

**MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE
September 13, 2010**

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair of the Faculty Robert P. Mitchell at 3:03 p.m. in the College of Law, Room 160.

Present: Senators Antin, Brewer, Brown, Christenson, Collins, Connally, Conway, Cuello, Dahlgran, A. Davis, O. Davis, Delic, Duran, Fregosi, Fritze, Gehrels, Guertin, Howell, Jacobi, Johnson, J. Jones, Labate, Larkins, Lee, Lomawaima, McCammon, Mitchell, Mutchler, Nolan, Ogden, Ozkan, Pau, Ponton, Renger, Shelton, Silverman, Smith, St. John, Tabor, Ulrich, Vaillancourt, Witte and Zwinger.

Absent: Senators Aleamoni, Effken, Foley, Hay, Higgins, Hildebrand, D. Jones, Jull, Krunz, Marmorstein, Reynolds, Rhee, Schlager, Secomb, Spece, Strittmatter, Willerton, Wilson-Sanders and Zedeno.

2. OPEN SESSION

Senator M. Witte wanted to set the tone for the new year and discussed shared governance and faculty governance referencing the August 14, 2010 *Wall Street Journal* article, "The Power Trip."

Senator J. Duran spoke about the upcoming panel discussion "Arizona at the Crossroads: A panel discussion on recent actions by the Arizona Legislature and their impact on educating our communities," September 27, 2010 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Gallagher Theater. He referenced the memo at Senator's desks and encouraged attendance. Senator Duran also spoke about Ethnic Studies Week, October 1-7, 2010, and referred to the handout provided at Senator's desks.

3. REPORTS

3A. ASUA President Emily Fritze

ASUA President Emily Fritze gave an update on UA Votes 2010, the goal of which is to register 3,000 students to vote by the November election. UA Votes has established early polling stations on campus and has secured at least one political candidate debate on campus while attempting to bring more to the UA. Hosting debates is part of the effort to educate UA students on current election races and legislative issues. Arizona Students' Association (ASA) has come out publically against Proposition 107 (titled the Arizona Civil Rights Initiative) and is attending the Governor's signing of Senate Bill 1186, Course Numbering; Postsecondary Institutions, on Sept. 15, 2010 at ASU. ASA is currently working with the Administration on revising the Regents' High Endorsement Scholarship. ASA is also hosting the Conference of Arizona Student Leaders from Fri., Sept. 24 to Sun., Sept. 26 at Northern Arizona University. ASUA is continuing to work on student programming and looking at UA student issues to form its agenda. Zona Zoo sold 11,000 passes and Bear Down Friday, an event on University Boulevard, will continue this year. ASUA has begun a live stream of its meetings on their website.

3B. GPSC President Emily Connally

GPSC President Emily Connally announced the creation of graduate enrichment seminars taught by graduate students. These seminars are open to faculty as well; fifteen faculty members attended the last seminar. GPSC is focusing on outreach to alumni and corporate sponsors as a way to increase revenue. GPSC special elections will be held at the end of Sept. and beginning of October. The Student Showcase will take place during Homecoming Weekend in October. The deadline for showcase submissions is Oct. 1, 2010 and Connally encouraged undergraduate and graduate students to submit their research work; cash prizes are offered.

3C. Faculty Officers' Report

Presiding Officer Mitchell welcomed new members to the Faculty Senate; Senators Brewer, JP Jones, Krunz, Labate, Larkins, Lee, Lomawaima, McCammon, Pau, Schlager, and Zwinger. ASUA senators, Darren Brown, and Brett Ponton and GPSC senators, Jim Collins and Robert Jacobi. He also introduced the new Program Coordinator Sr. of the Faculty Center, Brianna

