

Faculty Welfare Senate Committee Report 2022-2023

Committee members (with academic affiliation and end of term): Jennifer Deckert (Theatre and Dance, 2024), David Berry (University Libraries, Sc Political Collections, 2024), Kathleen Klik (Palmetto College, 2024), Cheryl Addy (ex-officio, Office of The Provost, 2023), Peter Chametzky (School of Visual Art Design, 2024), Breanne Grace (College of Social Work, 2024), Amie Freeman (University Libraries, Library Digital Resources, 2025), Liam Hein (College of Nursing, 2025, co-Chair), Sheryl Mitchell (College of Nursing, 2023, Chair and reporter).

Committee membership and description

This committee will consider university policies and the enforcement of policies regarding the welfare of the faculty, such as faculty salaries, other compensation and benefits, and any matters affecting the workplace environment. The committee may recommend appropriate changes or the enforcement of existing policies, propose new policies, or comment upon proposed university action affecting faculty welfare. Major changes in academic affairs policy should be forwarded to the Faculty Advisory Committee for its consideration. In addition to the six elected faculty members, there will be one faculty member from the regional Palmetto Colleges elected by the Palmetto College Campuses Faculty Senate and two members appointed by the provost. A representative of the Office of the Provost will serve ex officio.

2022-2023 Meetings and Actions

The Faculty Welfare Committee (FWC) met virtually during the 2022-2023 academic year using the Microsoft TEAMS platform. FWC met once a month on the last Monday of the month. The Committee met on the following dates:

August 29, 2022
September 25, 2022
October 31, 2022
November 27, 2022
January 31, 2022
February 27, 2023
March 27, 2023
April 24, 2023

Major initiatives and accomplishments

- FWC chair, co-chair, and past chair met with Provost Arnett during Summer 2022 to learn more about her vision for faculty at USC and broadly discuss faculty concerns. Provost Arnett was invited to attend FWC meetings during Fall 2022.
- Previous business from the 2021-2022 academic year was discussed during the first meeting, including Blatt PE Center.
- FWC discussed benefits for faculty's spouses/children and how this may affect recruitment and retention.
- Discussed the grant process at the university related to staff shortages.
- Discussed faculty compensation.

- Discussed composition of the University Committee on Professional Track Faculty (UCPTF).
- Discussed Graduate School application waiver for veterans and active duty members.
- Discussed student mental health and concerns about services available.
- Discussed threats to faculty via social media from various sources.

Ongoing

- Mental health resources for students
- Resources or options to handle threats to faculty
- Unit Faculty Budget Committees

Thank you to Sheryl Mitchell (College of Nursing, 2023) for serving on and chairing FWC.

Welcome FWC's new member for 2023-2024: Dan Brackman (School of Law, Law Library, 2026).