



**Academic Affairs Committee  
November 27, 2018  
Minutes**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dean Priddy, Chair; Brad Hayes; Kathy Manning; Betsy Oakley; Samaya Roary

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:** Elizabeth Phillips

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Frank Gilliam, Chancellor; Dana Dunn, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor; Charlie Maimone, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs; David Demo, Interim Dean of the School of Health and Human Sciences (HHS); Esther Leerkes, HHS Associate Dean for Research; Jodi Pettazzoni, Associate Vice Provost and Director, Office of Assessment, Accreditation, and Academic Program Planning; and other members of the administration, faculty, staff, and general public.

**PROCEEDINGS:**

Chair Priddy called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. and reminded members of the Conflict of Interest (COI) statement from the State Government Ethics Act and their duty to avoid COI and appearances of COI, if any should be identified. None were identified.

The roll call was read and a quorum was confirmed.

The minutes for September 25, 2018, were approved with no additions or corrections.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

AAC–1 Provost’s Report (Dunn)

Provost Dunn updated the committee on the dean searches currently unfolding. UNCG has hired, and will have onboard by January 14, a new dean for the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering: Dr. Sherine Obare, currently the Associate Vice President for Research and a Professor of Chemistry at Western Michigan University. The Dean of Online Learning candidates are in the first interview visit stage of the hiring process; on-campus interviews will take place in early spring. The School of Health and Human Sciences dean search is ongoing, with four recent campus visits from candidates. Provost Dunn meets soon with the search committee and looks forward to making an offer for a new HHS dean soon. We also have a College of Visual and Performing Arts dean search in the early stages with a strong candidate pool. Provost Dunn also mentioned the departure of Dr. Bryan Terry from Enrollment

Management, who is moving to Arkansas State University. We are taking advantage of this transition opportunity to restructure the position from Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management into two positions: one focused on traditional enrollment management functions (recruiting, admissions, financial aid, and registrar) and the other on student success and student achievement. These searches will launch at the associate vice chancellor level early in the spring semester. We have been successful as of late in fund-raising for student success initiatives. We received a generous gift from The Armfield Foundation to support student success coaching, and we learned very recently that the Cemala Foundation also plans to make a major gift in support of this type of programming.

#### AAC–2 Exceptions to the UNC System Regulation Related to Fostering Student Success (Dunn)

At a past meeting, Provost Dunn shared the new UNC System Board of Governors mandate (AAC–2.1) regarding 120-hour degree caps for most undergraduate academic programs to promote timely graduation. The System created a policy (AAC–2.2) that requires all campuses evaluate existing degree programs that have more than 120 hours and decide whether those hours might be reduced through the elimination of electives or other hours to promote timely graduation. UNCG has gone through an intensive review process over the past few months and reduced hours in all but six programs; said programs are requesting exceptions to the 120-hour rule. The policy allows Trustees to grant exceptions in areas where they deem appropriate. All of the programs presented here are teacher education and licensure related programs, which require additional work on top of the degree requirements. If the committee supports the six exceptions, they should be brought before the full Board as an action item.

Chair Priddy moved that the Academic Affairs Committee recommend to the full Board of Trustees the approval of the six exemptions to the 120-hour rule. Seconded and approved.

#### AAC–3 HHS Research: Advancing Basic and Applied Science for the Greater Good (Demo, Leerkes)

David Demo: Several years ago the School of Health and Human Sciences was formed following a campus-wide reorganization. One of the reasons for doing so was the recognition of synergies; we saw the opportunities for a great deal of interdisciplinary research as well as interdisciplinary teaching by combining the efforts of faculty in Kinesiology, Human Development and Family Studies, Nutrition, and other areas. That is what has set the stage for the interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary research that impacts not only the University, but the community as well.

Esther Leerkes: Health and Human Sciences comprises much more than just physical health. It includes mental health, emotional health, and the health of our social relationships. It is not just about disease prevention, it is also about health promotion and the promotion of well-being. We also think about health as going beyond the individual, including family health, the quality of schools and workplaces, and the facets of those environments that promote or undermine health or that make those environments themselves healthy. At a broader level we think about neighborhoods and communities; for instance, is it a high crime neighborhood or a safe neighborhood and to what extent is the neighborhood characterized by cohesiveness versus

social isolation? To what extent does the neighborhood offer opportunities like green space to promote healthy activities? At an even broader level, to what extent do our policies and our culture at large create belief systems that promote health at all levels? We take a perspective of health that starts at the micro level—the individual—but then broadening to the larger systems, recognizing that health exists beyond just the individual. We also recognize that each of these characteristics are interrelated. For example, an individual’s physical health influences their mental health, but their mental health also influences their physical health.

HHS is a school composed of eight different departments and two programs that focus on health at different levels and different domains, which creates a rich opportunity for the dialogue and interdisciplinary collaboration that is largely responsible for our successful research experience. Our research runs the gamut, from basic, or bench, science; applied or clinical research; to community-engaged research. Research methodology also covers the full spectrum.

HHS has been the leading academic unit at UNCG in terms of external funding since 2012. In the first quarter of 2018–2019, HHS brought in nearly \$8 million. Of the \$131 million generated by academic units since 2012, HHS faculty generated 39 percent, while the school constitutes only 16 percent of faculty campus wide. Several key research projects were profiled.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

AAC–4 Candidates Scheduled to be Awarded Degrees and Certificates in December 2018

Approved unanimously for presentation to the full Board on November 30, 2018.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

The following items were presented as information only; no action required:

AAC–5 Report of Additions to and Deletions from the August 2018 Degree Candidates List

AAC–6 Update on Research and Engagement

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on motion at 2:03 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly Harris  
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees