Convene Meeting and Remarks

Andrea Hunter, Chair of the General Faculty and Faculty Senate

- My name is Andrea Hunter, and I am affirmed by the pronouns she, her, and hers; and I am the Chair of the Faculty Senate and the General Faculty, and I now Call this Meeting to Order. With a full agenda, I will keep my opening remarks brief.
- At the start of a new calendar year, I find myself enriched, or perhaps, burdened with all sorts of folk homilies, such as: one’s house must be cleaned before the New Year rolls in to ensure a state of cleanliness all year. Though, as I look back on it now, I am not sure if this was my mother’s ruse to command a winter’s cleaning during the holiday break. Then there is the meal of collards greens with cornbread sopped with pot liquor to bring luck and prosperity for the New Year, a healthy practice we know now, as the current obsession with kale attests.
- Despite the oddities, the notion that we likely finish the year as we start it, well, there is wisdom in that, as is the impulse to be aspirational (and this is as much true of organizations as it is of persons). For the Senate, Spring 2018 will kick-off an intensive review of our Constitution, the foundation of work in senate committees and other initiatives will bear fruit in the form of new policies, new data, and new resolutions: which is the meat of faculty governance. And we will continue our dance with the Board of Governor policies, keeping stalwart when we must, engaged partners and empowered to act where we can; and advocating for that which we value.
- So, today, the first day of our new year, Senators, this is where we begin!

Motion to defer 2 agenda items: UNC Faculty Assembly Report & Discussion on Free Speech be tabled and moved to next meeting

- Discussion on 120 Credit hours be extended to 1 hour

Senator asked if anything urgent in the NC Faculty Report

- Anne Wallace shared 2 issues from report is 120 Credit Hour and Free Speech Discussion and recommended tabling these in favor of extending discussion for 120 Credit Hour curriculum

Approval of October 4, 2017 Minutes

Brad Johnson, Secretary of the Faculty Senate (Enc. A)

- No corrections. Minutes passed.
Provost Remarks

*Dana Dunn, Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor*

- Provost welcomed Senators to the new year
- Informed that Medical Director in Health Services will be sending out information on influenza status on our campus
  - Increased number of students being seen in Student Health Services
  - Students are being asked to stay in residence hall/residence for at least 24 hours after fever breaks to avoid further spread
- Current status of spring semester enrollment: currently up 879 students over last students (4.8%)
  - Very early data and early prior to student drops and census
  - Rate of increased taking in the drops will be more around 1% over last Spring
  - Larger transfer student population than in previous years
- UNCG has been working to enhance relationships with community college students and that students transferring into UNCG have seamless transitions
  - GTCC and Alamance Community College co-admission programs/agreements previously announced
  - Co-admission program with Rockingham Community College will be announced on Friday
- Provost thanked those who attended the faculty mixer with Guilford Tech Community College
- On the research front, Provost shared that Giant Steps Internal Search awards were notified today by email
  - This program is aimed at interdisciplinary projects and projects with potential to bring in external funding to UNCG
  - This program will help UNCG in meeting metric of external funding
  - Originally intended to make 6 awards of $2,500, but so many strong proposals caused 11 proposals to be awarded at the sum of $270,000
  - 39 submissions total for this grant opportunity
  - Funded projects details will be announced this week
- Hiring of Associate Vice Chancellor for Research
  - Formerly geared toward community outreach but has now been revised more toward university research
  - Open forums for candidates will be occurring and faculty are encouraged to attend the forums

Chancellor Remarks and *Ask the Chancellor!*

*Frank Gilliam, Chancellor*

- Andrea Hunter acknowledged that the Chancellor has been meeting with faculty in small group meetings
- Chancellor Gilliam welcomed everyone to the new year
- Updates
  - Millennial Campus—consultants were interviewed to help UNCG navigate the process of establishing the millennial campus
• Principles of Millennial Campus
• Ensure that core mission is served first and foremost—enhance our educational, research, and service mission
• Gate City is the Health & Wellness Corridor—runs Tate Street to Kaplan
• Arts & Culture Corridor—runs Tate Street to NY Pizza establishment on Tate Street
• Some projects being planned are not able to be discussed at this point in time but Chancellor shared that the UNCG community would be updated as soon as possible

○ Branding and marketing efforts related to UNCG
  ■ Jeff Shafer will be asking for input and feedback on messaging and narrative platforms for UNCG
  ■ We are looking for feedback in terms of if messages ring true to the authentic work of what is done at UNCG
  ■ Steering committee with representation from across campus is working as an advisory board to Jeff Shafer
  ■ Biggest controversially is around the visual identity of the UNCG—hope to receive some ideas by the end of the month from the firm that has been hired to assist UNCG
  ■ New branding elements will hopefully be rolled out by August 2018—templates for units and departments to use will also be shared

