

REPORT TO THE UNC-CH FACULTY COUNCIL

FACULTY ASSEMBLY, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

December 12, 2008

The Faculty Assembly is the elected body of representatives of the faculty of the seventeen campuses of the University of North Carolina. The Faculty Assembly was formed in 1972 when all of the 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 has an expanded website located at <http://uncfacultyassembly.northcarolina.edu>. Our very own Judith Wegner (Law) was recently elected Chair of the Faculty Assembly, and she has just this year begun serving her term. After years of leadership and service on our campus, first as dean of the law school and then as chair of the faculty, Judith is now leading the faculty for all seventeen constituent campuses. UNC -Chapel Hill has five delegates elected from the faculty to represent this campus as part of the Assembly with terms as follows: Robert Adler (Business, 2009), Richard (Pete) Andrews (Public Policy, 2010), Lloyd Kramer (History, 2011), George Sheldon (Surgery, 2009) and Joe Templeton (Chemistry, ex officio, 2009). Clayton Koelb (German) and Joseph Ferrell (Government) serve as alternates.

The Faculty Assembly meets five times per academic year at UNC General Administration. This fall meetings were held on September 19 and October 24; Chair Wegner consulted widely and decided to cancel the November meeting due to budget shortfalls. Spring meetings are currently scheduled for January 16 and March 27. Meetings generally include presentations by the University system president and other administrators who are part of General Administration (including those responsible for budget, legislative relations, academic oversight, and faculty welfare). In addition, faculty assembly committees meet separately and report during the plenary session.

During the 2007-08, the Faculty Assembly adopted three important academic resolutions, one addressing post-tenure review policies, one addressing seamless transitions for students transferring from community colleges into four year colleges, and one addressing UNC Tomorrow plans. So far this year featured topics have included budget planning in the face of falling revenues, fixed-term faculty policies, and distance learning strategies.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Templeton