Thaut and bid a heartfelt thank you and goodbye to Pamela Bridgmon who is retiring after fourteen years of service to UA Sept. 17, 2010. Presiding Officer Mitchell called attention to the schedule of Senate meetings available in the packets. All meetings this year will be held in Law 160. Also in the packets are the Faculty Senate roster, committee membership lists and annual reports from the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee, the Student Affairs Policy Committee and the University Committee on Corporate Relations. New Faculty Governance Handbooks were also provided on Senator's desks. Senator Mitchell also announced that the Faculty Center will be moving to electronic packets, no longer sending hard copies. If senators desire a paper copy of the packet they need to contact the Faculty Center. Mitchell also reminded official observers from SAC, APAC, UAS and the UA Retirees' Association that they are welcome to participate in the discussion and question and answer portions of the meeting. The Committee of Eleven is collecting anecdotal stories about perceived University inefficiencies or bottlenecks. Stories and comments should be given to The Committee of Eleven.

3D. President Robert Shelton

President Shelton reviewed the University message he sent on Sept. 7, 2010 highlighting the positive interaction he had over the summer with students, visitors and parents reiterating how frequently he was told how helpful and hospitable the UA faculty, staff and students were. President Shelton reviewed the fall enrollment numbers. The UA is starting the semester with about 39,000 students, a slight increase over last year. In 2009 there were 6,990 freshman enrolled and this year the number has risen to 7,200. Shelton stated that this year's incoming class was not only strong academically but also diverse with 37% minority students. He also mentioned that 1100 new freshmen are honors students (33% of honors students self-identified as minority students) and that while the number of National Merit and Achievement Scholars has remained about the same, the number of National Hispanic Scholars has increased to 100 students, the largest number ever. President Shelton wanted to remind everyone that these numbers could change slightly by the twenty-one day census. President Shelton spoke about the faculty salary structure, indicating that salaries at the UA are not measuring up to the national standards. The UA continues to list faculty salaries as the number one priority when requesting funding from the state but President Shelton knows that relying on the state is no longer sufficient. Administration has worked with Deans and Department Heads to identify "at risk" faculty and have made several preemptive strikes to prevent faculty members from leaving the University. President Shelton does not want the culture of UA to support the notion that faculty must get another job offer in order to get a raise and is working on permanent solutions. The teaching load of many graduate students has increased to a level that could begin to hinder their time to degree, attributed partly to the increased credit hours undergraduate students are taking in order to achieve graduation in four years. Fifty-five graduate students in the College of Humanities have received additional funding in order to reduce their teaching load to one closer to the national average. Working with an advisory committee of faculty to address challenges in the areas of humanities, social sciences and the arts, the Provost will be announcing the formation of Confluence: The Center for Creative Inquiry. A rare, unrestricted gift to the University has allowed for the creation of the University Academic Leadership Institute, to help grow our own leaders. The Institute's inaugural class is made up of twenty-four members, seventeen of them faculty, with the rest staff and appointed professionals. The budget remains a concern although it has been helped by the passing of Proposition 100. The last of the federal stimulus money will be used this year. Optimistically, President Shelton hopes to get through this year without a mid-year cut and is preparing for FY2012.

4. QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD FOR AGENDA ITEM 3

Senator Silverman commended ASA for taking a stand against Proposition 107 and asked President Shelton if the University is doing something to address the legislation. President Shelton responded that the UA has known about the Proposition for a year and reviewed how the University of California system handled a similar proposition. He noted that California was not prepared and the results were catastrophic, taking ten years to recover diversity numbers. The plan for the UA is to look at all the programs and maintain all the programs possible if the law passes in Arizona.

Senator Antin asked President Shelton what is the plan at the end of the stimulus. President Shelton answered that the UA is facing a \$100M permanent cut, \$50M to \$60M of that deficit has been made up through layoffs, attrition, strategic combining of colleges and salary/hiring freezes, \$30M has been gained through the tuition increase for a total recovery of about \$80M. The rest of the cut is currently covered by stimulus funds. Ways to handle cuts and deficits in FY2012 are being explored currently, including a possible tuition increase and other possible funding models including a move towards more privatization.

