**Faculty Assembly Report**

September 5, 2014

Linda Comer, WCU Faculty Assembly Representative

Panel Discussion: Faculty and Shared Governance – President Ross, NCCU Chancellor Debra Saunders-White, FA Chair Emeritus Catherine Rigsby, UNCW Faculty Senate Chair Gabriel Lugo

Q: Strengths and Limitations of Academic Governance in UNC System

Recent years success with SACs reviews and Gen Ed revisions in times of economic stress, things break apart when structural decisions are made without input of those impacted

True collaboration and communication working together is desired process

delicate balance between faculty and administration solving common problems, faculty have no authority but do have influence

TR - transparency is key, national and state focus on higher education is new, increased accountability for outcomes and use of investment of public dollars, traditional divisions of labor up for debate and we must help BOG and legislators understand why divisions are best in certain ways, society struggles with the value of education as a community good vs. an individual good, we must be prepared to measure ourselves instead of waiting for others to measure us

Concerned about policies from Dept of Ed related to reauthorization of Higher Education Act and Title IV funding (faculty need to understand and engage with this), we must understand the dynamics of the new landscape

Faculty leaders must understand policies at university, system, state, and national levels

TR – external forces (speed issues, accountability issues) impact the division of labor – recognize this tension – calls for higher level of trust, collaboration

Q- what measure of accountability will satisfy?

None will satisfy, some will help, try to pick reasonable target for efficiency, measuring learning outcomes and student success

metrics do not measure what the academy is really about – creative inquiry, richness of diversity – homogenization of numbers without predictive analytics concerning

NCCU had meeting between Chancellor, Provost, FA reps to discuss priorities

Q –transparency, money given privately and how that influences decisions, esp. athletics

TR – some opaqueness is added by foundations to help protect donors, must be audited, policies to include oversight by university

CR – faculty participation is required for faculty governance through committees of senate that are doing the homework on all the critical issues

DSW - Collegiality can help us at the points where we disagree

Assembly Executive Discussion

1. Big Five for 2014 – student aid, student assessment, degree value, MAR’s, PTR (also comments on salary issues – NC budget holes, high probability of reversion after Nov elections, BoG is working hard to get us $, we should not push them on salaries)

2. System Developments

* FA representation on GA, BoG bodies
  + Search for GA VP for Academic Affairs- Steve and Erin
  + Search for GA Associate Vice President - rep
  + Campus Security Taskforce – 3 reps – watch this closely – big $
* GA reorganization – new structure that new VP for AA to manage, another position added equal to this for IT related to curriculum and instruction
* CAO/CFO meeting July 15: Admissions requirements(increased, standardized - Provosts upset); outcomes measurements
* I3 and exchange initiatives (in Academic Curriculum)

3. BoG issues: financial aid (capped need-based aid at 15%), athletics reporting, workload reporting, PTR policy changes against our resolutions – working on document to help with palatable implementation

4. Campuses: administrative turnover: 8 Chancellors, 8 Provosts – opportunity to win friends

5. System Issues: healthcare, Staff Assembly coordination, SPA status

6. Report on the chairs workshop - deferred

7. Report on the monthly minority caucus meeting – meeting and active

8. Assembly practices changes:

* Committee work/organization – help facilitate
* Resolutions – prepare ahead instead of creating during meetings
* Elections – next time will include alternates

9. Additional items?

Resolutions

* Resolution on the Necessity of the Health Assessment in the State Health Plan Premium Definition - approved
* Resolution on the Definition of the Status of UNC System Employees for Coverage in the State Health Plan - approved

Committee Reports

Faculty Welfare – Linda

Two resolutions above

Institutional Resources – LeRoy

Shared Governance – Damon

Relationship building - Drew Moritz – General Assembly liason

Increase faculty presence on BOT and cabinet at each campus

Workload at campus level now

PTR at campus level now

Work toward standardization of shared governance

Academic Curriculum

[www.online.northcarolina.edu](http://www.online.northcarolina.edu)

Check at online courses search, find equivalency chart and check accuracy

Students can find online course, pay tuition, easily - a good storefront for what we have

Student Success

Metrics really measures institutional success

GE Council and standardized ETS assessment

Core Competencies

Withdrawal rules

Contextual grading

Faculty Senate Chairs

Faculty turnover – requesting retention rates for faculty and staff

HMI

Change to MSI (Minority serving institution – 5 types)

MSI diversify workforce and enhance economic welfare of minorities

Policies that adversely affect MSI and how to react and influence