○ Strategic Plan
  ■ Chancellor shared some concern around GA’s performance agreement that UNCG has signed related to key performance indicators (KPIs)
  ■ Biggest controversy with metrics is agreeing on baseline data and assessment means
    • What specific data points will and/or ought to be

○ Partnership School in Rockingham County (Moss Street Elementary)
  ■ Yesterday the Board of Governors voted on the establishment of the school to go forward beginning in Fall 2018
  ■ School serves students in grades K-5 in a low-performing school (as determined by state measures)
  ■ More commonly known as “lab schools”—bring the latest in practices into the community to schools
  ■ Nine schools are expected to be set up around the state in the next couple of years
  ■ Chancellor shared that this is an unfunded mandate, meaning we’re not receiving funding to support this initiative
  ■ Headed by Carl Lashley and Christina O’Connor in the School of Education but the campus will be asked as a whole to serve as a partner in this initiative

○ Chancellor has been meeting in groups of 12-15 Senators for lunch—has 1 more group to go
Meetings have been open discussion and the meetings have been good for receiving feedback and new ideas.

Chancellor will continue meeting with Senators and will be happy to continue to come to Faculty Senate meetings to answer questions.

Questions from Senator:

- From Chancellor’s musings email—with respect to fundraising, what are you raising money for?
  - Chancellor shared still searching for the Vice Chancellor for Advancement.
  - Chancellor shared that the fundable projects come from the faculty.
    - Provost shared 30 projects have been supported with funding.
    - Chancellor shared donors get excited by ideas that are new, innovative, and the potential to be transformative.
    - Want projects with impact and long-lasting effects that no one else has done.
  - Have pushed almost $500,000 to faculty in the form of various grants.

- We feel we have general sense of Board of Governors at this point but would you characterize the relationship between the campuses and the working folks in GA?
  - Chancellor feels UNCG has a good relationship with GA—well thought of and considered well-run both academically and from a business point of view.
  - Chancellor shared that he has a good relationship with President Spellings and that she loves UNCG and Greensboro in general.
  - GA manages 17 institutions that are varied in scope (high school, HBCUs, public liberal arts, etc.).
  - Chancellor shared that UNCG has been treated fairly well by the system.
  - Part of new messaging platform talks about the work ethic of the campus—first-gen, work hard, don’t come from affluent backgrounds, faculty works hard, etc., which fits with the narrative that the Board of Governors has been promoting.

- Chancellor mentioned 2 items he heard in Faculty Senator lunch meetings:
  - Potential tension between research and teaching; Chancellor likes to look at distribution of teaching and research across the campus and what that looks like at other similar institutions.
    - We need to figure out how to express our evaluation of teaching—we continue to struggle with that tension.
    - Seed grants related to teaching show our support of teaching along with the work that the Teaching & Learning Commons is doing.
● We recognize that we have to think about the relationship between teaching and research and how that fits into the university’s mission

Questions arose about online instruction
● We’re searching now for an online accessibility coordinator
● Division of Online Learning and UTLC have increased support of online work
● As higher ed moves toward more online instruction, we need to consider what that means for UNCG and the overall curriculum
● Working to support online instruction the best we can with resources but we do recognize this requires careful thought about how we go about this in relation to the campus

Resolution #FS01102018/1
Stephen Yarbrough, Chair of the Government Committee (Enc. B)
● Resolution#FS01102018/1: To Amend the Constitution of the General Faculty, Bylaws of the Faculty Senate, Article II, Section 2, Item 3, “Advisory Committees Appointed by the Faculty Senate Electoral Divisions,” to Allow Discretionary Exclusion of Small Electoral Divisions from Membership on Senate Committees Requiring a Member from Each Electoral Division
  ○ Steve read the resolution to the Senate
  ○ Questions from Floor
    ■ Any other units who are close to this low number similarly to JSNN?
    ● Library is the next closest unit
  ○ Resolution carried

Discussion Resolution: 120 Credit Hours
Andrea Hunter, Chair
● Andrea shared that Board of Governors voted to support the 120 credit hour curriculum policy at it’s last board meeting
● Andrea shared PowerPoint
  ○ Phase I. Faculty Senate discussion on options to come into compliance with BOG policy; and to identify "top" options to be considered. January 10

    Senate discussion will focus on options, pros and cons, requirements/challenges of implementation. To inform our deliberations, the Faculty Senate requested information on credit hours and electives by program (See 2016 - 2017 AOS Program List from Bulletin, Undergraduate Program Electives and also General Education Program Hours).