Senator Cuello asked how the University is using the furlough funds. President Shelton replied that the University was required to reduce state-funded salary and benefit spending by 2.75% (approx. \$5.6M). Half of that money is obtained through furloughs and half is obtained through position vacancies. The savings stay with the University and the use will largely be left up to individual units, but cannot be used on salaries.

Senator Conway asked how NAU was able to raise faculty salaries. President Shelton responded that both ASU and NAU required all faculty and staff to take extensive furlough days and NAU offered a one-time buy-out (up to 80% of base salary) for retirement. The result was that faculty members and staff were given market adjustments although the amount varied greatly, ranging from \$500.00 to \$20,000.00.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MAY 3, 2010**

The minutes of May 3, 2010 were approved with five abstentions.

6. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCILS' NON-CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (attachment)**

Presiding Officer Mitchell reminded Senators that issues of policy are required to be non-consent agenda items. Undergraduate Council Chair George Gehrels explained Item 1 on the non-consent agenda comes as a seconded motion [**Motion 2010/11-1**] from the Undergraduate Council to approve a recommendation to revise the Choice of Catalog Policy to give students more flexibility when changing their majors and/or minors and prevent graduation set-backs. Senators' comments and questions included: 1) Would this change present a logistical nightmare and how would the catalog changes be tracked? Curriculum Office Associate Celeste Pardee commented that MOSAIC brought this option to their attention and the new system has this function built-in so the adjustment would require no extra work. 2) Has the system been tested? Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Senator Gehrels explained that Item 2 comes as a seconded motion [**Motion 2010/11-2**] from the Undergraduate Council to approve the acceptance of the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC), the State of California's equivalent to the AGECE (Arizona General Education Curriculum), in order to improve the recruitment and transfer process for California students. Senators' comments and questions included 1) Does this mean that all students with the IGETC would have guaranteed admission? C. Pardee spoke with Admissions' Officers who confirmed that if a student has met the requirements of IGETC, then they have also met the Arizona transfer admission requirements. 2) Would the increase of transfer students disturb the required percentage of in-state students served by the University? President Shelton replied that the general policy requirement used to state that the number of out-of-state students could not exceed 30% but it has now been relaxed to 40% and the University is not in any danger of exceeding that limit. Motion passed unanimously.

7. **INFORMATION ITEM: REPORT ON INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS**

New Athletic Director Gregory Byrne offered a PowerPoint presentation on Arizona Intercollegiate Athletics including the five defining principles that his department is focused on: graduating student athletes, follow the rules, be first class in how YOU represent the University and the Athletics Department, have sound fiscal management and maximize revenue opportunities, and compete for championships. The PowerPoint presentation also covered the positive steps UA Athletics and UA student-athletes are taking to improve academically including the improvement in their GPAs and retention rates. Byrne highlighted several student-athletes who have been honored recently for excelling in both athletics and academics. Byrne also spoke on changes the Athletic Department has made, beginning this year. University athletes are now held to a class attendance policy that includes penalties for unexcused absences from courses or academic obligations. At the first home football game, Sept. 11, 2010, a new feature was introduced using faculty member Ingrid Novodvorsky to explain the physics behind football fundamentals.

Senators' questions and comments included: 1) Senator Silverman thanked Mr. Byrne for meeting with him about COIA (Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics) and reminded him that each year the UA's Intercollegiate Athletics Committee may review intercollegiate athletics in regards to COIA's principles. 2) How does the UA compare to the rest of the Pac-10 in terms of academics? Byrne replied that we are not where we should be and in many categories we rank ninth or tenth but we are trending in the right direction. 3) Research shows that negative reinforcement (class attendance policy) is not always effective. Will positive reinforcement be utilized as well? Byrne responded that while having negative consequences is necessary, positive recognition in the form of individual and team public recognition is also part of the strategy. 4) Has Athletics thought about including other disciplines, such as Fine Arts, in the half-time educational series? Many folks around campus have mentioned how other disciplines, like dance, can also be mirrored in football. Athletics will explore other features for the half-time event; Byrne encouraged faculty to share any ideas with the Athletics Department. 5) What is Byrne's position on the Thursday night football game against ASU; are mid-week games going to happen every year? Byrne responded that mid-week games are not ideal but there is value in hosting an occasional game. ESPN will be broadcasting the game attracting national attention to the University; the games bring people and revenue to campus as well. President Shelton mentioned that the University expects Athletics to be self-sufficient and TV contracts offer the best opportunities for funding. Another concern about the Thursday football game was voiced on behalf of graduate students who are unable to park near their work building on game days.

8. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEM: SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ON ARIZONA HOUSE BILL 2281 (attachment)**

Secretary of the Faculty, J.C. Mutchler introduced a resolution that comes as a seconded motion from the Senate Executive Committee [**Motion 2010/11-3**] that expresses concern over Arizona House Bill 2281: "*The Faculty Senate of the University of Arizona formally resolves to express its opposition to HB 2281, the so-called Ethnic Studies Bill. The Arizona State Legislature's implicit opposition to ethnic studies as a viable educational enrichment of the curriculum as a means to a more nuanced and complex understanding of the world is not only disturbing and distasteful, but sends the wrong message to Arizona and its students. Be it further resolved, the Faculty Senate of the University of Arizona formally endorses 'Ethnic Studies Week,' October*

1-7 2010 and encourages all faculty to lend their support and participation by whatever means possible.” Senators’ questions and comments included: 1) What is the reason/need for the word implicit? Mutchler explained that the word implicit was used because of unclear language in the Bill. 2) Does the Bill deny ethnic studies or legally prevent them? Secretary Mutchler responded that the Bill does identify specific penalties for those who violate its provisions. Senator McCammon spoke about actions that have already been taken against specific courses within TUSD such as the State Superintendent’s demand for recording of ethnic studies class sessions in order to ensure that no violations occur. 3) Will this Resolution help or hurt funding? President Shelton replied that he does not believe it will impact funding. 4) The Bill seems to have a powerful force behind it. Senator Lomawaima pointed out that State Superintendent Horne’s webpage outlines his reasoning behind the bill and that the wording is odd and contains many stereotypes and assumptions. Senator Silverman commented that the Senate should not think of this as a K-12 issue; the University could be the next target and it is important to take a stand now. The motion passed unanimously.

9. INFORMATION ITEM: UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA GRADUATE ADMISSION DATA 2010 (attachment)

Chair of Graduate Council S. Lomawaima presented a handout of the 2010 Graduate Admission data that was available on Senators’ desks. Lomawaima indicated that the growth in entering graduate student numbers is continuing in a positive direction and that the overall numbers are holding close to even because students are graduating. Senators’ questions and comments included: 1) Is there any sense of diversity? Senator Lomawaima responded that those numbers have not yet been determined.

