Information Competencies: A Strategic Approach" received recognition as Best Overall Paper at the 2001 Proceedings of the American Society for Engineering Education Annual Conference. In 2005 Weiner was named a UCLA Senior Fellow.

Parliamentarian (Appointed by the Chair)

Candidates for Faculty Assembly Executive Committee

Campuses with Five Delegates: (ECU, NCSU, UNC-C, UNC-CH, UNC-G)

Roy Schwartzman (UNC-G) (faculty senate chair at prior university; continuing delegate to Faculty Assembly)

Campuses with Four Delegates: (ASU, NCA&T, UNC-W)

Raymond Burt (UNC-W) (former Faculty Senate Chair at UNCW; has served this past year on FAEC; is continuing delegate)

Campuses with Three Delegates: (FSU, NCCU, UNC-P, WCU, WSSU)

Richard Beam (WCU) (Faculty Senate Chair at WCU; in third year as FA delegate)

Campuses with Two Delegates: (ECSU, NCSA, NCSSM, UNC-A)

Pending

At Large (two positions)

Jim Martin (NCSU) (former Faculty Senate Chair at NCSU; has served this past year on FAEC; is continuing delegate)

One additional position: TBA (ideally from one of our historically minority institutions)

