

REPORT TO THE UNC-CH FACULTY COUNCIL
February 28, 2003
FACULTY ASSEMBLY, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

The Faculty Assembly is the elected body of representatives of the faculty of the sixteen campuses of the University of North Carolina. The Faculty Assembly was formed in 1972 when all 16 public senior institutions were placed under one Board of Governors. According to its Charter, the Faculty Assembly has the following objectives:

1. The Faculty Assembly of the University of North Carolina shall gather and exchange information on behalf of the faculties of the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina.
2. 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.
3. 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.

The Assembly is dedicated to upholding and exercising the principles of academic freedom, permanent tenure, shared governance, and the faculty's primary responsibility for the university's curriculum.

The size of each campus's delegation to Faculty Council is determined by the number of full-time faculty and professional staff members employed by an institution. UNC Chapel Hill has five delegates: Steve Bachenheimer, Sue Estroff, Diane Holditch-Davis, William Smith, and Barbara Moran. Joseph Ferrell, Carol Pardun, and Fleming Bell serve as alternates. Gretchen Bataille, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs is the primary liaison from the Office of the President to the Assembly. Richard Veit from UNC-Wilmington serves as Chair of the Assembly, George Conklin from North Carolina Central University serves as Vice-Chair and Ralph Scott from East Carolina University is Secretary.

The Faculty Assembly traditionally meets four times per academic year in the UNC General Administration Building in Chapel Hill. Meetings typically consist of a general session from 10:30 a.m. to noon, followed by meetings of standing committees from 1:00 p.m. until 2:30 p.m.

The Faculty Assembly has seven standing committees:

- Academic Freedom and Tenure
- Budget
- Faculty Development
- Faculty Welfare and Benefit
- Governance
- Planning and Programs
- Technology

The committee meetings are followed by a second general session from 2:45 p.m. to approximately 5 p.m. The chair and certain university officials present reports during the first session and are available for questions from the delegates. The second session usually features a

report from the President of the University, followed by committee reports, resolutions, and other business.

This year's meetings occurred on September 20th, November 20th, and February 21st. The last meeting of the year will be held on April 25th.

INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Faculty Assembly this year has focused primarily on issues related to the budget including:

1. the anticipated cutbacks to the UNC budget as a result of the state's growing budget deficit,
2. faculty (and staff) welfare issues related to salaries and benefits,
3. what faculty can do to attempt to educate legislators and the general public on the budgetary needs of the UNC System.

The Faculty Assembly recently passed resolutions encouraging the General Assembly to 1) support salary increases for state employees (EPA and SPA), and 2) provide matching funds for the NC TSERS (state retirement system). In addition, the Faculty Assembly continues to examine differences among the campuses in faculty involvement in making decisions about issues such as the development of academic calendars and in the access faculty have to information about such things as academic funding.

During the past few years, the Faculty Assembly has been able to move a great deal of information to its web site and to do more of its work using the Internet. The web site includes minutes of meetings and information about issues and resolutions before the Assembly. More information about the Faculty Assembly and its activities can be seen on its website <http://www.northcarolina.edu/facassembly/facassembly.cfm>.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara B. Moran