

**MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE
April 2, 2012**

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Secretary of the Faculty J.C. Mutchler at 3:02 p.m. in the College of Law, Room 164.

Present: Senators Aleamoni, Allen, Antin, Brewer, Brooks, Carvajal, Cervelli, Chiu, Cuello, Davis, Duran, Gehrels, Gilligan, Guertin, Howell, Johnson, Jones, Jull, Khan, Labate, Larkins, Lee, Lundstrom, McCammon, Mok, Murray, Mutchler, Nelson, Nolan, Ogden, Pau, Polakowski, Renger, Reynolds, Rosenblatt, Sander, Silverman, Smith, Tabor, Ulrich, Vaillancourt, Willerton, Witte and Zedeno.

Absent: Senators Conway, Cropanzano, Dahlgran, Fregosi, Galvani, Hancock, Higgins, Hildebrand, Krunz, Martin, Mitchell, Morrissey, Ozkan, Reed, Secomb, Spece, St. John, Strittmatter, and Zwinger.

2. OPEN SESSION

Dr. Cornelius Steelink of the UA Retiree's Association presented an annual update on the activities of the University of Arizona Retirees Association and the state of the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) and provided a handout on Senators' desks. In FY 2011, the rate of return on investments was 24.6% and the total fund market value as of June 30, 2011 is \$28.3 billion. There are 216,216 currently employed, active members in the ASRS.

3. REPORTS

3A. ASUA President James Allen

ASUA President James Allen announced that May 1, 2012 will be his last day as ASUA President. He introduced his successor, Senator Katy Murray. In his last days in office, Allen will work to complete an internal draft of the proposal to move Spring Fling back to campus. Tuition setting will occur at the ABOR meeting later this week. Students are still asking for a zero percent increase across the board. ASA is working to draft, and get approved, a possible ballot initiative that would support higher education in the State of Arizona.

3B. GPSC Vice President Zachary Brooks

GPSC Vice President Zachary Brooks told Senate that the federally subsidized loan program for graduate students will be changed in June of this year, thus increasing the likelihood of student debt. If the tuition proposal is approved, it will be the second year in a row that graduate student tuition has increased at a higher rate than undergraduate student tuition. GPSC believes that graduate students should not subsidize undergraduate education and also supports the idea that some of the funds that may be created by the tuition increase go towards graduate student programs or graduate student health insurance.

3C. Faculty Officers' Report

J.C. Mutchler told senators that, as of now, the proposed gun bill that would allow guns on university campuses is dead. The faculty officers will keep an eye on the legislative activities. UA Faculty Senate will be represented at the upcoming meeting of the newly formed PAC-12 Faculties Council later in April.

3D. Provost Jacqueline Mok

Provost Jacqueline Mok reminded Senators that the ABOR meeting is coming up at the end of this week with a focus on setting tuition. Each of the three Arizona universities will also present on the system-wide Enterprise Initiatives metrics related to the "educational excellence" portion of the plan, including undergraduate retention, six-year graduation rates and transfer statistics. The UA will showcase Student Affairs, Arizona Assurance, the UA's new *Degree Tracker* and *Degree Search*, the *Think Tank*, and the newly created gateway math courses. Provost Mok thanked Senators and faculty-at-large for all the hard work put into the Promotion and Tenure process this year. Mok said it has been a pleasure to review the dossiers and the wonderful external reviews. She appreciates the hours and hours of work that goes into producing each document.

3E. President Eugene Sander

President Sander acknowledged all the work Provost Mok has done this year and thanked her for all of her effort. Although the UA will present on the enterprise metrics at the upcoming ABOR meeting, the University will not present its plan on how to meet Enterprise Initiative goals at this meeting. President Hart will present the UA's plan at the December meeting. The June ABOR meeting will review research extensively. President Sander noted that the Legislature is expected to end their current session in the next few weeks. He also noted that the November election will be complicated because of the newly adjusted State legislative districts. Sander is still hoping the \$9-12M budget request for the UA College of Medicine-Phoenix will be approved, but noted that it is unlikely that Governor Brewer will approve any budget that does not include performance funding for the university system. It is still possible that units will face a five-percent budget cut for the FY 13 year.

4. QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD FOR ITEM 3

Chair of the Faculty Howell asked if retention, graduation and transfer rates equal "educational excellence"? It seems that this is a measure of "quantity" but not necessarily quality. Provost Mok replied that these numerical targets do not fully address quality. The Academic Affairs Committee, along with all three Arizona university provosts, is working on developing metrics that will better measure quality. The Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, Regent Rick Myers, is dedicated to including quality in the Enterprise metrics discussions. President Sander noted that he, personally, spends a great deal of time talking about quality and truly believes that what best defines quality of an institution is the quality of its faculty. In times of budget constraint, open positions often go unfilled, which puts additional pressure and restrictions on units. President Sander feels that if this issue is not addressed, quality at the institution will suffer.

James Allen reminded Senate that the State of the Student Address and Scholarship ceremony is tomorrow from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom in the Student Union Memorial Center.

Secretary of the Faculty Mutchler asked President Sander or Provost Mok to comment on the Governor's recent ABOR appointments, Dr. Ram Krishna and Greg Patterson. President Sander replied that Dr. Krishna is an orthopedic surgeon from Yuma and Mr. Patterson is from Scottsdale and is a former Arizona State legislator. The confirmation hearings are scheduled for the week of April 9, 2012.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MARCH 5, 2012

The minutes of March 5, 2012 were approved with two abstentions.

INFORMATION AND ACTION ITEM: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS (attachments)

Presiding Officer Mutchler directed Senators to review the two proposed changes to the Faculty Constitution and Bylaws that are outlined in the packet. The first proposal is to add one voting member from the Appointed Professionals Advisory Council (APAC) and one voting member from the Staff Advisory Council (SAC) to the Faculty Senate Membership. These organizations have asked for a voting seat on Faculty Senate. This comes as a seconded motion [**Motion 2011/12-18**] from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. The full proposal, including pro and con arguments, is available at the end of these minutes and in the attachments.

Senators' questions and comments included: 1) This very issue was discussed twenty years ago and it is about time something was done. 2) As a point of information this body is not really a "faculty senate" now. How many people in the current membership are not "strictly faculty," meaning they have an administrative appointment, or are students or staff? Eight out of sixty-three Faculty Senate members are not strictly faculty. 3) There have been suggestions over the years to change the name of this body to the "University Senate." 4) Because this body is focused primarily on faculty issues and is made up primarily of faculty it does not seem to make sense to change the name of the Senate. The motion passed as written.

The second proposed change to the Faculty Constitution and Bylaws is to make the current Senate Task Force on Equity and Fairness a permanent committee by adding the Committee on Equity and Fairness to the Constitution as a General Faculty Standing Committee. This comes as a seconded motion [**Motion 2011/12-19**] from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. The full proposal, including pro and con arguments, is available at the end of these minutes and in the attachments.

Senators' questions and comments included: 1) Why are the Chairs of the Committee of Eleven and SPBAC included in the membership? The Chairs were included to guarantee that the Committee on Equity and Fairness stays connected to other shared governance activities and to make sure that communication is flowing into and out of the committee. 2) Is a faculty committee of this nature unique among our peers? No, many of our peer institutions have similar committees. 3) Why can the Chairs of C11 and SPBAC send designees or appoint members to the committee? In cases when the Chairs are unable to attend the committee meetings or participate in committee activities they are able to send another committee member in their place. 4) Why is this committee proposed as a "General Standing Committee" not a "Senate Standing Committee?" The Faculty Senate should have representation on this committee. Senator Silverman moved [**Motion 2011/12-20**] to edit the membership language to read "*The Committee on Equity and Fairness is composed of a total of 9 members as follows: seven faculty members nominated by the Committee on Committees and approved by the*

Faculty Senate Executive Committee.” The motion was seconded. 5) The usual way communication is facilitated among committees is by appointing a liaison. 6) C11 has dealt with issues of equity and fairness many times over the years and the inclusion of the Chair on the newly formed committee makes sense. 7) This committee seems redundant. 8) Maybe this committee should be a “University-wide Committee” and include more representation from stakeholders around campus. 9) Senators’ voted on the proposed amendment, the motion failed. 10) It seems that faculty and students already have a great deal of representation on issues related to equity and fairness and it seems like this committee should include underrepresented populations such as appointed professionals and staff. 11) Is this committee necessary? 12) Why is the scope of this committee limited to race and ethnicity? 13) Senator Ulreich moved [**Motion 2011/12-21**] to postpone the approval of this committee and refer the questions back to the committee for clarification. The motion was seconded. 14) What University committees are already doing similar work? 15) It would also be important for the committee to define the scope better. 16) If the vote is postponed, will the Task Force still be active and can it be revisited next year? Yes. 17) The motion passed and the vote will be postponed.

