

# Faculty Senate

## Minutes

1/18/2017 3:00 pm

### ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

#### ROLL CALL

##### Present:

Bob Beaudet, Rus Binkley, Catherine Carter, Mae Claxton, Robert Crow, David Dorondo, Ian Hewer, Kae Livsey, Frank Lockwood, Andrew Mannion, David McCord, Erin McNelis, Niall Michelsen, Alison Morrison-Shetlar, Mack Powell, Brian Railsback, Bill Richmond, Damon Sink, Liz Skene, Katerina Spasovska, Jamie Vaske, Bill Yang

##### Members with Proxies:

Patricia Bricker, Dan Clapper, Beth Huber, Robert Steffen, Wes Stone, Zsolt Szabo, Cheryl Waters-Tormey, Tonya Westbrook

##### Members Absent:

David Belcher, Alex Sargsyan

### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes for November 17, 2016 regular business meeting: discussion points and links were added to the draft minutes. Amended minutes were presented. Passed.

Approval of the minutes for December 1, 2016 overflow business meeting: links were added, no change in content. Passed.

**Bill Yang gave a quick introduction of Liz Skene as the interim Faculty Senate Secretary in David Henderson's absence.**

### EXTERNAL REPORTS

#### Provost Report/Alison Morrison-Shetlar:

*The Provost report was posted on SharePoint for review prior to the meeting.*

#### Summer Session Listening Tour

Notes below are a collection of thoughts and concerns expressed by faculty, department heads, and associate deans and administrative staff related to the impact of NC Promise and strategies to ensure the viability of summer session going forward.

The Office of the Provost along with Faculty Senate Chair, Dr. Bill Yang hosted three meetings with faculty and staff across campus to discuss Summer Session. Below are notes from those meetings.

A session is scheduled to be hosted at Biltmore Park in the near future.

<b>Suggestions for Increasing Summer Revenue</b>	<b>Discussion Points</b>
Increasing section size and minimum enrollment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased student/teacher ratio; low ratio a benefit of our institution.</li> <li>• Not possible for some courses.</li> <li>• Increasing instructional burden without increasing faculty compensation would be problematic.</li> </ul>
Employing more adjuncts/lecturers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less salary burden than tenured, tenure-track and fixed term faculty.</li> <li>• Not possible for some courses/in some situations.</li> <li>• Summer Session pay is vital for lecturers and others making very low salaries. Many rely on this income to round-out regular salaries.</li> <li>• Several AD's and DH's report offering summer instruction to these faculty classifications first and only offering to tenured/tenure track faculty after others have declined.</li> </ul>
Cease sharing revenue with the colleges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Departments depend on that funding for student activities, faculty travel, supplies, equipment, and other costs not fully covered by state budgets.</li> </ul>
Pay faculty on a per-student basis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incentivizes faculty to recruit students.</li> <li>• Potentially complex from a compensation standpoint.</li> </ul>
Increase academic camps, programming for area youth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attempting to debut a Cherokee summer session program, increase ASP, Catamount Gap, and Learning Community offerings.</li> <li>• NC Gap may eradicate the Academic Success Program. (207 students in 2016). Legislation currently "on hold."</li> <li>• Adding subject or major-specific learning community cohorts.</li> <li>• Minors on campus are significantly more expensive (payment for chaperones and live-in supervisors). However, much of that cost can be passed on to the student (parent).</li> <li>• Minors on campus are a considerable liability.</li> </ul>
Remove permanent salaries from Summer Session fund.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colleges are already making significant strides in this effort.</li> <li>• Staff salaries are being realigned as possible; it is a high priority on both the divisional and university levels.</li> </ul>

<b>Suggestions for Maintaining/Increasing Summer Enrollment</b>	<b>Discussion Points</b>
Market summer courses to all UNC students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mountains/geography is attractive to students.</li> <li>• We can offer unique experiences.</li> </ul>
Lower student cost by decreasing fees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fees do not factor into revenue sharing or salary funding.</li> <li>• WCU sets its own summer tuition and fees.</li> <li>• Some fees cannot be changed (debt service, etc.).</li> <li>• Faculty Senate would like to ask fee-collecting offices to provide justification for the amount of their charges.</li> </ul>

