

Faculty Assembly Delegation

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Annual Report to the UNC-CH Faculty Council, January 27, 2017

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 under the leadership of President Bill Friday 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 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 offices 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.

2015-2016 UNC-CH Delegation:

Alice Ammerman, School of Public Health, (2018); Bruce Cairns, Chair of the Faculty, Surgery (EO); Suzanne Gullledge, School of Education (Chair, 2016); Jim Porto, School of Public Health (2017); Charlotte Boettiger, Psychology & Neuroscience (2016); Tim Ives, School of Pharmacy, (Alternate, 2016); Christian Lundberg, Communication (Alternate, 2016).

2016-2017 UNC-CH Delegation:

Alice Ammerman, School of Public Health, (2018); Bruce Cairns, Chair of the Faculty, Surgery (EO); Jim Porto, School of Public Health (2017; stepped down August 2016); Charlotte Boettiger, Psychology & Neuroscience (2019); Tim Ives, School of Pharmacy, (2017); Christian Lundberg-Communication (2019; on leave Fall 2016); Donald Oehler, Music (delegate, Fall 2016; Alternate-Spring 2017)

Gabriel Lugo, of UNC-Wilmington, is the elected chair of the Faculty Assembly.

This report summarizes meetings of the UNC- Chapel Hill Faculty Assembly delegation - both in caucus and at the Faculty Assembly meetings that were held in academic year 2015-2016 since January, 2016 and academic year 2016-17 through December, 2017.

Faculty Assembly Meetings and Delegation Caucus Meetings:

The Delegation of 5 members and two alternates elected to represent UNC-Chapel Hill in the Faculty Assembly meets for caucus, usually in the week prior to the meeting of the Faculty Assembly. The Assembly meetings occur at the Spangler, UNC General Administration Building in Chapel Hill on one Friday per month during the academic year. Following the appointment of President Margaret Spellings, she usually addressed the delegates from the constituent campuses during the morning session of the Assembly. She shared news, addressed topics relevant to the campuses and responded to questions from the delegates. General Administration staff members frequently offered reports and updates that typically relate to strategic planning, policies, procedures and data.

Each committee of the Faculty Assembly includes at least one individual from the UNC-Chapel Hill delegation. Those committees are: academics; faculty; and governance. Chair of the UNC-CH Faculty Council, Bruce Cairns is a member of the Senate Chairs Committee and Tim Ives is a member of the Faculty Assembly Executive Committee.

The general sessions between January 2016 and January 2017 included panels with individuals whose work related to topics selected as themes and that included:

- Academic Planning and Assessment
- Strategic Plan

- Student Success
- Excellent & Diverse Institutions

During the Fall of 2016 the Assembly devoted the majority of its time to evaluating and discussing the Board of Governor's draft Strategic Plan. Assembly actions included helping to draft a faculty survey on the Strategic Plan Themes, notifying faculty of the opportunity to provide input through this forum, and providing advice for amendment to each of the Strategic Plan Themes. We achieved the latter by spending the final two Assembly meetings of 2016 by breaking up into groups that each considered one of the five themes: Access, Affordability and Efficiency, Student Success, Economic Impact and Community Engagement, and Excellent and Diverse Institutions. In the second round of edits and amendments that was conducted in November, the Assembly was gratified to note incorporation of Assembly input into the revised draft of the Strategic Plan.

The UNC-Chapel Hill delegation also supported several resolutions passed by the Faculty Assembly, including:

- Endorsement of the Work of the General Education Council
- Recognition of the Analysis of Findings and Recommendations Regarding NC Guaranteed Admission Program (NCGAP)
- Supporting UNC Staff Assembly Salary Initiatives
- Legislative Abrogation of University Responsibilities (including Opposition to North Carolina HB2)
- On the Governance Implications of North Carolina Session Law 2016-94 (Lab Schools & Collaboratory)
- On Faculty Compensation
- On SACSCOC (Southern Associations of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges) Compliance

Issues determined to be of primary focus for the current academic year include: faculty salaries; post-tenure review; working with the newly appointed President Margaret Spellings, defining and exercising our roles in shared governance, staying abreast of and responding to legislative actions impacting the university, and communicating with our constituent faculties.

Additional discussions focused on measures of student success, including the challenges of metric implementation on each campus.

The delegation and the Faculty Assembly have been and are concerned about the actions of the NC General Assembly and the UNC Board of Governors that threaten the legal authority and operating control of our constituent institutions. Not only do these actions pose a threat to our founding principles — lux, libertas — they may preclude our compliance with the Principles of Accreditation set forth for our constituent institutions by SACSCOC.

The UNC-Chapel Hill delegation to the UNC Faculty Assembly remains attentive to matters of concern in our Faculty Council and those of our campus constituents as well as those of the larger university system. We gratefully acknowledge the service of Prof. Steve Leonard from UNC-CH who chaired the Faculty Assembly from 2013-2016. We aim to continue as a delegation to gather and exchange information and represent Carolina's unique and important role in the faculty governance of our University of North Carolina.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte A. Boettiger,

Delegation Chair

January 19, 2017