

**Faculty Assembly Delegation
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2011-2012 Annual Report to the UNC-CH Faculty Council December 7, 2012**

The UNC Faculty Assembly (FA) is the elected body of representatives of the faculty of the seventeen constituent institutions of the University of North Carolina. The FA was formed in 1972 when all of the public senior institutions were placed under one Board of Governors. The Assembly, which now meets 6 times each academic year, is dedicated to upholding and exercising the principles of *academic freedom, shared governance, tenure, and the faculty's primary responsibility for the University's curriculum.*

Objectives and Functions (from the Charter of the Faculty Assembly)

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.

2011-2012 UNC-CH Delegation:

Steven Bachenheimer—School of Medicine (2013)
Jan Boxill—Chair of the Faculty, Arts & Sciences (2014)
Carol Brown—School of Law (2012)
Deborah Eaker-Rich—School of Education (2013)
Lloyd Kramer—Arts & Sciences (2014)
Norma Houston—School of Government (Alt)
Stephen Leonard—Political Science (Alt)

2012-2013 UNC-CH Delegation:

Steven Bachenheimer—School of Medicine (2013)
Jan Boxill—Chair of the Faculty, Arts & Sciences (2014)
Deborah Eaker-Rich—School of Education (2013)
Lloyd Kramer—History (2011)
Beth Kurtz-Costes—Psychology (2015)
Stephen Leonard—Political Science (Alt)
Norma Houston—School of Government (Alt)

This report summarizes 6 meetings of the UNC FA held between 20 January and 30 November 2012. This period covered the end of the 3 year term of Sandie Gravett, Dept. Religion, ASU as chair, and the beginning of the 3 year term of Catherine Rigsby, Dept. Geology, ECU.

Organization of FA meetings

The FA convenes at General Administration, and at morning sessions hears from members of Administration including Tom Ross, President, Suzanne Ortega, VP for Academic Affairs, Leslie Cates, Director of State Government Relations, Charlie Perusse, VP for Finance, William Fleming, VP Human Resources, and Kimrey Rhinehardt, VP for Federal Relations. Over the past year, FA has also heard from Peter Hans, Chair of the UNC Board of Governors, Jane Shaw and Jay Schalin, from the Pope Center for Higher Education Policy, and Rob Schofield, NC Policy Watch. Much of the time with GA administration has involved updates on the Strategic Planning Initiative.

Morning sessions often also include workshops and roundtable discussions concerned with issues either being taken up by the BOG or programmatic or policy initiatives of GA, such as articulation policies, international programs, performance funding models, measuring academic quality, and common general education competencies.

Major activities of FA in the past year included:

1. discussion of BOG policies related to Grievance Procedures for tenured and tenure-track faculty: 100.1/607 & 101.3.2 (establishment and policies for campus Grievance Committees); 604 & 101.3.1 (establishment and policies for campus Hearings Committees); and 100.1/603 and 100.1/605 due process

prior to imposition of serious sanctions, and due process after termination due to financial exigency or curtailment of programs.

2. providing input for the Academics First Initiative—a working group organized by Suzanne Ortega, VP Academic Affairs, which was charged with re-examining BOG policies 400.1.5, financial aid regulations, and 700.1.1 on minimum requirements for admission, and other policies governing Satisfactory Academic Progress and core academic policies governing drop/add, course repeat, grade replacement and course withdrawal.

Committee Structure

Starting in 2011-2012, the work of FA returned to a committee-based structure. Currently, five committees, Academic Standards and Policies, Budget, Faculty Welfare and Eternal communication, and Governance, meet during the afternoon session and report out to the full Assembly at the afternoon Plenary Session. In this session minutes of the previous meeting are approved, the Chair gives a brief report and Resolutions are considered for approval.

Resolutions

The FA discussed and voted to approve several resolutions in the past year. These have included:

1. Insuring faculty involvement in development of system-wide general education program and competencies;
 2. A definition of General Education to encompass grounding in social, cultural, civic, and economic aspects of the human experience;
 3. Support for a GA initiative to increase the employer contribution rate to the ORP from 6.84% to 8.25%;
 4. Creation of a mechanism to solicit faculty input in the Strategic Planning process;
 5. A call for President Ross to affirm principles of shared governance adopted by the FA in April 2005;
- and
6. Support for policy changes related to the Academics First initiative

Faculty assembly also has provided forums for Faculty Council/Senate chairs and faculty from Historically Minority Institutions to discuss issues of common interest and best practices.

Respectfully Submitted,
Steven Bachenheimer, Delegation Chair