



University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Chapter

Statement on UNC Chancellor Searches March, 2021

The UNC-Chapel Hill chapter of the American Association of University Professors is opposed to the current policy of allowing the UNC System President to name a finalist candidate for chancellor searches at UNC campuses. The Board of Governors' recent appointment of Darrell Allison as Chancellor at Fayetteville State University—after a normal search had created an initial list of finalists that did not include him—demonstrates that the current system is in violation of the AAUP's principles of shared campus governance. It is important to note that the chancellor search at FSU was supposed to be exempt from [the new policy](#), so what happened there is a double violation.

As a recent "[letter of concern](#)" from the AAUP national office explains: "faculty representatives served on Fayetteville State University's chancellor's search committee and the evaluation of five finalists, which did not include Mr. Allison, by the board of trustees took into account comments received from the faculty at-large following virtual forums. For the board to change course and appoint Mr. Allison suggests that the faculty's participation in the search process was merely for appearance's sake and calls into question whether the search itself was conducted in good faith. That the board instead appointed as chancellor a candidate who was not among the five finalists raises the more serious concern that the board subordinated principles of shared governance entirely in its disregard of the faculty's appropriate role in the process."

The AAUP chapter at UNC-Chapel Hill joins our [faculty colleagues at Fayetteville State University](#) in opposing the appointment of Darrell Allison as Chancellor there, and we call on the UNC Board of Governors to rescind the policy of allowing the System President to unilaterally name a finalist candidate in chancellor searches.