<p>Lower tuition cost.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WCU can set its own summer tuition rate.</li> <li>• Will decrease the amount of sharable revenue.</li> <li>• Will necessitate an increase in course minimum enrollment in order to pay faculty at the same rates.</li> <li>• Increasing class size will potentially make certain outdoor courses impossible due to safety concerns (kayaking, etc.).</li> <li>• Financial thresholds become much harder to reach; break-even enrollments increase.</li> <li>• Minimum enrollments can currently be overridden by the dean; this flexibility may no longer be possible with less tuition revenue.</li> <li>• Instructor compensation is a concern.</li> <li>• Potential loss of shared revenue.</li> <li>• Would be much more attractive to students.</li> <li>• Faculty note students often complain about the cost of summer term internships which are required.</li> <li>• Would perhaps retain some of the students that take courses at SCC, AB Tech, HCC and other institutions during the summer.</li> </ul>
<p>Offer more opportunities for student employment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many students need to work during summer months.</li> <li>• Hold a “summer job fair” ahead of summer session registration.</li> <li>• Work with area employers to place students.</li> <li>• Departments could work to find employment opportunities applicable to specific majors.</li> </ul>
<p>Offer unique, area-specific courses only available at WCU, and only during summer term.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrollment for these types of courses often needs to remain low due to safety concerns.</li> <li>• Could increase enrollment from other institutions.</li> <li>• Cannot count on this for major revenue increase; may attract more students though.</li> </ul>
<p>Once NC Promise rates become effective, reallocate some of the available scholarship dollars from Spring and Fall to the Summer term, so that scholarships may be awarded during that term to assist with higher costs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unsure if this is possible.</li> </ul>
<p>Move to a year-round or trimester schedule for some/all programs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a necessity for summer session in all colleges.</li> <li>• Many programs in the College of Health and Human Sciences already work this way, and it does increase summer session enrollment within those colleges.</li> <li>• This would be a significant culture shift for the university.</li> <li>• May also work counter to the intent of NC Promise, which aims to decrease cost for undergraduate students.</li> <li>• Taking away from Fall and Spring student credit hours will have an adverse impact on our state funding, which is based on enrollment growth during these two “regular” terms.</li> </ul>

Streamline offerings, offer basic/most needed courses with higher enrollment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify the most highly sought-after or most quickly-filled courses and increase section size.</li> <li>• Identify courses with the highest failure rates.</li> <li>• Identify courses only offered once a year.</li> <li>• Offer more sections of these at peak times of day.</li> <li>• Increase section sizes for these courses.</li> <li>• Targeted marketing to students who specifically failed/need course for degree path.</li> <li>• Hire GA's or teaching assistants to assist with the increased instructional burden.</li> </ul>
Offer mini-mesters, concurrent with the end of the Spring or the beginning of Fall.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will not need to move between intercession and regular-term courses. Would be convenient.</li> <li>• May create a problem for Housing staff.</li> </ul>
Increase the maximum amount of hours in which a student may enroll during summer term.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May incentivize students who are trying to complete degrees ahead of schedule, or students who have fallen behind.</li> </ul>
Offer more residential sections online.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not all courses are conducive to this method of instruction.</li> <li>• Online residential courses typically fill without a problem.</li> <li>• Students can complete these courses without paying for housing, and while at home—giving the opportunity to work at the same time.</li> </ul>

### **Summer Scholarships**

In an attempt to grow summer enrollment, WCU submitted a grant proposal for Actualizing Innovation Meant to Scale (AIMS) scholarships. We are happy to announce that this proposal was funded, and we will be able to award 70 scholarships of \$500 each. The percentage of scholarships to each criteria below will be based on requested reports from the Registrar and Financial Aid.

Students eligible for the AIMS scholarship must be first-generation, independent, or low-income based on US Department of Health and Human Services guidelines AND meet at least one of the following criteria:

1. Participate in the 2017 Academic Success Program or Catamount Gap Learning Community as an entering freshman; or,
2. Earned less than 30 hours **combined** during Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 semesters.

