



BOARD OF TRUSTEES
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
Greensboro, North Carolina
University Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes
Friday, September 15, 2017
Alumni-Foundation Event Center Room 102
8:00–10:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Board of Trustees (BOT) University Affairs Committee Chair, Mrs. Donna James, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. She welcomed committee members and guests and thanked them for their attendance. She then asked for the roll call.

ROLL CALL

Committee members present: Mrs. Donna James, Mr. John Bluford, Ms. Kayla Tate, Mr. Paul Jones, Mr. George Mainor and Dr. Beryl McEwen, ex-officio member, and Dr. Robert Cobb, Jr., Faculty Senate Chair. Committee members absent: Mr. Toby Brodie and Ms. Sharon Mitchell, Staff Senate Chair.

Other attendees included: Dr. Barry Burks, Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development; Dr. Regina Williams Davis, Assistant Vice Provost for Student Success and Academic Support; Ms. Helen R. Haynes, Recorder; Mrs. Erin Hart, Associate Vice Provost for Enrollment Management; Mr. Earl Hilton, Athletics Director; Dr. G. Scott Jenkins, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Undergraduate Programs; Dr. Muktha Jost, Vice Provost for Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness and SACS Liaison; Ms. Kathy Murphy, Office of Legal Affairs; Dr. Melody Pierce, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs; Dr. Ericka Smith, Vice Chancellor for Human Resources; Mr. Marc Williams, Dean of Students; Dr. Tracie Lewis, Director of Instructional Technology Services and Distance Education, and Mr. Tom Jackson, Vice Chancellor for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer.

Mrs. James welcomed Dr. Beryl McEwen as the new interim provost and said she looks forward to her leadership and working with her.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 28, 2017

Committee Chair James entertained a motion for approval of the April 28, 2017 minutes of the University Affairs Committee. A motion was offered by Mr. Bluford and seconded by Mr. Jones. The motion carried unanimously.

DIVISIONAL/DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Dr. Beryl C. McEwen, Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, began by introducing Robert Cobb, Jr., who is in the beginning term as the new chair of the Faculty Senate. Dr. Dwedor Ford, who served as the Faculty Senate Chair, resigned from the university effective September 19. Dr. Cobb served as the vice chair and the by-laws require that the vice chair assumes the position of chair when the chair is no longer available to serve. A new vice chair will be elected.

Provost McEwen provided an update on administrators, faculty and staffing in the Division of Academic Affairs. She stated that there are two new interim dean appointments--Dr. Craig Rhodes, College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences and Dr. Kevin James, College of Business and Economics. There are four dean searches underway. The goal is to complete the searches by the end of March, 2018. She also stated that Dr. James Ryan, Dean of the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering, will step down as dean at the end of the academic year. The search for that position, in conjunction with UNCG, has begun as well. She also stated that there are a number of active interim departmental chair searches, which will be filled this year. She is ensuring that faculty positions are posted in a timely manner. Ms. Tate asked if students will serve on the search committees. Provost McEwen affirmed that student representation would be on each search committee.

PRIORITIES FOR THE ACADEMIC ENTERPRISE

Dr. Muktha Jost, Vice Provost for Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness and SACS Liaison, provided a summary of priorities for the institution that are related to restructuring, reaffirmation of accreditation, and strategic priorities tied to Preeminence 2020 and Higher Expectations, which is the UNC System's strategic plan.

Dr. Jost shared that the Division of Human Resources has improved the business practices of on-boarding for Faculty and Staff of the Future and as is defining the definition of Non-Tenure Track Faculty.

Provost McEwen also shared that there are continued efforts to align academic programs to ensure that all academic units are placed where they need to be. Areas of concern are Political Science and Criminal Justice, Child Development, and Graphic Communication Systems. Other discussion centered on faculty development, managing low producing programs, and making data informed decision.

Dr. Jost also stated that Chancellor Martin has requested that a Refresh Committee of about 15 members be formed to include university, board and community members. The goal will be to update the strategic plan based on accomplishments, current challenges and actions that need to be taken to address these challenges.

Dr. Jost concluded her presentation by sharing that the SACSCOC Reaffirmation Visit is now scheduled for 2021. The primary change in the certification standard is all institutions must provide students with debt education.