    Senators, please familiarize yourself with your own degree programs. Gen Ed, Major Requirements, College-Level Requirements, and Free Electives

    General Education Council, and the General Education Self-Study Task Force will follow with subcommittee meetings for discussion.
- **Phase II.** General Faculty will be polled on top option(s), and given an opportunity for open-ended feedback. **Poll opens mid-January** (exact date TBD)
- **Phase III.** APRC will report findings to the Faculty Senate to be followed by Senate discussion. **February 7**
- **Phase IV.** APRC will bring forward a resolution to the Senate for review/approval for policy to support action on compliance with BOG policy. **March 14 (date may shift)**

- Senators were asked to consider and discuss at their tables some options for coming into compliance with the BOG policy (get options)
- During second part of hour, Senators will discuss the timeline to reduce academic programs to 120 credit hours by Dec. 1, 2018:
  - Spring/Summer 2018: Faculty discussions and changes should be completed
  - Oct. 1, 2018: Department heads/chairs submit plans to their own dean
  - Dec. 1, 2018: Deans submit plans for each program (major or concentration) to meet 120 credit hours to the Provost
  - Feb. 1, 2019: UNCG Board of Trustees consider exceptions to 120 credit hour requirement
  - March 2019: Advising for fall 2019 with new program requirements begin
  - June 1, 2019: Catalog updates will be available through the University Registrar's Office

- **Question from floor**
  - How is specific programs affected by this proposal given that this affects programs differently across campus
    - Andrea shared that handouts are provided with an overview of the programs and number of credit hours required
    - Provost shared that for some programs, there will be an opportunity to request an exception, which is laid out in licensure requirements
      - Justifications will be developed and presented to Trustees for approval in accordance with the policy
  - Should we consider the exceptions in our discussion?
    - Trying to think about which of these strategies or other strategies would we recommend going forward as a faculty
  - Senator shared that would it more beneficial to address this as a committee of the whole and then more forward to more detailed discussions
  - Senator shared that with their program, they have control over assigning the number of core courses and electives on top of what the College assigned as General Education—are faculty looking at what courses we take out at our program level or is it at the College level?
    - Andrea shared that one option would be General Education reduction and what that looks like for UNCG
    - Another option would be program-by-program review for core major/elective reduction
Another option would be elective reduction which would be student adjusted
  - Provost shared that the third option really wouldn’t really be an option given the current bulletin policy

○ Are there requirements outside of the College of Arts & Sciences in terms of credit hours
  - It is the General Education Council
○ Anne Wallace shared that we have the system-wide mandate for the opportunity for every program that doesn’t have an exception, there would be the required 120 credit hour program in place
  - UNCG is one of 4 universities that have a greater number of credit hours beyond 120
  - Anne shared that the faculty have the responsibility for curriculum and instruction and that this is the opportunity for faculty to discuss this versus having someone simply tell us what to do
○ Senator asked why are we doing this—we know it’s coming from a higher level—some of these cuts would help our students be more successful
  - Andrea shared overall movement in higher ed to move to 120 credit hour curriculum
○ Do we have any data on campus related to how many programs would need an exception?
  - Information in packet sent out by email and available at each table
  - Provost share that every program will need an exception because all programs are current set to at least 122 credit hours
○ Is it fair to assume if you are at or over 122 credit hours now, that you are in line for an exemption in the future?
  - No
○ Are there any criteria to determine what would be an exemption?
  - Information available in the packet
○ Is there anyone who can speak to how easy or hard to reduce General Education requirement without falling outside of SACSCOC requirements?
  - Jodi Pettazzoni shared that SACSCOC shared that a minimum of 30 credit hours for any general education with specific areas that must be offered
  - We can reduce General Ed hours down to 30 and still be in compliance—we would just need to explain why we are reducing the number of credit hours
○ Andrea asked David Carlone and Chuck Bolton (General Education Self-Study Task Force Council)
  - David shared that the Council doesn’t have a formal position because things have moved so quickly
  - At recent meeting, discussed some possibilities
    - Reduce category course instead of marker courses
  - Also wanted to know how this would interact or be handled by the self-study
- Also noted that this could be handled by having students take 1 less elective in some programs
- General Education is 36-37 hours of required courses on top of marker courses, which are often in major courses or are attached to majors, which could be up to 54 credit hours depending on the way totals are being determined
- Chuck added that Task Force hasn’t discussed this very much and has struggled with determining exactly how many hours is in General Education
  - Some issues with markers and how those can be taken
    - Provost provided clarification of credit hour—also competency requirement which is a Gen Ed marker which can cause some confusion for students as to exactly how many hours are required
    - For all programs in excess of 122, are advisors counting 37 hours from Gen Ed or the another number?
      - Provost believes counting lower number because Gen Ed courses have to be completed in addition to markers
      - Markers set up initially to help integrate some courses into programs
    - Senator asked if SACSCOC only requires 30 credit hours, why do we have 36-37 hours?
      - UNCG might have felt we wanted students to have some more requirements to be successful above the 30 credit hours’
    - Senator shared that each program has had faculty decide what to include in their major programs and it would be hard to have faculty to change in a matter of months. Similarly, faculty have also agreed to what is included in the Gen Ed requirements. What remains is the elective component, which seems to be the one component that has not be set in a specific way—this seems to be the thing that is easiest thing that is trimmable.
      - Senator shared that certain electives allow for double majors
      - Provost also shared that electives allow for major exploration as well
    - Senator asked about students who matriculate to UNCG from community colleges—students are legislated to come in with 64 credits—are we still holding those students to 120 credit hours?
      - Provost shared that students who come in “core complete” from community college do not have to take cores here at UNCG
    - Pre-professional programs—some students use electives to be able to apply to professional programs; cutting down on electives may reduce opportunities for students to apply to professional schools
    - Is timeline published anywhere—Senator would like to take it back to their Unit to share
      - Andrea will email to the Senate
    - Students can take more than 120 credit hours, correct? Many students take more than 120 credit hours, which comes with a tuition surcharge—not saying that students can’t take 120 credit hours
Surcharge on tuition comes into effect when they are 10% over what is required for their majors