### **SACSCOC Update**

Under the lead of Arthur Salido, significant progress has been made towards our focused report to address the 16 standards of non-compliance. Much work is still needed institution-wide to address the shortcomings noted in the off-site review for standard 3.3.1 – Institutional Effectiveness. The Chancellor has established compliance with standard 3.3.1 as the institution's top priority. Steve Wallace, the Director of Assessment, is working with institutional leaders campus-wide to develop the evidence necessary to be found compliant in the upcoming on-site review. It is likely that some additional work is required from academic programs to ensure we can demonstrate that goals and corresponding

outcomes are evaluated cyclically, along with clear evidence of improvements made. The focused report will be submitted in mid-February.

*Additional comments made at the Faculty Senate meeting: Tim Metz and Steve Wallace were present during the meeting to answer any questions presented. They both came to Executive Council to inform them of the status. Academic Affairs Council met and did a working session.*

*Tim added that any units that need any assistance should contact OIPE and he and Steve can help.*

*Steve commented that, as they have been rolling this out, and he has been working with different Deans and Department Heads and it has been a humbling experience. Kudos to faculty and staff that have helped.*

### **Positions Update**

- The division of Student Affairs has re-posted the **Director of Admissions** search process and hope to have a successful candidate in place by June 1. Review of applications is underway. The Committee membership is Carol Burton, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Studies, Chair of the Committee; Jill Granger, Dean of the honors College; Ericka Zimmerman, Director of the School of Health Sciences; Keith Corzine, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Services; Larry Hammer, Registrar, Brenda Holcombe, Director of Scholarships, Stacy Miller, Compliance Office , Athletics, and Deidre Hopkins, Administrative Associate, Undergraduate Studies.
- The search for the **Executive Director for Community and Economic Engagement and Innovation**, Tony Johnson's old position will be chaired by Dr. Kevan Frazier, Executive Director for Biltmore Instructional Site. The committee will meet on January 25th to receive their charge from the Provost. The committee is made up of the following individuals:
  - Meredith Whitfield, External Affairs
  - Lori Lewis, Advancement and Alumni Engagement
  - Sean Mulholland, School of Economics, Management and Project Management
  - Rick Westerman, Director of Macon/Jackson Habitat for Humanity
  - Mike Langford, Graduate School and Research
  - Steve Bridges, Career and Professional Development
  - Nathan Ramsey, Mountain Area Workforce Development
  - Wendy Cagle, College of Business
  - Susan Fouts, Educational Outreach
  - Heather Mae Erickson, School of Art and Design

*In a week and a half, 29 candidates have applied.*

- Christine Harriger, currently **Associate Director of the Center for Career and Professional Development** has accepted a director's position at another institution and will be vacating her current one in February. A search for her replacement is underway and the position has been posted since late December.
- The search committee for the next **Dean of Education and Allied Professions**, chaired by Doug Keskula, Dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences continue to review applicants and are preparing to select those for video interviews.  
*Significant number of applicants, with a great pool. Skype interviews are underway.*
- The Graduate School and Research is pleased to announce that Dr. Sharon James McGee, Department Chair and Professor of English at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, is our **Associate Dean of the Graduate School** as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Dr. McGee was selected after a national search and impressed our Search Committee and other constituents with her expertise in teaching pedagogy, administrative experience, and collaborative approach in higher education. Dr.

McGee has a B.A. degree in English from the University of Tennessee, a M.A. in English from East Tennessee State University, and a Ph.D. in English (Rhetoric) from Purdue University. Sharon currently teaches both graduate and undergraduate students, has a forthcoming book on *Writing at Risk*, administers a department of 33 tenure-track and term faculty, and has been a campus advocate for diversity, assessment, and curricular reform.

