Advisory Committee Annual Report for 2021

March 11, 2022

Committee Membership

July 2021 - present:

Elected members, terms expiring in 2022

David Gerber (Medicine) Keisha Gibson (Medicine)

Winifred Metz (University Library)

Elected members, terms expiring in 2023

Jay Aikat (Computer Science) Suzanne Gulledge (Education) Kenya McNeal Trice (Medicine)

Elected members, terms expiring in 2024

Sharon Holland (American Studies)

Wanda Nicholson (Medicine)

Valérie Pruvost (Romance Studies)

Ex officio members

Mimi Chapman (Chair of the Faculty)

Stuart Gold (APT Chair)

Kevin Guskiewicz (Chancellor)

Jill Moore (Secretary of the Faculty)

July 2020 - June 2021

Elected members

Jay Aikat (Computer Science)

David Gerber (Medicine)

Keisha Gibson (Medicine)

Suzanne Gulledge (Education), Chair

Thomas Kelley (Law)

Kenya McNeal Trice (Medicine)

Winifred Metz (University Library)

Wanda Nicholson

Rohit Ramaswamy (Public Health)

Ex officio members

Karin Pfennig (APT Chair)

Mimi Chapman (Chair of the Faculty)

Kevin Guskiewicz (Chancellor)

Vincas Steponaitis (Secretary of the Faculty)

Advisory Committee Description and Charge [excerpted from The Faculty Code (§ 4-5)]

The Advisory Committee consists of nine elected members, the chair of the faculty, the secretary of the faculty, and the chair of the Committee on Appointments, Promotions, and Tenure. The committee is advisory to the chancellor in any matter deemed important by the chancellor or the committee, and particularly with respect to: trustee policies and procedures; academic policies and programs; appointment of vice chancellors, deans, and other senior administrators; recommendations for corrective action pursuant to a report of the Faculty Hearing Committee or Faculty Grievance Committee; and appointment and renewal of appointment of the faculty marshal and appointment and review of the faculty athletics representative. The committee nominates candidates for election as stipulated in the Faculty Code for chair of the Faculty and Secretary of the Faculty and advises the chancellor on the appointment and renewal of the Faculty Marshal and the Faculty Athletics Representative. These responsibilities are described in Sections 3:1-5 of The Code.

Meetings of the Advisory Committee 2021 to present:

1/21/21, 2/11/21, 2/18/21, 2/25/21, 3/25/21, 4/22/21, 7/20/21, 9/9/21, 11/8/21, 12/9/21, 1/20/22 and 2/14/22 (joint meeting with the Faculty Executive Committee).

Meeting scheduled to end of current academic year: 3/24/22, 4/21/22.

Regular meetings of the Advisory Committee are generally scheduled for one afternoon per month during the academic year, generally the week after the meeting of Faculty Council. In fall 2021, the committee began meeting in a hybrid format.

Activities and Key Actions Spring 2021 – March 2022:

As charged in the Faculty Code, the Advisory Committee considered two faculty officer positions.

In the spring (2021), the committee sought, received, and reviewed nominees for the position of Secretary of the Faculty to begin on July 1, 2021. In March 2021, the committee passed a motion unanimously selecting Prof. Jill Moorea the candidate to be the next Secretary of the Faculty to be presented for vote by the Faculty Council at its April meeting.

In the fall (2022), the committee sought, received, and reviewed nominees for the position of Faculty Marshal. They unanimously picked Prof. Jay Aikat (Computer Science and RENCI) to be the next Faculty Marshal. Prof. Aikat was selected in time to be the standard bearer at University Day.

The monthly Advisory Committee meetings included information sharing from both the chancellor and committee members, as well as requests for thoughts, feedback, questions, and considerations from both. The largest portion of meeting time has been devoted to hearing updates from the chancellor, responding to his requests for advice and sharing perspectives on key campus issues.

Ongoing topics of discussion included:

- COVID-19 issues regarding testing, vaccination, the return to in-person teaching in fall 2021, surges caused by different variants, and impacts on faculty, student, and staff mental health and well-being, and impacts on campus operations.
- The campus's commitment to racial justice and equity, e.g., discussing ways to support faculty, staff and students of color; anti-bias trainings on campus; meeting the new Vice Provost for Equity and Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer Leah Cox.
- Leadership searches, including the provost, police chief and several deans.

Other topics of discussion included: taking stock of "lessons learned" from the pandemic as they apply to post-pandemic teaching and campus operations; the significant increase in undergraduate applicants for fall 2022; potential first-year reading assignments; the Board of Trustees' and chancellor's roles in areas such as approving new hires for senior leadership positions, admissions appeals and fixed-term faculty appointments; mental health resources and planning for the Mental Health Summit; and learning about new campus initiatives, such as the Collective Carolina Experience and Project Kitty Hawk. Most recently, the committee met with the chair of the Community on University Government to give its feedback on possible changes to faculty officers.