

## **Senate 2007-2008 Objectives**

**Vision:** *To enhance student learning, innovative scholarship, and service significant to our community, we dedicate ourselves to those initiatives that will strengthen our teaching, scholarship, academic programs and disciplines, and campus community as CNU continues along the path of a preeminent public liberal arts and sciences university.*

**Objective 1: Recognize and support faculty performance, innovations, and achievements in teaching, scholarship and service.**

**Strategy 1A. Examine the effectiveness of the faculty evaluation process for both summative (annual, tenure, promotion) and formative (improvement) assessment.**

1. Consider, evaluate and make a recommendation regarding the Pollard Committee's report on faculty evaluation at CNU.
2. Investigate appropriate next steps in faculty evaluation systems.
3. Hold faculty meetings (brown-bags) to determine goals for summative and formative evaluations.
4. Lay the foundation for future exploration of departmental management models based on the faculty evaluation system.

**Strategy 1B. Establish a university -wide faculty mentorship program.**

1. Work with Deans, department Chairs, and CNU community to develop a faculty mentor program.

**Strategy 1C. Provide venues for recognition of faculty accomplishments.**

1. Sponsor an annual promotion, tenure, scholarship recognition event with Provost and Deans.
2. Consider an area within the new academic building(s) that will recognize our emeritus and distinguished faculty.

**Objective 2: Invest in all aspects of faculty life at CNU, including teaching and learning, scholarship, and service.**

**Strategy 2A: Enhance faculty development in teaching.**

1. Work with Provost and Deans to establish a center for innovative teaching excellence.
2. Working with the Provost and Deans, setup a program of seminars and workshops that address a) how students learn and b) effective teaching techniques.

**Strategy 2B: Enhance faculty development in research.**

1. Increase opportunities for obtaining external research grants for faculty and students, by working with Provost, Sponsored Programs Office and Deans to research and plan for an expanded Office of Sponsored Programs.
2. Expand internal funds for faculty professional development and student research.

**Strategy 2C: Enhance faculty service.**

1. Examine how to effectively distribute service among faculty

**Objective 3: Increase faculty participation in university governance, and strengthen faculty responsibility, involvement, and leadership in matters of import to the university.**

**Strategy 3A. Use Senate structure and oversight activities to strengthen faculty governance of university affairs.**

1. Hold SEC bi-weekly meeting with President and Provost
2. Hold full Senate meeting with President and Provost twice each term.
3. Have Senate Handbook committee examine each academic committee's general responsibilities and their fit within our university academic and administrative structure.
4. Add existing Senate standing sub-committees to the Handbook.

**Strategy 3B: Create forums in which faculty members can express to the Senate their ideas for strengthening teaching and learning, and for enhancing the university's reputation as an institution of excellence.**

1. Have Senators visit departments not represented on the Senate to solicit ideas from faculty members (minimum 1 time each term)
2. Hold 1-2 brown-bag topic sessions to solicit faculty ideas for improving the quality of faculty life at CNU. Invite Provost to attend.
3. Continue to expedite approval of Senate minutes, distribute them electronically, and post on the web page
4. General Faculty meetings will provide substantive information concerning faculty issues and activities along with the approval vote of graduates.

**Strategy 3C: Enhance cooperation and communication among university standing committees and the Faculty Senate.**

1. Host a small social event in the fall with Senators and standing committee chairs (invite the Provost).
2. Invite key committee chairs to deliver updates to Senators, especially when Senate action upon their committee recommendations is pending.
3. Work with committee chairs, especially the UCC chair, LLC chair, and the Assistant Dean for Liberal Learning, to coordinate timetables in advance for their major recommendations to the Senate.

**Strategy 3D: Create an annual budget request for the Faculty Senate.**

1. Increase Senate budget request to \$900. Target use: purchase research material (books/databases) and meeting material.