6. DISCUSSION ITEM: FACULTY PRIORITIES FOR PRESIDENT HART

Chair of the Faculty Howell asked Senators what faculty priorities are most important for incoming President Hart. What would be important for her to address in the first year?

Senators’ questions and comments included: 1) We need a better compensation strategy. Chair Howell noted that the University of Washington has a salary policy in place for faculty. It will be important to talk to Dr. Hart about the possibility of adopting such a policy at the UA. 2) I would like to see her sign a tuition pledge. 3) We need to encourage our faculty through the promotion process and take better care of our staff. 4) I would like to see her sign the “Shared Governance Memorandum of Understanding” and see her commitment to shared governance. 5) How will the UA be successful in the 21st Century? 6) Are we going to be a more focused or more comprehensive university? We are slipping in the research rankings in some areas and funding remains challenging. 7) It will be important for the new President to focus on recruitment and faculty retention.

7. INFORMATION ITEM: TUCSON MODERN STREETCAR (attachment)

Senior Associate Vice President for Business Affairs, Bob Smith, presented updates and plans for the Tucson Modern Streetcar, which will connect the UA and Downtown. Smith told Senators that this project has been many years in conception and planning and is a very important improvement for the UA and the Downtown area. It is fully funded from sources outside of the UA. The construction and implementation have been very well planned and it is hoped that the construction will cause very little disruption to campus. The streetcar course will be 3.9 miles and the car will have a 180 person capacity. The car will run at a slower pace than the typical “light rail” in other cities, allowing for more stops and development along those stops. Street improvements will also be made along the streetcar’s course, for example improving drainage and changing First Street and Second Street back to two-way roads, hence improving traffic flow. There is private student housing under construction Downtown and the car will allow easy transportation to campus. Other UA interests Downtown include the UA Institute for Civil Discourse and UA Science Downtown. Additional information is available in the PowerPoint presentation in the attachments.

Senators’ questions and comments included: 1) Does this save the UA money; will we be able to reduce the number of shuttles? There could be a small reduction in shuttle runs. Students, faculty and staff should be able to purchase a pass that will be used for both the bus system and the Streetcar. 2) When should the Streetcar be completed? It is scheduled to be complete in late 2013.

8. INFORMATION ITEM: DEGREE TRACKER

Shelley McGrath, Senior Director for Academic Programs and Transfer Coordination gave Senators a demonstration on the new program *Degree Tracker*, a software system that allows students and advisors to track progress through a degree program. The *Degree Tracker* team includes Shelley McGrath, Michelle Norin, Gail Burd and Rachel Beech. Dr. Burd told Senators the funding for the project came from the Mosaic Project and the IT committee. ABOR granted permission for the expenditure and the system is similar to the one ASU created but has additional capabilities. Many students were involved in the testing of the system. *Degree Tracker* is part of UAccess Student. Students can plan for each semester. Departments set course priorities, ranked in sequence. The system defaults to the assumption that students will take sixteen units but students can adjust that assumption. *Degree Tracker* will allow students to take up to nineteen units per semester and students can take over nineteen units with a dean’s written approval. Students can also add summer and winter semesters and study abroad to their plans. There is an interface for students and advisors. The system can show students what they need to do in order to graduate within a given time frame.

Senators’ questions and comments included: 1) Did the UA invent this system? Could we make money off this system by selling the technology to other universities? It does not seem likely because of the complexity involved for each university. 2) Does the system only show students courses that are actually offered in a given semester because not all courses are available in every semester? Yes, and the system also helps predict seat demand. 3) Has the system been implemented? A test launch of the system will occur this week with students in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. 4) What about experimental courses, how will students know they are available? If the course has been approved it will show up in the system. 5) Can students save more than one version of their academic plan? They will be able to eventually but not yet. *Degree Tracker* will be presented to ABOR this week.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

10. **OLD BUSINESS**

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

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

Appendix*

1. UARA Report to the Faculty Senate
2. Proposed Changes to the Constitution and Bylaws
3. PowerPoint: Tucson Modern Streetcar

