

Faculty Senate Minutes
Special Meeting
2:30-3:30 pm, UC Multipurpose Room
February 3, 2017

I. Roll call

Present

Rus Binkley, Patricia Bricker, Catherine Carter, Mae Claxton, David Dorondo, Andrew Mannion, Erin McNelis, Niall Michelsen, Mack Powell, Brian Railsback, Damon Sink, Liz Skene, Katerina Spasovska, Robert Steffen, Wes Stone, Zsolt Szabo, Tonya Westbrook, Bill Yang

Senators with proxies

Robert Crow, Beth Huber, Frank Lockwood, David McCord, Alison Morrison-Shetlar, Cheryl Water-Tormey

Absent

Bob Beaudet, David Belcher, Dan Clapper, Ian Hewer, Kae Livsey, Bill Richmond, Alex Sargsyan, Jamie Vaske

II. Position Statement Discussion

Bill Yang presented the position statement to the Faculty Senate as a seconded motion from the Faculty Senate Planning Team. It was noted that the position statement originated from a number of faculty members, acknowledging the unsatisfied sentiment among some faculty that the UNC GA's statements, as well as the WCU administration's statements, on the issue were not strong enough in wording. Discussion followed and there was broad support for the proposed statement. Senators also supported issuing the statement jointly with SGA and the Staff Senate. Representatives from Staff Senate said they would discuss the matter with their groups and have a vote by Monday evening. Dr. Brian Railsback, the Faculty Senate liaison to the SGA, will ask SGA if they would consider the matter at their next meeting, which is also the coming Monday. The statement was amended to include SGA and Staff Senate with the understanding that if either group was against the statement or did not reach a decision by Monday evening, their name would be removed from the final version of the position statement. Concerns were also raised whether the stronger wording of the proposed position statement is reflective of all faculty's views. It was argued that there would not be 100% consensus among all faculty on any issue, but the position statement accurately reflects the strong sentiment and supportive feedback the Senators have received. The motion of "Call the Question" is moved and passed. A voice vote was taken and the position statement passed unanimously.

III. Adjourn