Minutes of the General Faculty
September 20, 2017

3:00 Andrea Hunter

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.

I want to first introduce you to the leadership team, Anne Wallace (Immediate Past Chair), Laurie Malone-Kennedy (Secretary), and Lynda Kellam (Parliamentarian) who is new to the Faculty Senate and joins us from the Libraries. As is our tradition, I will begin with a few opening remarks.

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As a child of teachers, I have spent my entire life on the academic calendar and Fall, and the opening of school, is when the year truly begins: all things are possible, and my energies are seemingly endless – and, I am reminded of why I love this work. This, I believe, is something we all share.

So, I want to welcome all of you to the New Year, and especially those who are joining the UNCG faculty. You will enrich us as a university, and we are pleased that you have joined us at this exciting moment in our university’s history.

We now commemorate the 125th anniversary of this university’s founding, to braid together the best of what we have been, and to make ourselves anew – it is our Third Act, a time for Giant Steps, as Chancellor Gilliam has stated, and we are resolute, and aspirational – as we should be.

The faculty are central to this story, we are a part of the lifeblood of UNCG; and though our roles and responsibilities are diverse and differ from those of central administration and other divisions, the health of the university is no less dependent on what we do.

Early in my career, a colleague said to me that they “work at a university, and not for it,” and I thought about this for a long while about what “at” and “for” meant. I understood that there was a weary cynicism underneath but what it also signalled to me was I needed to think purposively about my relationship to the university as an institution, and as a community.

I choose to pursue involvement in service and faculty governance not because of the ways the academy and the university most affirmed me, but because of its imperfections, and a generative hope to be a part of institutional transformation.

Giant Steps, is not only about innovations, but also the leaps that we must make as an institution and as a university community toward equity, what is just, and in the way we affirm the value and contributions of each of us; and; the emphasis on opportunity, excellence, and access must also be applied to faculty success.

As a faculty, we are also challenged to keep pace with the change unfolding around us, at this university and in higher education, which requires that we be engaged, and empowered, and that we build relationships with each other. Faculty governance, at all levels, is one critical mechanism through which this can occur.

The Faculty Senate, is the legislative arm of the General Faculty, and our committees where so much of the deep work occurs, is an engine. We have both breadth and depth in our university-level faculty governance structures, which includes not only 36 senators, but 25 committees and we are 200+ faculty strong.
I encourage you to engage with your Senators, reach out to Faculty Senate Committee Chairs, let us know what your concerns are, join us for Faculty Forums, talk to each other, and consider the opportunities to serve and lead in faculty governance.

Again welcome, and Happy New (Academic Year) Year!

Business Section

3:05 Laurie Kennedy-Malone asked for changes or additions to the April 19, 2017 General Faculty meeting minutes. No changes were suggested and the minutes were approved as written. [Enclosure A]

3:10 Anne Wallace, Immediate Past Chair of the Faculty Senate gave the background to the resolution on the agenda: Resolution #GF09202017/1: To Amend the Constitution of the General Faculty, Article II, Section 2, “Election of Senators,” to Restore Electoral Division’s Minimum Representation by Two Senators and to Provide for Optional Exemption for Small Electoral Divisions. Enclosure B included in the packet provided further detail. Anne Wallace provided the history of Faculty Senate representation, explaining that the Senators represent the General Faculty, apportioned according to the size of electoral divisions rather than the individual programs or departments with the divisions. From 1991 until 2012, the UNCG Faculty Constitution included language ensuring that every electoral division would have at least two Senators. The Constitution however now has language that calls for “rounding the product to the nearest integer greater than or equal to one.” The resolution being brought forward today has language to restore the “two-Senator rule” to the constitution, adding an option for small divisions to choose whether to have one or two Senators. Anne Wallace reiterated that the single intent of the resolution is to reverse what was an unintended consequence for small electoral divisions. The resolution was passed by the Faculty Senate on September 9, 2017. [Enclosure B]

3:20. Anne Wallace, Immediate Past Chair of the Faculty Senate and Stephen Yarbrough, Chair of the Faculty Governance Committee. [Enclosure C]. Resolution #GF09202017/1: To Amend the Constitution of the General Faculty, Article II, Section 2, “Election of Senators,” to Restore Electoral Division’s Minimum Representation by Two Senators and to Provide for Optional Exemption for Small Electoral Divisions. Steve Yarbrough read the resolution aloud. It was further explained that there are 36 Senators serving in the Senate, this number reflects the current apportionment process. After a brief discussion, the vote was taken and the resolution passed.

