

# WCU Provost's Report to Faculty Senate

January 2019

## Summer 2019 (and Beyond)

The System Office has requested our rates for Summer tuition and fees. No change to undergraduate tuition or fees. No change to graduate fees; reviewing a minor increase in graduate student tuition. Enrollment over summer will be impacted by no Jamaican students enrolled; NCAA decision on student athletes enrolled.

We anticipate action/guidance from the System Office regarding summer structure and funding, which will have implications for faculty summer compensation. Currently, WCU faculty compensation will remain same as last year.

## Faculty Salaries Update

This semester I will establish an ad hoc committee comprised of Faculty Senate leadership, Human Resources personnel, and academic affairs leadership, to explore the feasibility, costs and timeline to retroactively implement the Senate's resolution on faculty salary adjustments based on promotions. I am committed to this recommendation and will establish a timeline for a report addressing the resolution passed by Senate last spring. Ad hoc committee membership is under development.

## Non-Tenure Track Faculty Update

I am exploring with Faculty Senate Chair our ability to establish a travel/professional development fund for non-tenure track faculty. Limited opportunities exist for non-tenure track faculty to apply for professional development funds, and Faculty Senate's resolution and Academic Affairs' leadership's commitment to support all our faculty make this action a priority.

## Upcoming Administrative Vacancies and Search Updates

- Dr. Susan Fouts, Executive Director of Educational Outreach, will retire on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019; a search will commence shortly, chaired by Dr. Kevan Frazier, Executive Director of Biltmore Park.
- Director of Assessment candidates are underway. The anticipated start date is March 1<sup>st</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The College of Business Dean Search has concluded. We are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Hai-yang Chen as the new dean of the College of Business, effective February 1, 2019. Dr. Chen is a tenured professor of finance at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia, where he served as dean of the Lewis College of Business from 2013 to 2016. Prior to that he was an administrator and faculty member in global financial services, financial planning and investments at William Paterson University in New Jersey from 2002 to 2013. I heartily welcome Dr. Chen to our community. Please see the press

release on Dr. Chen's appointment at this link: <https://news-prod.wcu.edu/2019/01/wcu-selects-marshalls-hai-yang-chen-as-next-college-of-business-dean/>. I am indebted to Dr. Hollye Moss, who has served ably and willingly as interim dean during the past year, as well as to the search committee and faculty and staff in the College of Business for their support in this transition. We are finalizing a transition plan for Hollye; Jon Marvel will continue as school director to the end of the academic year.

- The College of Health and Human Sciences Dean Search is underway with candidate visits beginning January 15<sup>th</sup> through early February.
- The search for the Associate Dean of the Graduate School is ongoing.
- The search committee for the Director of Sponsored Research is currently under development.
- The search for the Director of the Coulter Faculty Commons for Teaching Excellence has concluded. Dr. Eli Collins-Brown will begin her tenure at WCU on March 1, 2019. Since February of 2017, Dr. Collins-Brown has been the Director for the Center of Innovative and Transformative Instruction at Winston-Salem State University. She is an online adjunct professor for the University of Maryland University College as well as a technology and design consultant.

### **SACSCOC/UNC Metrics**

Thanks to mammoth efforts from faculty and staff, we were pleased with WCU's December action by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). The report WCU submitted in September provided sufficient evidence to support our culture of quality assurance and continuous improvement. Our next reaffirmation action is the fifth-year impact report due in 2022.

Student learning is at the heart of what we do and we are always proud of the outcomes that reflect faculty, staff and student work. Additionally, we have metrics that reflect our institutional performance and I am pleased to report that we have been successful in our recent UNC System Strategic Plan Metrics by exceeding all indicators that we listed as priorities and improvements.

- See addendum 1.

### **Spring 2019 Enrollment Update**

Spring 2019 enrollment is very healthy, reflecting more than 8% increase in headcount (11,071 compared to 10,209 PIT last year) as well as student credit hour generation (140,815 compared to 130,085 PIT last year) to date. Numbers will continue to fluctuate based on academic action, add-drop, drop for non-payment, etc., during the first week of classes. The census date is Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup>.

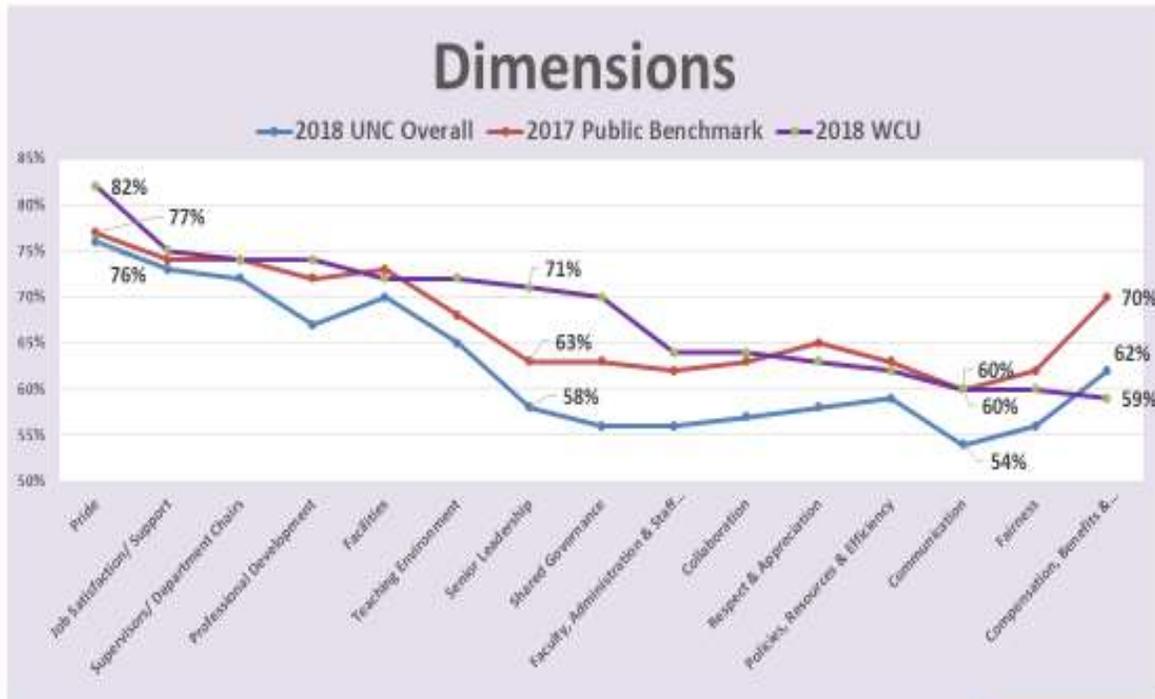
- See addendum 2.