She also shared a chart that included nine UNC Strategic Priorities and related metrics.

ENROLLMENT SUMMARY

Mrs. Erin Hill Hart, Associate Vice Provost for Enrollment Management, provided an enrollment update. She shared that the university has reported an enrollment of 11,877 for the fall, which represents an increase of 6% over last fall. Growth was realized at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The new freshman class (2,309) represents an 18% increase over last fall, and the new transfer class (822) represented a 13% growth. She also shared that the University recently received funds for the Cheatham White Scholarship, which will enable the university to attract more high achieving students.

Mrs. James asked that a legend be included to list the acronyms and their meanings for the presentations. Mr. Bluford asked that the committee receive periodic updates on on-line enrollment separately.

Mrs. Hart concluded her presentation by stating that growth was realized at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Mrs. James congratulated Mrs. Hart on a job well done.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS AND ONLINE PROGRAMS UPDATE

Dr. Sanjiv Sarin, Dean of The Graduate College and Vice Provost for Research, Graduate Programs and Extended Learning, provided an update on graduate programs and online programs. He shared the enrollment history from 2006-2016 for the four doctoral research universities in the North Carolina system, indicating growing enrollments in doctoral programs, but generally flat enrollments in master's programs. However, enrollment of new students improved by 9% compared to last year.

He also shared that the first two online programs started in 2001. As of fall 2017, there are 17 approved online programs. N. C. A&T is now approved as an institutional member of NC-SARA (National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements), which means we can offer online courses in other states.

The number of students who are enrolled only in online courses grew from 764 in fall 2016 to 1,022 in fall 2017. Similarly, the number of students who take one or more online courses grew from 3,403 in fall 2016 to 3,538 in fall 2017. He stated that his next update on online programs will include enrollees by department.

DIVISION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Dr. Tracie Lewis, Director of Instructional Technology Services and Distance Education, provided an update on the Instructional Technology Support (ITS) Project. In Spring 2017, Phase I included updating obsolete instructional technology in the classrooms in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (CAHSS) and in the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (CAES). This is the first step towards a sustained annual technology update program. To ensure consistency in classroom technology, ITS has partnered with the Division of Academic Affairs to update the some of the teaching spaces each year.

Provost McEwen shared that Phase II of this project will include integrating instructional technology into courses that will align learning outcomes with available classroom technology to more effectively engage students in the learning processes. The goal is to ensure that faculty use the technology more effectively, based on what they teach in their classroom.

Provost shared that the Center for Teaching and Learning has been without a director for two years. She will have to reestablish this position. She will pair faculty fellows to work with two to four faculty members who are familiar with the new technology. Dr. Cobb inquired about the intended strategy on identifying the faculty members. Provost stated that she will work with the chairs to identify faculty members because she prefers faculty that are interested in this project. Dr. Cobb suggested a collaborative effort in identifying faculty in instructional technology and instructional design as well as ITS.

DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Barry L. Burks, Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development, shared an update for the 2016-2017 academic year. He stated that the university just completed a record year in sponsored research awards--\$62.5M. Continued growth in sponsored research will require an even more proactive approach: planning ahead, anticipating opportunities and building relationships with sponsors.

He also stated that continued growth will require increased emphasis on industry sponsored R&D and is dependent upon reaching other goals such as adding research-based PhD programs, increasing the number of endowed professorships, and hiring more research-active faculty.

Use of University Space Policy (APPROVAL REQUIRED)

Dr. Charles Waldrup, General Counsel, introduced a new policy for review and approval by the University Affairs Committee. The new policy, Use of University Space, provides guidance for using university space as well as establishes a priority of use of university space by both internal and external users.

The motion was offered by Mr. Bluford and seconded by Mr. Jones. The motion carried.

This policy was approved by the University Affairs Committee and will be brought forth to the Board for approval.

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Dr. Melody Pierce, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, provided an informational report on Housing Occupancy for fall 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair James thanked everyone for their attendance and entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was offered by Mr. Bluford and seconded by Mr. Mainor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Recorder:
Helen R. Haynes
Special Assistant to the Provost