

Faculty Executive Committee Annual Report to the Faculty Council

Report for calendar year 2020

Prepared by Helena Knego, Office of Faculty Governance staff member

Submitted to the Faculty Council by Chair of the Faculty Mimi V. Chapman, PhD

April 16, 2021

2020 Membership

Elected members, 2020-21:

Deb Aikat (Journalism and Media), term expires 2022

Rumay Alexander (Nursing), term expires 2023

Julie Byerley (Pediatrics/Medicine), term expires 2021

Wendy Cox (Pharmacy), term expires 2021

Barbara Entwisle (Sociology/Arts & Sciences), term expires 2021

Sue Estroff (Social Medicine/Medicine), term expires 2023

Benny Joyner (Pediatrics/Medicine), term expires 2021

Jennifer Larson (English and Comparative Literature/Arts & Sciences), term expires 2022

Elizabeth Mayer-Davis (Nutrition/Public Health), term expires 2023

Eric Muller (Law), term expires 2023

Joy Renner (Radiologic Science/Medicine), term expires 2022

Meg Zomorodi (Nursing), term expires 2022

Elected members, 2019-20:

Deb Aikat (Journalism and Media), term expires 2022

Julie Byerley (Pediatrics/Medicine), term expires 2021

Wendy Cox (Pharmacy), term expires 2021

Barbara Entwisle (Sociology/Arts & Sciences), term expires 2021

Nancy Fisher (Microbiology and Immunology/Medicine), term expired 2020

Benny Joyner (Pediatrics/Medicine), term expires 2021

Jennifer Larson (English and Comparative Literature/Arts & Sciences), term expires 2022

Cary Levine (Art & Art History/Arts & Sciences), term expired 2020

Elizabeth Mayer-Davis (Nutrition/Public Health), term expired 2020, re-elected for second term through 2023

Eric Muller (Law), term expired 2020, re-elected for second term through 2023

Joy Renner (Radiologic Science/Medicine), term expires 2022

Meg Zomorodi (Nursing), term expires 2022

Ex Officio members:

Mimi Chapman (Social Work), Chair of the Faculty, term expires 2023

Lloyd Kramer (History), Chair of the Faculty, May 2019-June 2020

Vin Steponaitis (Archaeology, Anthropology/Arts & Sciences), Secretary of the Faculty, term expires 2021

Committee Charge: According to § 2-10 of *The Faculty Code of University Government*, Faculty Executive Committee has the following “powers and duties”:

- 1) to exercise the consultative powers delegated to the Faculty Council by §§ 2- 8(b)(3) and 2-8(b)(4), above, subject to such restrictions or instructions as the Council may from time to time establish;
- 2) when prompt action is required, to exercise the legislative powers delegated to the Faculty Council by §§ 2-8(a)(1) and 2-8(a)(4), above, subject to confirmation by the Council at its next regular meeting;
- 3) to serve as an advisory committee to the chair of the faculty;
- 4) to represent the Faculty Council and the General Faculty in advising the University administration with respect to issues, such as planning and the setting of University priorities, that the committee deems important to the University’s mission;
- 5) to work with the various officers and groups within the University toward the realization of goals set in actions of the Faculty Council;
- 6) to report to the Council at regular intervals, including reporting annually on the status of the implementation of resolutions of the Faculty Council; and
- 7) to serve as members of the Faculty Council as provided in § 2-2(b).

2020 Meetings:

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|---|--------------------------------|
| ▪ January 13 | ▪ July 27 |
| ▪ January 27 | ▪ August 5 (Emergency Meeting) |
| ▪ February 10 | ▪ August 10 |
| ▪ February 24 | ▪ August 17 (Special Meeting) |
| ▪ March 16 | ▪ August 31 |
| ▪ March 30 (<i>First meeting held via Zoom</i>) | ▪ September 21 |
| ▪ April 13 | ▪ October 5 |
| ▪ April 27 | ▪ October 19 |
| ▪ May 11 | ▪ November 2 |
| ▪ June 8 | ▪ November 16 |
| ▪ June 15 | ▪ December 14 |
| ▪ June 22 | |

Community Conversations hosted by the Chair of the Faculty

Chair Kramer and Chair-Elect Chapman co-hosted a community conversation for the faculty in June to share and discuss information about the campus response to the pandemic, particularly regarding plans for fall semester. Chair Chapman then hosted two additional events once her term began. While not FEC meetings, the committee offered feedback on the structure of and topics for these meetings.