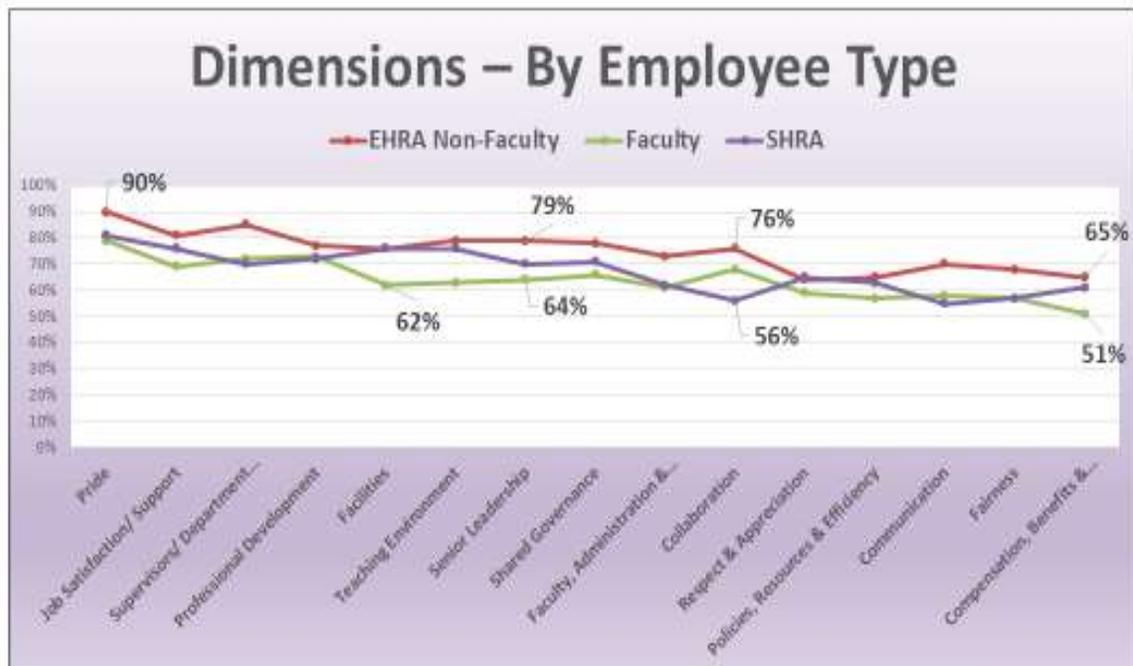
### **UNC System Survey Results**

Deeper discussion and presentation of survey results to Faculty Senate if requested; summary notes attached. Some key takeaways based on disaggregated results, especially on feedback from faculty. Academic and institutional leadership working through results. Sample of results...

## RESPONSE RATES

Job Category	Total	Responded	Percentage
EHRA NF	293	199	68%
SHRA	659	401	61%
Faculty	541	222	41%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>1,493</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>55%</b>





- See addendum 3 (Institutional Summary)
- See addendum 4 (Academic Affairs Summary)

#### Program Update

- Master of Science in Athletic Training is fully approved for implementation in fall 2020. Profession is transitioning away from a baccalaureate degree.

#### MLK celebrations / campus activities

The Western Carolina University community will celebrate and commemorate the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr., with a focus on the concept of community. The 2019 celebration will begin with the annual Unity March (noon on Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at the fountain) and includes days of service, events sponsored by student organizations, a keynote presentation and workshops with the speaker and concludes with a Poverty Simulation. Please see the following link for details: <https://www.wcu.edu/experience/intercultural-affairs/mlk-celebration.aspx>

#### Campus Security and Parking Update

Last year Senate requested information on protocols used to determine campus events that receive security and those that don't.

- 1) If events are sponsored by Campus Activities in Student Affairs, there will be campus security.

- 2) Some guests (e.g., former attorney general Loretta Lynch) request campus police presence; some bring their own security.
- 3) Other divisions have the option of requesting campus security presence.

Discussions are underway to address concerns by faculty and campus guests, etc., that allow for a safe and non-intimidating environment at our events.

Construction of a new parking deck in the north baseball parking lot is on hold for the time being. New parking is under construction in other areas, e.g., adjacent to the Greek Village, across from the Health and Human Sciences Building, and in the south baseball parking lot. Additional parking will serve commuting students.