

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
2020-2021 Faculty Governance Committee

The next meeting of the 2020-2021 Faculty Governance Committee will be held on **Wednesday, Sept. 9**, at 3:00pm via video conference. (Most if not all meetings are expected to be on video conference due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Three days before today's meeting, outbreaks of the virus forced all undergraduate classes to move online for the remainder of fall 2020.)

MINUTES OF MEETING DATE: Aug. 26, 2020

PRESIDING: Purificación Martínez (chair of the faculty), Jeff Popke (upon election as chair of the committee)

REGULAR MEMBERS (X IN ATTENDANCE):

Tracy Carpenter-Aeby __, Stacey Altman X , Michael Duffy X , Edwin Gomez X , Jay Newhard X , Jeff Popke X , Anne Ticknor X , David Wilson-Okamura X

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS (X IN ATTENDANCE):

Crystal Chambers, Rep. of Chancellor X ; Grant Hayes, Acting Provost / VCAA X ;
Purificación Martínez, Chair of the Faculty X ;
Aundrea Oliver, Rep of Faculty Senate X ; Mark Stacy, VCHS __;
Mike Van Scott, Interim VCREDE __

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Rachel Baker; Linda Ingalls for Office of the Provost; Lisa Hudson, Associate VCHS and Human Resources Administration Director.

I. Call to Order, 3:00 pm.

II. Introduction, Charge, Elections

- A. Martínez introduced the members, reviewed the committee's charge, and presided over election of a chair.
- B. Popke was elected chair and presided over election of the remaining officers. Duffy was elected vice-chair and Wilson-Okamura secretary.
- C. Martínez reminded the committee that it can change its meeting time if necessary.
- D. Baker showed members where to find committee materials on the Faculty Senate website.
 1. Chambers suggested migration of all materials from SharePoint to the Teams platform.

III. New Business

A. Martínez requested advice on the appointment process for unpaid adjunct faculty.

1. Background

- a. This summer Academic Affairs informed the faculty officers that appointment of adjunct faculty would no longer require a memo from the appointing unit's personnel committee. Wendy Sergeant, Assistant VC for Personnel and Resource Administration in Academic Affairs, explained that personnel memos were unnecessary because adjuncts are non-salaried.
- b. The faculty officers, in consultation with recent faculty chairs Popke and John Stiller, disagreed, noting that many adjuncts end up teaching, in which case a personnel memo would be required anyway.

2. What is the best way to address this issue?

- a. Gomez noted: even part-time hires require a personnel committee memo.
- b. Chambers suggested editing the Faculty Manual (FM), under Criteria for Initial Appointment and Reappointment.
- c. Ingalls reminded the committee that changes to FM, Part IX require approval from the trustees and UNC system office. Part VIII, which mentions adjuncts under Titles, does not. An official interpretation could address the issue even quicker.
 - 1) Martínez recalled: interpretations have usually come from this committee for approval by the senate.
- d. Chambers argued: this is a larger issue; we should clarify that a personnel memo is necessary for all faculty appointments.
 - 2) Wilson-Okamura, Hudson, and Popke agreed: conferral of faculty status by the faculty is a cornerstone of shared governance.
 - 3) At Popke's suggestion, Chambers will suggest new language at FM VIII.1.b for discussion at the next meeting. Wilson-Okamura will consult as needed.

B. Agenda for the next meeting?

1. Last year's committee made two recommendations that need more work. Baker has prepared folders summarizing each issue.

- a. The committee's recommendations for the "Resolving Allegations of Discrimination" regulation, passed by the senate last spring, were approved by interim chancellor Ron Mitchelson pending this committee's approval of additional changes recommended by the University Counsel's office. Some of these changes were not editorial and warrant further discussion before recommending them to the senate for its approval.
- b. Revisions that the committee recommended for the questions about gender identity in the annual survey about administrators were

rejected in the senate. The committee should seek advice and revise again.

2. Wilson-Okamura requested discussion of the interim chancellor's decision, announced in the last week of the spring semester, to institute block scheduling for 2020–21. The interim chancellor's announced purpose was to make courses more flexible, should there be a second wave of coronavirus in the fall, but the decision seems to have been taken without input from the senate's calendar committee or the faculty .
 - a. Popke, who was chair of the faculty at the time, confirmed this account but queried the urgency: what is to be done now?
 - b. Wilson-Okamura: the academic calendar conditions the methods and content of teaching. Under shared governance, those two things are supposed to be under faculty purview. If we don't discuss this issue in the Faculty Governance committee, where will it be discussed?
3. At its next meeting the committee agreed to seek expertise on the gender questions and to discuss the issue of shared governance and the academic calendar.

IV. Adjourned at 4:10.

Respectfully submitted, David Wilson-Okamura.