

Christopher Newport University Faculty Senate 2007-08

Vision: To enhance the quality of faculty life at Christopher Newport University in order to recruit and retain the superior faculty integral to a nationally recognized university, and to support not just exemplary teaching and learning, but also the significant scholarship that will enhance CNU's reputation as it evolves into the preeminent public liberal arts and sciences university it aspires to be and is now becoming.

Goal 1: Increase faculty participation in university governance, and strengthen faculty responsibility, involvement, and leadership in matters of import to the university.

2007-08	2006-07
<p>SEC bi-weekly meeting with President and Provost Full Senate Meeting with President and Provost twice each term.</p> <p>Establish Senate committee to examine and make recommendations concerning each academic committee duties – with the goal to strengthen faculty governance.</p> <p>Work with the Provost and President to establish general guidelines for candidates to fill faculty positions.</p>	<p>Senate committee (chaired by Senator Sellars) will make recommendations in early fall regarding permanent changes to the academic calendar.</p> <p><i>Create Handbook language commissioning the University Chairs Council, established by the Senate last year</i></p> <p><i>Create rotation schedule for Faculty Grievance Committee</i></p> <p><i>Other Handbook changes, p. 151: add Library Science, Leadership/American Studies, and split Fine and Performing Arts into its constituent parts (forwarded to HB committee chair Mulligan 8-29)</i></p> <p><i>Create committee to review standards of evidence and appeal procedures in Judicial Affairs</i></p>

Strategy 1A: Create forums in which faculty members can express to the Senate their ideas for bringing faculty life in line with that of our aspirant peer institutions, for strengthening teaching and learning, and for enhancing the university's reputation as an institution of excellence.

2007-08	2006-07
Have Senators visit departments not represented on the Senate to solicit ideas from faculty members (minimum 1 time each term)	Have Senators visit department meetings, especially those that are not represented on the Senate, to solicit ideas from faculty members (1-2 times each term)
Hold 1-2 brown-bag topic sessions to solicit faculty ideas for improving the quality of faculty life at CNU. <i>Invite Provost to attend.</i>	Hold 1-2 brown-bag topics sessions to solicit ideas (e.g., what are your 3 best ideas for improving the quality of faculty life at CNU?).
Continue to expedite approval of Senate minutes, distribute them electronically, and post on the web page	Senate committee on faculty governance (chaired by Senator Grau), will make recommendations in Fall 06 regarding the adequacy of faculty representation in the current system.
General Faculty meetings will provide substantive information concerning faculty issues and activities along with the approval vote of graduates.	Continue to expedite approval of Senate minutes, distribute them electronically, and post on the web page
	Continue to make General Faculty meetings about important information, issues, and updates rather than a pro forma vote on the graduates.

Strategy 1B: Enhance cooperation and communication among university standing committees and the Faculty Senate.

2007-08	2006-07
Host a small social event in the fall with Senators and standing committee chairs (invite the Provost).	Invited key committee chairs to a Senate meeting and introduced them.
Invite key committee chairs to deliver BRIEF updates to Senators, especially when Senate action upon their committee recommendations is pending.	Host a small social event in the fall with Senators and standing committee chairs
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.	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 1C: Support the ongoing Senate and administration efforts to increase CNU's graduation and retention rates.

2007-08	2006-07
Work with administrative offices to target struggling students for outside classroom activities (class tutoring)	
Freshman Seminar: assess goals. Possibly enhance with university (life) skill development.	

Strategy 1D: Create an annual budget request for the Faculty Senate.

2007-08	2006-07
Increase Budget request to \$900. Target use: purchase research material (books/databases) and meeting material.	Budget request of \$750 sent to Provost 2/06. Status: awaiting 06-07 budget finalization

Goal 2: Enhance quality of faculty life at CNU, to include emphasis on faculty scholarship/ research/ creative activity, in order to enhance the effectiveness of teaching and learning, to strengthen the academic reputation of the university, and to provide a vibrant academic culture.

2007-08	2006-07
Getting Started Week activities: Examine faculty involvement and potential enhancement of faculty-student interaction. Work with Dean and UGRC to evaluate the possibility of combining Faculty Research talk meeting during Getting Started week with Paideia – a combined student/faculty meeting.	3-4 Teaching load adjustment for 08-09 non-tenured faculty and 10-11 for remaining tenured faculty.

Strategy 2A: Enhance faculty development in teaching.

2007-08	2006-07
Work with Provost and Deans: 1. Setup a Program of seminars/workshops which address a) how do students learn and b) teaching techniques to enhance learning.	

Strategy 2B: Enhance faculty development in research. Increase opportunities for obtaining external research grants for faculty and students - benchmarks of preeminent universities.

2007-08	2006-7
Work with Sponsored Programs Office and Deans: 1. Setup a committee to help organize Seminars, Workshops that will provide opportunities for faculty development of ideas and proposal writing. 2. Invite NSF, NEA, NEH, CUR or other agencies to give seminars to CNU and other faculty from local universities on proposal strategies and funding opportunities.	

Strategy 2C: Expand internal funds for faculty professional development and student research.

2007-08	2006-07
Increase faculty development grant \$\$'s over 06-07	Review and systematize sabbatical application and review process.
Work with the UGRC to implement a plan for student research/travel funds available at CNU.	Create Handbook provisions for this program.
	Complete adjustments to application package (Guajardo).
	Task UGRC to identify student research/travel funds available at CNU and recommend to the Senate 1) a plan for consolidating them, 2) an application and disbursement process.
	Consider sponsoring NSF presentations/seminars for CNU faculty and faculty from other universities in the area.

Strategy 2D: Provide venues for recognition of faculty accomplishments that will strengthen the academic reputation of CNU as well as enhance faculty camaraderie

2007-08	2006-07
Sponsor promotion/tenure/scholarship award party for the faculty	<i>Work with administration to ensure implementation (teaching awards)</i>
Teaching Wall of Fame in new academic building	

Strategy 2E: Assure the design and allocation of academic space is sensitive to discipline needs and inter-discipline complements and universal in providing quality teaching spaces for the faculty to facilitate learning.

2007-08	2006-07
With ATAC, work to produce estimates of new & old classroom A/V budget needs.	Audit existing classroom facilities and a survey of faculty for the "ideal" learning space fixtures, features and configurations.
W/ ATAC, survey faculty desktop computer replacement needs across campus.	

Goal 3: Recognize and support faculty performance, innovations, and achievements in teaching, scholarship and service.

Strategy 3A. Establish a pilot program of both summative (annual, tenure, promotion) and formative (improvement) faculty evaluation.

2007-08	2006-07
Determine goals for each evaluative purpose with faculty meetings (brown-bags).	
W/consultation with administrators – determine viable options of systems to test.	
Host special workshops/ seminars with administrators/faculty familiar with optional systems.	

Strategy 3B. Explore departmental models of management that incorporate the changing faculty evaluation system.

2007-08	2006-07
Determine goals of faculty management at each department level.	
Organize seminars with as in 3a.	

Strategy 3C. Enhance faculty mentorship for improvement in teaching, scholarship, and service.

2007-08	2006-07
Work with Deans and department chairs to develop a university-wide faculty mentor program.	