The last report to the Board of Trustees was submitted on March 26, 2018. Since that time, through April 17, 2018 the following topics have been discussed at the full Faculty Senate:

1. **Athletics and Academics at NC State (April 3)**
   - *Joel Pawlak, (then) Interim Faculty Athletics Representative*
   - *Katie Sheridan Graham, Assistant Dean and Director, Academic Support for Student Athletes*
   - *Deborah A. Yow, Director of Athletics*

   Background: The duties of the Council on Athletics include advising the Faculty Senate on matters pertaining to NC State’s intercollegiate athletics program. The Athletics leadership has a tradition of an annual presentation and discussion with the Faculty Senate.

   Highlights included average student-athlete GPA of 3.08 for Fall 2017 and it was noted this is the highest average term GPA to date. For the same term (Fall 2017) 159 student-athletes were named to the Dean’s list. The top five majors for student-athletes with Junior or higher standing are *Business Administration, Communications, Biological Sciences, Sports Management and Parks, Recreation, and Tourism*; with the first three being the same academic majors pursued by their non-athlete undergraduate peers. An extensive discussion was held covering a wide range of issues including, but not limited to special admit students and associated academic support programs, the fate of students who become injured and no-longer can play, and the intricacies of the Federal Academic Progress Rate calculation tracking eligibility and retention.

2. **Faculty Senate Business (April 17)**
   - *Carolyn Bird, Chair of the Faculty*

   Background: As the last meeting of the semester, we welcomed incoming senators and current senators voted to elect an Executive Committee for the 65th Session. Elections to the Council on Athletics were held; for the two available seats six faculty members provided bios and spoke to the Faculty Senate. The two faculty elected to a 3-year term were:

   - **James Mickle**, Alum Distinguished Undergraduate Professor, Plant and Microbial Biology - College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
   - **Kimberly Bush**, Director of Undergraduate Programs and Teaching Associate Professor, Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management - College of Natural Resources.

Invited Speakers for discussion in upcoming Faculty Senate meetings include:

1. **Spring 2018 Employee Engagement Survey: A Summary of Results and Next Steps** (August 28)
   - *Marie Williams, Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources*
   - *Nancy Whelchel, Director for Survey Research, Office of Institutional Planning and Research*
The Faculty Senate will get an overview of the Employee Engagement Survey (a 5-year UNC initiative), hear results from the Spring 2018 administration of the survey at NC State, learn about plans for using the data, and have the opportunity for questions and discussion.

Other items:

**Faculty Mediator Training.** The Chair of the Faculty partnered with the Office of General Counsel and the Office of Faculty Affairs for professional mediation training. Fifteen faculty, most at the full professor rank, participated in the training and are now better equipped to serve as a mediator in instances of Faculty Grievance (604) and Non-Reappointment Review (607) petitions or other requests for mediation that involve faculty. This is the first time that we have used an external professional mediator to conduct the training. We, the faculty, thank Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Warwick Arden for making this investment in faculty and the Office of Faculty Affairs (Courtney Thornton, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Personnel and Policy and Katharine Stewart, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs) and General Counsel (Sarah Lannom) for key contributions.

The **Fall General Faculty Meeting** is scheduled for October 30, 2018 in the Talley Student Center, Room 4140, Governance Chamber.

The three **Faculty Senate Committees** (Academic Policy; Governance and Personnel Policy; Resources and Environment) discuss many issues and some of them are resolved without coming to the full Senate. Committee reports are posted on the website: [https://facultysenate.ncsu.edu/](https://facultysenate.ncsu.edu/)

*Respectfully Submitted by:*

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Chair of the NC State University Faculty, 2017-2019