- Anne shared that the policy requirement that it be possible for students in all our degree programs to graduate with 120 credit hours—it doesn’t mean they can’t take more but when they hit the credit hours ceiling, that means it will be sooner for when students will be required to pay a surcharge for tuition

- Senator shared important to remember that we’re not asking students to drop 20 credits but 2 credits—could we propose another option is to reduce 2 credits in elective reduction, which doesn’t seem to be a problem for most problems

  - Provost suggested really should be 2 options: Gen Ed reduction and Programs make the decision on major or elective reduction
    - This would put the locus of decision-making at the unit level

- Senator suggested going to Gen Ed and reducing the requirement from this area

- Are there unit-wide requirements that could be cut?
  - This would vary by unit/college

- Provost shared that it is hard for our students to navigate credit hours given the way Gen Ed and course markets are set up

- Andrea asked Senators how to best discuss this as the Faculty Senate
  - Senator shared that this will not be an easy decision for every department but liked Provost’s schedule of flexible solution where dept. could chose which option they wanted to do. Question is how would the University overall check up on the requirements overall?

- Provost shared that Gen Ed cannot be modified if option 2 of doing program-by-program consideration

- Senator shared that since we’re already engaging in a Gen Ed Self-Study, we cut 1 course in Gen Ed and then look at the long-run at how to solve the problem

  - Anne shared that she was at this point 2 days ago but when she heard from the Gen Ed committee and the task force, she shared that we wouldn’t know the overall effects of this; we may need to wait to see what the Gen Ed Task Force recommends

- Senator shared that cutting 1 course from Gen Ed doesn’t solve problem for programs over 122 credit hours who will not be given an exemption

- Senator shared that just cutting 1 course in Gen Ed will not be an easy thing to determine

- Provost shared that the timeline would shift depending on which option was selected—could possibly purchase approximately 6 months if Gen Ed reduction is chosen

- Andrea shared that part of what we hoped to do today was to discuss options for consideration for meeting the Board of Governors’ 120-Credit Hour Policy

  - Andrea asked Senators to go back to units to have discussions about this before the next Faculty Senate meeting
○ Andrea will have discussions with leadership and will report back out at the next Faculty Senate meeting
○ Senator shared that collaboration should be considered across groups
  ■ Also need to address the advising problem—need to have data to help examine this area more closely
○ Senator asked for specific recommendations from Gen Ed Council about where a cut could occur—could Gen Ed Council return with a proposal to cut 3-6 credit hours?
  ■ This motion was put forward to the General Ed Council
  ■ Discussion
  ● Would the Gen Ed Council have time?
  ○ Gen Ed Council already have a meeting this upcoming Friday and this is already on their agenda
  ● Provost asked if Gen Ed Council consider consulting with Self-Study Committee to get their input into the process
  ■ Motion passed.

University of NC Faculty Assembly Report
Anna Marshall-Baker, Lead Delegate, NC Faculty Assembly (Enc. C)
● Report included in Agenda Packet
● Tabled until next month’s meeting

Discussion/Resolution: Free Speech in Support of NC Faculty Assembly
Anna Marshall-Baker, Lead Delegate, NC Faculty Assembly (Enc. D)
● Tabled until next month’s meeting

Announcements & Adjournment
● Faculty Forum: UNCG Narrative and Visual Identity: Update & Forum
  ○ Wednesday, January 28, 2018, 3pm-5pm, Virginia Dare Room, Alumni House
● Save the date: UNCG A.R.F. (Association of Retired Faculty)
  ○ Thursday, January 25, 2018, 5pm-7pm, Virginia Dare Room, Alumni House
● Next meeting of Faculty Senate: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 from 3pm-5pm in Virginia Dare Room, Alumni House

Respectfully submitted,
Brad Johnson
Secretary of the Faculty Senate

Approved at the February 7, 2018 Faculty Senate Meeting