

Minutes for the Meeting of the Committee of Nine – September 23, 2020
Submitted by Stacie Davenport

Mark Cooper, Chair of the Faculty Senate, chaired the meeting. The meeting began at 1:00.

Members Present:

Prof. Mark Cooper
Prof. Derek Black
Prof. Gloria Boutte
Prof. Tena Crews
Dr. Heather Heckman
Prof. Coretta Jenerette
Prof. Marco Valtorta
Prof. Thomas Vogt
Prof. Patrick Wright

Non-voting members present:

Prof. Alexander Beecroft
Prof. Shirley Staples Carter
Prof. Susan Cutter
Prof. Carol Harrison
Prof. Scott Weiss

The following were also present:

Tayloe Harding
Dennis Pruitt
Joe Sobieralski

EAB:

David Attis
Elizabeth Casey Rutland

Professor Cooper opened the meeting by reminding the committee that in 5 weeks a recommendation is needed from the committee to the University Trustees and Administration. He asked the committee to consider how best to use their remaining time.

The minutes from the September 9th meeting were approved and will be placed on the Faculty Senate webpage found here:

https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/faculty_senate/committees/committee_of_9/index.php

Following the approval of the minutes, Professor Cooper turned the meeting over to David Attis.

Mr. Attis presented information on academic structures, including considerations for reorganization and related opportunities and challenges. Topics ranged from impacts on instructional efficiencies and collaboration to financial sustainability.

David also noted that some of the items included were a result of direct feedback received from campus stakeholders and members of the Committee of Nine.

A period of discussion and questions and answers followed. The Committee suggested a review of a reorganization simply based on financial considerations for a comparison and also suggested that clinical instructors/professors be pulled out of the "Other" category for the instructional load discussion. Several committee members noted diversity and collaboration issues if reorganization occurs and also shared experiences of loss of faculty due to reorganization.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Mr. Attis reiterated time is limited before recommendations need to be made to University leadership.

Dr. Cooper discussed upcoming meeting topics with the Committee, and it was decided that the next three meetings will discuss:

- Cost Issues
- Market Analysis
- College Reorganization

The remaining two weeks will follow up on agenda items that need more focus.

After no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned just after 2:00pm.