3:30. Julia Jackson-Newsome, Associate Vice Chancellor for Strategy and Policy: University Strategic Planning Update. Dr. Julia Jackson-Newsome was invited to the General Faculty meeting to give an overview of the new UNCG strategic plan. In her presentation, she addressed the four guiding principles of: Opportunity and Excellence, Student-Oriented, Research Intensive and Shared Places and Fate. The three Strategic Areas of Focus: Health and Wellness, Vibrant Communities and Global Connections was highlighted. Dissemination and branding was addressed in terms of Taking Giants Steps namely in core elements, goals and initiatives, and specific faculty seed grants for teaching and research.

Next, specific goals and initiatives for student success was addressed. Targeted increase enrolment in programs related to the strategic areas: Health and Wellness, Vibrant Communities and Global Connections. Pertaining to goals under Student Transformation, a goal now is to increase access for students in rural communities and from low-income backgrounds. Student experiences in experiential learning and co-curricular and extracurricular programing is targeted to increase. Additionally, there is now a focus on increased student success in the areas of increased graduation rate in particular students
from low-income backgrounds and from rural communities. Pertaining to goals under *Knowledge Transformation*, the UNCG Internal Goal is to increase submissions, awards and funding for projects in the areas of Health and Wellness, Vibrant Communities, and Global Connections. The goal translated into a percentage is to increase UNCG external funding 5% since fiscal year 2017 to a target of 33,992,901. Pertaining to the goals under *Regional Transformation* initiatives to grow a critical workforce by graduating students enrolled in programs from Health and Wellness and Vibrant Communities and Global Connections. Dr. Jackson-Newsome discussed the two areas of distinction: Health and Wellness and Visual and Performing Arts. The specific targets that the areas are charged to address include external funding, awards, rankings and pass rates for programs that prepare students under the area of Health and Wellness and the placement of graduates, museum attendance and museum collection size for the Visual and Performing Arts.

**Faculty Convocation 3:45. Dana Dunn, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor.** The Provost opened her remarks that this is her fourth Faculty Convocation. She continued in mentioning that her report today in light of being fair, systematic and fully transparent would reflect the CITI Funding Allocations. The provost paused and said that for the first time in years there are no cuts projected in funding. She then highlighted in the power point presentation with information about the 2017-2018 Enrollment Change Funding. The total amount received by UNCG is $15,412,841 with $12,136,225 allocated to Academic Affairs (this amount includes funds carried forward from 2016-2017). The provost further explained how the funding has been divided into faculty line commitments, graduate assistantships, other academic support, holdback and benefits. The Provost then presented charts of faculty commitments 2016-2017 funded in 2017-2018 and then the commitments in 2017-2018 actually funded in 2017-2018. In the category of other Academic Support, the $2,085,087 funding will go to the Library, paying the rental fees programs housed at the Union Square Campus, UNCG Online and for Banner Engage. The Provost further explained that the $420,660 amount in the hold back funding which can be allocated for retention funding and matching offers. She presented a chart on Graduate Student Support 2017-2019 that was enhanced by the Enrollment Change Funding. The CITI Student Support Services Funding for 2017-2018 was explained in terms of advisors in Business and Economics, Enrollment Management, and Student Affairs. There is allocated $36,886 designated as hold-back money for funding for another unit needs as to be determined. With the Enrollment Change Funding this year are a number of one-time support of select initiatives with a total allocation of $783,975. The final area addressed was the allocation of additional support of faculty research which includes $179,349 for seed grants for faculty research for a total of $752,640. The Provost added the late breaking news pertaining to raises. She explained that these would be moderate raises. The allocation of the raises is to be based on 80% merit and 20% for scarcity of position/equity. Th Provost gave a background to the most recent raises since academic year 2014-2015. This year’s raise she explained would be an average of a 1.7% increase, the raises will be retroactive to July and the increase will appear in the October pay check. She highlighted another new funding sources to the university to include $650,000 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. In addition, UNCG has received a 5-year, $1.15 million grant award from the U.S. Department of Education to support first-generation and underrepresented students in undergraduate research and graduate school preparation. UNCG is one of five universities in North Carolina to be selected for the program. We were alerted to an upcoming event sponsored by the Office of the Provost on October 17, George Mehaffy, AASCU Vice President for Academic Leadership and Change, will be coming to address The Faculty Role in Student Success.
4:50 Andrea Hunter reminded the faculty that immediately following the General Faculty meeting is the welcome reception and social for new faculty that is co-sponsored by the UNCG University Teaching & Learning Commons, the Faculty Senate, and the UNCG chapter of AAUP. The next Faculty Senate meeting will be held on October 4, 2017. She reminded faculty also of the upcoming Faculty Forum to be held on October 18, 2017 on the General Education Program Review. The forum will be held in the Alumni House, Virginia Dare room at 3pm. The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.

Minutes provided by:
Laurie Kennedy-Malone, Secretary of the General Faculty

(Approved April 18, 2018 General Faculty Meeting)