Community Conversation for Faculty About Plans for Fall 2020, June 19

Community Updates for Faculty, July 24

On the Off-Ramp: Community Updates for Faculty, August 28

Summary:

Much of 2020 has been devoted to academic, professional and logistical issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Social Work Professor Mimi Chapman was elected as Chair of the Faculty in April 2020. Her formal duties began on July 1, however, she began to collaborate with Chair Lloyd Kramer and attend meetings in late April. In June 2020, the committee surveyed faculty about teaching returning to teach on campus in fall 2020 as described in the administration’s “Roadmap for Fall 2020.” The survey results are

available [online](#). A big focus of the committee this year has been to amplify faculty voices. Racial equity and visibility for faculty and other members of the campus community continues to be a priority of the FEC.

The FEC meets monthly with Provost Bob Blouin to discuss initiatives to improve operations and efficiencies at Carolina that are part of the Carolina Excellence Initiative. As the director of the of the Implementation Team for the Roadmap for Fall 2020, the committee discussed and gave feedback on a variety of related issues.

Topics discussed:*Early 2020*

- Fixed-term faculty issues, including results from a survey deployed by the Committee on Fixed-Term Faculty in fall 2019
- Public records law
- A report from the Campus Safety Commission
- Data science initiative updates
- Carolina Excellence initiative
- APT Task Force recommendations
- The new Commission on History, Race and a Way Forward

As of spring and COVID-19

- Numerous meetings with Chancellor Guskiewicz or Provost Blouin or both to discuss issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including campus preparations and policies, budgetary implications, health, and communications.
- Several meetings with Sibby Anderson Thompkins and Amy Hertel about the diversity and inclusion efforts on campus, including updates on the strategic plan's Building Our Community Together pillar and a response to the Roadmap to Racial Equity at UNC-CH
- Concerns of Black and Indigenous faculty, and a discussion with authors of the Roadmap to Racial Equity at UNC-CH
- Fall student enrollments and student knowledge of "Community Standards"
- Faculty concerns relating to the early part of the pandemic
- Role of faculty governance in times of crisis
- Several meetings on pandemic ethics with Professors Jim Thomas (Epidemiology) and Sarah Stroud (Philosophy)
- An emergency meeting on August 5 to discuss the Orange County Health Department's letter to senior leadership
- A special meeting on August 17 to discuss rising COVID-19 clusters on campus
- Faculty Assembly updates
- Fall 2020 Student Survey report from Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Steve Farmer
- Presentation and discussion of various apps related to COVID-19 with Vice Chancellor for Information Technology Mike Barker

- Community Standards for Spring 2021 with (new) Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Amy Johnson and Dean of Students Desirée Rieckenberg
- The role of the Secretary of the Faculty, and faculty governance leadership structure
- The FEC has urged the administration to be as transparent and communicative as possible on all issues related to the pandemic
- As one of the co-chairs of the Campus and Community Advisory Committee, Chair Chapman shared updates from those meetings, and solicited feedback for them from the FEC

Statement and resolutions

On June 1, 2020 the FEC released the following statement condemning racist violence:

Ongoing acts of violence against Black people call for the strongest possible condemnation from faculty who are committed to public education, democratic institutions, and legal justice in American society. The Faculty Executive Committee therefore joins with colleagues throughout the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in condemning racist violence and supporting those who work to advance the healing, equity, and social justice that are so urgently needed. We also strongly endorse the statement of May 29, 2020, from our colleagues at the University Office for Diversity and Inclusion.

The committee passed a resolution over the summer while the Faculty Council does not meet:

Resolution 2020-5: On Removal of Names from Aycock Residence Hall, the Josephus Daniels Building, Carr Building, and Ruffin Residence Hall.

The Faculty Executive Committee resolves:

We express our gratitude to the Board of Trustees for their action on July 16, 2020 in establishing the Policy for the Removal of Names on University Buildings and Public Spaces, and support the recommendations of the Commission on History, Race, and a Way Forward and the Chancellor's Committee to Review the History Commission Resolution to remove from University buildings the names of Charles B. Aycock, Josephus Daniels, Julian S. Carr, Thomas Ruffin, and Thomas Ruffin Jr. — individuals whose racist beliefs and actions undercut our University's goal of fostering a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community. We urge the Trustees to act quickly to remove these names before the upcoming Fall semester.

Adopted unanimously by the Faculty Executive Committee on July 27, 2020.