10. DISCUSSION ITEM: UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

Chair of the Faculty, Wanda Howell, introduced the discussion topic of undergraduate education at the University of Arizona. This discussion falls in line with the Regents’ plan to discuss the same topic at their December meeting. It is Chair Howell’s hope that through discussions in Senate, faculty will have a voice in the ABOR discussion by sharing thoughts with President Shelton. Chair Howell started the conversation by referencing statistics (overhead) that were published in an August 29, 2010 editorial in the *Arizona Daily Star*. The statistics, originally compiled by *U.S. News & World Report*, indicate that the University’s peer institutions are clearly doing better in terms of retention and graduation than the University of Arizona. Discussion included the following questions and comments: 1) How is it possible to admit everyone and support them through graduation? It is important to serve the students of Arizona. This requires a commitment on many personnel levels, but it is also important to hold students to standards. Chair Howell summarized the problem of aligning open enrollment with success and mentioned the efforts of Student Affairs under Vice President Melissa Vito and asked what else faculty could be doing. Dr. Howell asked what Senators thought of looking at different curriculum options or paths, ranging from the high achieving level to the students who need extra support. 2) Senator Smith agreed that there should be options for all of our students. Dr. Howell asked Vice Provost Burd if students are retained at higher rates in some majors over others? Dr. Burd stated that typically majors that have higher expectations of their students tend to retain them at higher rates because the students tend to be more academically prepared. She also noted that Maricopa County students do better than Pima County students at the UA and that about 1/3 of incoming freshman are not fully prepared, especially in the area of math. 3) The shift to offering remedial math at the University was questioned. Vice Provost Burd pointed out that changes in financial aid requirements require that full-time students take 12-15 units at the University of Arizona and taking a remedial math course at Pima Community College can no longer count towards full time enrollment for financial aid. 4) Senator Conway pointed out that many students are receiving merit-based aid but are not capable of being successful in math, which in turn blocks them from continuing on their degree path. Dr. Howell questioned the need for a math requirement for all majors and asked if the topic had been discussed by Undergraduate Council, UGC Chair Gehrels agreed it would be a good discussion topic. Vice Provost Burd noted that Algebra was not required for all majors and some majors allow alternative math options. Dr. Burd announced that there is a task force being organized to look at curriculum, assessment and barriers. Chair Howell asked Senators whether faculty would be open to change and willing to look at curriculum in their own departments to see if there are bottlenecks to student progress. 4) Senator Lomawaima also wants to think about how to better support the current curriculum with limited instructional and professional support. 5) The increase in cases of plagiarism is also a major issue. There is currently an “educational course” option for students caught plagiarizing offered by the library. Early feedback is positive. Senator Fritze commented that if taking the course is an alternative to simply failing the student, it may be a good option. Dr. Burd also mentioned the availability of “Turnitin.com,” a product that checks student’s work for plagiarism; it is offered to instructors as part of D2L. Dr. Howell will continue the discussion on undergraduate education at future Senate meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

J.C. Mutchler, Secretary of the Faculty
Brianna Thaut, Recording Secretary

Appendix*

1. Arizona at the Crossroads: Panel Announcement
2. Ethnic Studies Week Handout
3. Faculty Senate Roster 2010-2011
4. 2010-2011 Faculty Senate Meeting Schedule
5. Faculty Senate Standing Committees, 2010-2011
6. General Faculty Standing Committees, 2010-2011
7. Other University-wide Committees with Shared Governance Participation, 2010-2011
8. Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Annual Report 2009-2010
9. Student Affairs Policy Committee Annual Report 2009-2010
10. University Committee on Corporate Relations Annual Report 2009-2010
11. Faculty Governance Handbook 2010
12. Undergraduate Councils' Non-Consent Agenda Items
13. "2010 Faculty Senate Report," Greg Byrne
14. History on House Bill 2281
15. Arizona House Bill 2281
16. "The University of Arizona Faculty Senate Resolution September 13, 2010" re: HB 2281
17. Graduate Applications, Admits, First-Time and Total Enrollment
18. Overhead: "How the UA Ranks Among Its Peers"

**Copies of material listed in the Appendix are attached to the original minutes and are on file in the Faculty Center.*

Motions of the Meeting of September 13, 2010

Motion 2010/11-1 Seconded motion from the Undergraduate Council to approve a recommendation to revise the Choice of Catalog Policy. Motion carried.

Motion 2010/11-2 Seconded motion from the Undergraduate Council to approve the acceptance of the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC). Motion carried.

Motion 2010/11-3 Seconded motion from the Senate Executive Committee to approve the following resolution: *“The Faculty Senate of the University of Arizona formally resolves to express its opposition to HB 2281, the so-called Ethnic Studies Bill. The Arizona State Legislature’s implicit opposition to ethnic studies as a viable educational enrichment of the curriculum as a means to a more nuanced and complex understanding of the world is not only disturbing and distasteful, but sends the wrong message to Arizona and its students. Be it further resolved, the Faculty Senate of the University of Arizona formally endorses ‘Ethnic Studies Week,’ October 1-7 2010 and encourages all faculty to lend their support and participation by whatever means possible.”* Motion carried.

Semin/2010-11;Semin 9-13-2010

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