### **Faculty Scholarship Celebration**

The Faculty Scholarship Celebration will be held Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6:00 in the Blue Ridge Conference Center. We were encouraged by faculty to use the Faculty Activity Database (FAD) to collect and collate scholarship materials and we are utilizing the tool this year. The deadline for submissions was 12 January. For creative works of art, marketing, posters, and other scholarship that may not be typically accessed through library databases, electronic archives, and interlibrary loan, they may be dropped off at Hunter Library's Circulation Desk. Elizabeth Marcus in Hunter Library at [emarcus@email.wcu.edu](mailto:emarcus@email.wcu.edu) or 227-3398 is organizing the submissions. The Organizing Committee for the 2017 Faculty Scholarship celebration includes Dr. Farzaneh Razzaghi, Dr. Jill Granger, Dr. Carol Burton, Ms. Andrea Moshier, Ms. Roxane Stiles, Ms. Dora Walker, and Dr. Brian Kloeppel.

### **NFO Boost and T&P Process**

On January 4<sup>th</sup> the Provost Office sponsored a New Faculty Orientation Boost to kick off the new semester. Tenure track faculty hired in the last year were invited for a booster session on:

- Sponsored research with Andrea Moshier and Alison Krauss
- Resources in the Coulter Faculty Commons with Jonathan Wade, Steven LeBeau, and John Hawes
- Assessment and institutional effectiveness with Steve Wallace
- Using the Faculty Activity Database with Andrew Adams and Arthur Salido
- The TPR process at WCU with Brandon Schwab
- TPR panel discussion with Brian Kloeppel, Dave Evanoff, Brian Gastle, and Andrew Adams.

The slides for the TPR process presentation are available on the Provost Office Resource page: <http://www.wcu.edu/learn/office-of-the-provost/resources-for-faculty-and-staff/academic-procedures-and-regulations/index.asp>

### **Academic Affairs Budget Hearing Process**

FY2017-18 Budget Call (Occurs during FY2016-17)

Condensed from the [Budget Process website](#):

- ***Requests***: Budget requests will align with the 20/20 Vision. Requesters will submit recurring and non-recurring budget requests on electronic templates to the college Dean/Associate Vice Chancellor/Provost as appropriate.
- ***College Hearings***: Each College will schedule and hold a public budget hearing by November 22nd. Submit budget requests to Drew Thomas (Provost Office) and Ann Green (Budget Office) at least one business day prior to the college's public hearing for posting to the website.
- ***Submission to the Provost***: Each Dean/Unit Head will submit his/her college's/unit budget requests to the Provost by noon on November 22nd.
- ***Provost Council Discussion (1/2)***: The Provost Council will discuss Academic Affairs budget requests at the December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- Provost Council Ranking: The Provost Council will rank the budget requests and submit their rankings to the Provost by midnight on January 6, 2017.
- Provost Council Discussion (2/2): The Provost Council will discuss the ranking results and each Dean/Unit Head is given an opportunity to propose adjustments.
- Submission to the Chancellor: The Provost will submit Academic Affairs' budget requests to the Chancellor by January 20th. A copy of the division's requests will be forwarded to Ann Green in the Budget Office for posting to the website.

*We're in the Budget Hearing Process at the moment. We did not have very good turnout at the two Open Forums. There was good discussion at both. One week from Friday is the Open Forum for the University. For Academic Affairs- the priority is faculty and staff salaries. Efforts are being made to move people who are paid from summer funds to state funds. The goal is to move the remaining \$500,000 in the next two years.*

### **Academic Calendar**

The Academic Calendar committee has approved the final 2017-2018 AND final 2018-2019 academic calendars. A draft 2019-2020 calendar is also available for review. By finalizing the next two years of the academic calendar, the goal is to assist the campus with longer term planning. The calendars are available at the Registrar's page: <http://www.wcu.edu/learn/academic-calendar.asp>.

### **Campus Theme**

The 2017-18 campus theme is CHEROKEE. A steering committee is being established and will be in planning phase during spring 2017. Dr. Lisa Bloom, J. Robinson Endowed Professor, will chair the steering committee.

### **Provost Fellow for Faculty Relations**

As we begin the new year and a new academic semester, we remind faculty that the Provost Fellow for Faculty Relations is available to provide a neutral, informal and confidential resource to discuss issues that are important to you or to seek assistance with university policies and procedures. You are welcome to reach out to Teri Domagalski at: [tdomagalski@wcu.edu](mailto:tdomagalski@wcu.edu) or x 3589.