**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 April 2, 2012

Motion 2011/12-18 Seconded motion from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee to approve a change to the *Bylaws of the General Faculty of the University of Arizona*:

Section 2. Membership

The voting members of the Faculty Senate shall be comprised of the following:

*a. Ex officio voting members: The President of the University, the Provost, the Chair of the Faculty, the Vice Chair of the Faculty, the Secretary of the Faculty, the chair of the Strategic Planning and Budget Advisory Committee, the chair of the Undergraduate Council and the chair of the Graduate Council shall be voting members of the Faculty Senate. **One member of the Appointed Professionals Advisory Council (APAC) and one member of the Staff Advisory Council (SAC) will also be voting members.** In addition, one member shall represent the Vice Presidents, and one member shall represent the Deans. Motion carried.*

Motion 2011/12-19 Seconded motion from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee to approve a change to the *Bylaws of the General Faculty of the University of Arizona*:

CONSTITUTION OF THE GENERAL FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA Article V. (page C-4)

The Committee on Equity and Fairness. *The ability of the University of Arizona to fulfill its mission and obligations as a land-grant institution to equitably serve all of its diverse constituents throughout the state of Arizona requires that the policy environment in which it functions as well as its own policies and practices are free of conscious and unconscious bias related to race and ethnicity. The Committee on Equity and Fairness will work to create that necessary environment by addressing policies with expressly exclusionary or inequitable intent and also institutional and structural policies, practices and cultural biases that have exclusionary or inequitable effects. In fulfilling this charge, the CEF will annually review University, State and local policies of relevance and will organize an annual University-wide event. In order to accomplish these goals the CEF will draw on the expertise of the Faculty and may undertake study and action steps it deems necessary. Its activities may include, among others:*

- 1) Obtain information about existing and potential policies, legislation or other actions of the State government or other governments or agencies that impact the UA;*
- 2) Obtain information about existing and potential policies, practices and decisions of the University administration or faculty in its governance roles;*
- 3) Engage in critical analysis of the implications and impacts of the legislation, policies and practices named in (1) and (2) by discussion among the Committee members and through consultation and discussion with other faculty and campus organizations as relevant to the issues.*
- 4) Determine appropriate actions to advance the goal of creating an environment in which the University can achieve its mission. In addition to the annual public event, these actions might include, among others:*
 - a. Provide information and education about the implications and impacts of the legislation, policies and practices outlined in (1) and (2) to UA faculty, students, employees, community members, business leaders, the Arizona Board of Regents and others through scholarly forums or written reports;*

b. Facilitate communication and collaborative action among various University groups and constituencies with particular interest in or expertise on the legislation, policies and practices outlined in (1) and (2);

c. Provide advice to the faculty, administration and/or other specific organizations or groups within the University with regard to positions or actions to be taken in relation to the legislation, policies and practices outlined in (1) and (2).

BYLAWS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA Article V. (pageB-4)

The Committee on Equity and Fairness is composed of a total of 9 members as follows:

**Seven faculty members, five of whom will be nominated by the Committee on Committees and approved by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and two of whom will be the Chair of the Committee of Eleven and the Chair of SPBAC or their designees;*

**Two student representatives appointed by the Associated Students of the University of Arizona and the Graduate and Professional Student Council, respectively.*

Faculty members shall serve for staggered two-year renewable terms. Students will serve one-year renewable terms. All members shall have demonstrated interest and expertise in issues of equity and fairness with regard to race and ethnicity.

The Committee will elect a Chair and Vice Chair, each for a term of one year. The Vice Chair will normally succeed the Chair. Should the Vice Chair for any reason be unable to succeed the Chair, the Committee may renew the Chair for another year, or elect another committee member who has served at least one year, and elect a new Vice Chair. Motion Failed.

Motion 2011/12-20 Motion: Edit the membership language of the proposed Committee on Equity and Fairness to read: “*The Committee on Equity and Fairness is composed of a total of 9 members as follows: seven faculty members nominated by the Committee on Committees and approved by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.*” The motion failed.

Motion 2011/12-21 Motion: Postpone the vote on the formation of the new Committee on Equity and Fairness and refer back to the current Task Force for clarification. The motion carried.

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