

**Standing Committee
NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY**

Speakers and Lecturers
1:00 p.m. – 1: 50 p.m. November 30, 2020
Zoom-<https://ncsu.zoom.us/j/95008854722>

Committee members present (check applicable):

Marian Fragola	X	Kristin Koch	X
Troy Pinkins	X	Elise Greeley	
James Brunet	X	Katharine Stewart	X
Kevin Potter			
Todd See			
Sheri Schwab	X		
Kari Lewis			

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. It was determined that a quorum was present and the committee could conduct business. Dr. Katharine Stewart reviewed the open meeting law.

1. Introductions

- a. Committee members introduced themselves and shared one good thing about the Thanksgiving holiday.

2. Discussion on a speaker or speaker series for spring semester

- a. Troy Pinkins gave an update on Mr. Jason Schenker, an economist who has spoken at several events Troy has hosted over the years and recently spoke on “the future after COVID.” Mr. Schenker has been featured on numerous news programs and is considered an expert in his field. Mr. Schenker could be an appropriate speaker to host in spring semester in light of current events. One approach may be to ask Mr. Schenker to speak to the general audience for 30 minutes, then Q and A, ending with dedicated time with management students. Troy’s department could possibly offer financial support and he will inquire about Mr. Schenker’s fee. Marian suggested the committee consider a theme for spring that could possibly highlight more than one speaker.
- b. Jim Brunet gave an update on Dr. David Ho, Virologist and Times Speaker of the Year; who is currently totally booked with a jammed packed schedule and his fee

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- may be on the high end. Jim also inquired about Dr. Anthony Fauci, and determined now may not be the best time to invite Dr. Facuci to campus.
- c. Sheri Schwab shared information on Mr. Richard Harwood, creator of The Hardwood Institute and author of “Stepping Forward” speaks about civic engagement and transformational community healing, and how we bring people together when our society is breaking apart. Sheri will research Mr. Harwood’s availability and fee.
 - d. Kristin Koch made contact with a representative from the New Students Program who will be happy to help highlight our speaker if the event takes place during the week of welcome and can market and promote the event with new students regardless of when it is scheduled.
 - e. Next year, the plan for MLK Day is to have a community panel with approximately four speakers rather than highlighting one big name speaker. February may be a more realistic target date; some students are working on creating a wellness day calendar and scheduling an event the evening before a wellness day could allow double marketing efforts. Also, UAB has annual “tough talks” that will be held the last two weeks in February in 2021, which is another opportunity for additional promotion. If Mr. Harwood is featured as the kick-off speaker for the series, there could be an opportunity to practice community engagement through campus conversations.
 - f. Marian Fragola shared that Dr. Rob Dunn in the Department of Applied Ecology taught a future class and suggested Ms. Kate Jone, scientist and disease specialist who talks about the future of disease, and David Sedaris, popular writer who usually speaks at DPAC and may be out of our price range. Kristin suggested an addition to the speakers’ contract stating the talk will be recorded and posted online restricted to people with NC State unity IDs for two weeks after the event date to allow students and others to view at their convenience while helping to reduce Zoom fatigue and increase attendance.
 - g. The goal for spring semester is to invite Mr. Richard Harwood to speak in February and Mr. Jason Schenker in April. Monica Banks will schedule a 30 minute check-in meeting on December 21 for members who are available to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 1:51 p.m.