### **NC Promise Update**

A verbal report was provided by Provost Morrison-Shetlar.

*Alison had a telephone call with GA and Margaret Spellings regarding summer funding.*

*Margaret Spellings said they will put summer funding in their request. Thanks to Lowell and others who put forward the necessity for us to look at summer funding as key to NC Promise. WCU has put forward a proposal including three scenarios. Two of the scenarios included summer funding. The third scenario which does not include summer funding and has it stay at the \$40 million funding, we have said is unacceptable. Mike Byers is leading this up.*

*WCU is meeting with finance staff and Provosts and Chancellors from the other campuses. WCU is driving this initiative and the Provost feels confident that we will continue to have more conversations about this. The other two institutions are waiting for us to put forward proposals. We're being very collegial and being inclusive with the other two institutions.*

*Question- When will the legislatures act upon anything?*

*On the last conference call, we were asked to put forth a rationale and an amount of money suggested. The Provost was not sure if the other campuses have done this yet. GA will receive these suggestions, synthesize them, and move it forward.*

*Comment- Let us know what the Faculty Senate can do to help.*

**The full Provost Report is available on SharePoint.**

### **Student Government Association/Lauren Davis:**

SGA held a meeting this past Monday. We are focusing a lot of our responsibilities on committees. Our Academic committee will be hosting event to focus on study skills and time management. Our Financial committee will host similar events with a focus on financial planning.

We are currently in the process of passing a resolution for CourEvals for advisors.

Question- Is SGA intending on putting together a survey, or are they asking administration to put it together?

I am unsure the exact process, but we will be using Qualtrics as the survey tool. Lauren will send information to Liz, Erin, and Bill.

The comment was made that this could be the most substantive resolution coming from the SGA, but they may want to be prepared for a storm.

### **Staff Senate/Chris Parrish:**

Staff Senate held a winter retreat to discuss their goals for the spring semester. We are making sure we have good representation from all across the university and from the different divisions. Our focus is on the make-up of the senate so we can ensure we represent the university as a whole.

We are also working on the awards process for the Staff Awards. This will help in the selection; we are partnering with faculty on the Paul A. Reid Award.

### **Faculty Assembly Report/Damon Sink, Leroy Kauffman:**

- **On tenure and compensation: presentation and Resolution 2017-2- displayed on screen.**

We heard from Margaret Spellings at the last meeting. Her report concluded that they were close to closure on the Strategic Plan. They recognized WCU as leading that discussion and providing materials. She urged us to think about the possibility of tension between access, affordability, and accessibility. Technology and online learning comes into play too.

There is a study planned to assess talent, salary, and retention. We discussed the methodology for that particular study. GA is planning a study to try and generate numbers that would show the conception that we lose valuable faculty due to pay.

The big question is what is student success and how do we define it. The general idea is that the funding model isn't going to be based on enrollment, but rather degrees conferred. It would really change the way we predict and budget as an institution. One panelist pointed to Chapel Hills' definition of student success. It is very thoughtful and includes successes other than degree completion.

Damon asked that we familiarize ourselves with the two resolutions presented and determine if we want to have a concurring resolution. Please let him know if you want to see a resolution from WCU on this.

- **On SACSCOC compliance: Resolution 2017-2- displayed on screen.**

Leroy Kauffman added that the issues related to SACSCOC and the list of complaints or concern were largely drawn together by a few faculty members from Chapel Hill. Reminder- the system is not accredited by SACS; individual universities are. A very lively discussion was held around this at Faculty Assembly, and the displayed resolution passed but with descent. There could be some implications on how some of the other universities handle the legislative changes and SACS. Please make yourself familiar with those points and if you think it's something we (WCU) should respond to let us know. It's not as key to us, but NC Central is in the middle of doing a chancellor's search. That will impact them, possibly.

Margaret Spellings made an appeal to the group- she perceives that the legislature paints the universities with a single brush, in that we are all alike. We know this is not the case. We need to communicate to the legislature that we are diverse and are not cast from the same mold. How do we do this strategically? We need to figure out a way we can work together.

Bill Yang contacted Arthur Salido to review the concerns and see what the impact could be to our campus. We can ask Arthur Salido and Shea Browning to visit Faculty Senate and discuss the potential impact this would have on our campus.

David McCord stated that he found the resolution on tenure and compensation to be distasteful. No resolution has to be passed through Faculty Senate for this. We need to convince Margaret Spellings of our value in more mature ways.

Others, please weigh in with Damon prior to the Faculty Senate meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup> on whether we should draft a concurring resolution.

### **Collaborative research survey/Vicki Szabo:**

Richard Starnes created several committees to support the special use in the new Apodaca Science building. Vicki's committee is Collaborative Research and Interdisciplinary Research. The committee membership is across colleges and they have created a survey. We are sending out a survey next week in regards to collaborative and interdisciplinary research and we'd like to ask the Faculty Senate to encourage faculty to complete the survey. There is no comprehensive list of this type of research on the campus. We will be asking about benefits, barriers, problems for support, and incentives – the can include department culture or college culture. The results will be shared with the Senate.

## **SENATE COUNCIL REPORTS**

### **Task Force on Racism report/Kathleen Brennan:**

Since the last update at the end of October, Kathleen has met with Executive Council, Bill Yang, and Chris Parrish. The task force received a lot of great information at our combined social event. We have been meeting twice a month since the beginning of the school year, and our members are working very hard. We have done a lot of information collecting- COACHE survey, staff survey, and OIPE Spring Senior/Sophomore surveys. We have been reviewing university policies and procedures, and have had many personal meetings with administration and staff members.

The task force has gathered enough information to where we have fairly clear themes for our recommendations. We have a good idea of some of the issues on campus, and are moving forward to gain information from a campus climate survey in early February. Ricardo Nazario-Colon and Kevin Koett attended a meeting where we reviewed and gave feedback on the survey draft. We will be asking Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, and SGA to spread the word so we can rally a response. The survey will be sent to faculty, staff, and students. The Chancellor has agreed to email campus asking for participation in this survey, and Outlook requests will be sent as well. Executive Council has been very supportive. The survey will be open for 1-2 weeks, and results will help inform our recommendations. We would like two or three folks from Faculty Senate to pilot the survey.

There will be some long-term action and commitment involved in our recommendations that we will bring first to Senate and Executive Council in mid-late March for feedback. We would also like legal counsel to have input as well. We would like to propose a spring forum to roll out the recommendations, and the task force would be present along with those persons responsible for implementation.

The task force has broken into three subcommittees to work on writing the recommendations. One is to write the Introductory and Overview Statement of Recommendations. They are to assist in publicizing the survey, and to help with the analysis of the campus climate survey results which will help other committees to frame their recommendations. We have two main recommendation areas, each with their own subcommittee:

**Prioritizing Diversity and Inclusion subcommittee-** the goal is to make the university stance on diversity and inclusion clearer and therefore better incorporated into the campus culture. Examples include communication, response, awareness, standing committee, diversity related information- publically accessible, and a campus creed.

**Diversity and Inclusion Education and Training subcommittee-** the goal is to tie training more clearly to the university mission, advance campus knowledge, support development, employee and student training, and curriculum-based certificate programs and/or inter-disciplinary minors.

Bill Yang praised the taskforce for their work thus far and recognized the importance, and thoughtful approach that has been taken. This need for buy-in is imperative. Sharing the recommendations with the other units and Faculty Senate is strongly supported. Again, this issue is of the utmost importance.

## APRC Report/Kae Livsey:

- **Curriculum items-**
  - **Change to Chemistry MS admissions test options- no questions, does not require a vote.**
  - **Course approval for MATH 193**

Neither of the curriculum items necessitate a vote. No questions or comments were made.

- **Proactive strategies to address SACSCOC deficiencies related to assessment practices-**

APRC is looking into forming a Faculty Peer Review task force to look at programs a year before they go up for accreditation or program review. The goal would be to provide some peer review. This would be entirely faculty led. We need to move forward and embrace the need to get on board with assessment. Another suggestion was for us to have a brainstorming session on non-compliant areas related to assessment. How will the Faculty Senate be involved in this effort?

*Open for discussion.*

Question asked to senate- How do you feel about establishing a peer review process? This could be program review- a proposal to give feedback on the assessment component?

Response- it would be helpful on procedure-wise information. Some reservations about the peer review, as faculty may not be familiar with the program requirements, as they are quite specific to the program. Which part of the process we put effort on will make a huge difference.

Question- Would this be helpful as we address the assessment deficiencies identified by the SACS?

Response- For the Senate to say they are on board, shows great initiative, that we're part of the team.

Previously Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Committee (SLOAC) and Operational Outcomes Assessment Committee (OOAC) looked at the quality of our practices and put forth some suggested challenges that we would face and are facing now. There is a big difference between compliance and quality. We're looking at quality and best practices. That is separate from what SACSCOC is looking for, but they are related. Steve Wallace believes this would not only work in our favor, but will also help with best practices for our university.

Mae Claxton asked for clarification about what exactly we are missing; what are they asking for?

Response- We asked for clarification and the feedback we received was extremely limited. The feedback doesn't tell us exactly what we need. We know we must have clearly articulated outcomes and have evidence of improvement based off of data. Course grades are viewed as a very poor measure related to an individual student learning outcome. However, they are an important indicator of broader student success goals. We are non-compliant on the institutional level even though there are several colleges that are using best practices currently.

APRC is the right council to help with this.

### **CRC Report/Jamie Vaske:**

- **Status of CoursEvals for summer session-**

Nothing to report. Jamie will be meeting with Tim Metz and Kae Livsey next week to discuss continuing the summer assessments (SAI's) and how does that intersect with TPR reviews.

### **FAC Report/Mack Powell:**

The council pushed through a couple of resolutions last semester and that has cleared their agenda at this time. There should be a report available soon for the non-tenured report.

### **Strategic Initiatives Taskforce Report/Erin McNelis:**

David McCord shared that the fall flurry of activity had clearly impacted the processes at Chapel Hill. Our last meetings we had, the discussions started to be local interpretations. We need to wait and see what comes from Chapel Hill and then continue to have conversations.

Alison Morrison-Shetlar added that WCU is the institution people are looking to, and gave kudos to everyone involved, as this is highly impactful.

### **Senate Chair Report/Bill Yang:**

- **Updates on Policy 104 and Policy 105-**

Both policies were approved by Executive Council. We have a new chair of the WCY Foundation, Lori Lewis, and she is working very hard. This has been a collaborative effort between legal, Lori, and David McCord.

Policy 105 has substantial modifications that can be reviewed online.

David McCord added that both of the policies are significantly more informed. These were sensitive issues and these are the most faculty focused policies that we know of.

- **Discussion on oversight of speaker series-**

If someone wanted to give a gift to fund a speaker series, it is complicated. We don't want to have to go through Faculty Senate vetting if you bring in a speaker for your class. If you want different speakers to come in, that is your right. However, if someone gives you money to bring in speakers to speak to the student body, that's different. - This becomes a curricular impact to our student body. They took it out of policy 104 as donations to provide speaker series triggers review

A new APR will be created that under certain conditions, a faculty review of a proposed speaker series could be initiated. This is an important piece. Major gifts go through our development office and Policy 104 addresses this. We could draft an APR that would be presented to APRC, and come from APRC as a resolution. Then, present this to the Provost's Office.

We cannot control guest speakers, however, if it has an effect on the curriculum, we could weigh in. Curriculum impact is a big discussion.

- **Report on the Ongoing Advisory Board for the Center of Free Enterprise-**

We met once before last semester ended. The previous implementation advisory board put up the recommendations on how to form the ongoing advisory board. The provost appointed the internal members. The procedure says the internal members will then decide on the external members. We have received some feedback thus far.

- **Reminder: Open Faculty Caucus January 27, 3-5pm, UC Illusions**

A few notes: We urge you to put some thought into these questions and issues and present them.

How do we say we are not a broad stroke to legislature? How can we as a faculty group communicate and reflect who we are? This is a broad question for us to really think about.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**