

**MINUTES  
FACULTY SENATE  
March 2, 2020**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Presiding Officer of the Faculty Senate, Michael Brewer, called the Faculty Senate meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. in the Old Main Silver & Sage Room.

Present: Senators Adamson, Behrangi, Bourget, Brewer, Brummund, Castro, Dong, Duran, Durand, Fischer, Folks, Fountain, Gerald, Ghosh, Hammer, Helm, Hess, Hildebrand, Hiller, Hingle, Hudson, Hurh, Hymel, Johnson, Lawrence, Leafgren, Min Simpkins, Mulcahy, Neumann, Ohala, Pau, Provencher, Rafelski, Robbins, Rosenstengel, Ruggill, Russell, Slepian, SM Smith, Spece, Story, Summers, Teemant, Tropman, Wilson, M. Witte, and R. Witte.

Absent: Senators Acosta, Benson, Brown, Colina, Cooley, Cuillier, Fink, Frey, Gordon, Gries, Hernandez, Hunt, Knox, Oxnam, Roberts, Rodrigues, Simmons, M Smith, Sulkowski, Tran, Vendantam, and Wu.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3, 2020**

The minutes of February 3, 2020 were approved.

**3. OPEN SESSION: STATEMENTS AT THE PODIUM ON ANY TOPIC, LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES – MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SPEAKERS IS FOUR. NO DISCUSSION IS PERMITTED, AND NO VOTES WILL BE TAKEN.**

Senator R. Witte spoke about microwaves emitted from cellphones and laptops, and a warning included in each manual stating these electronic devices are never supposed to be placed against the body, as it may exceed FCC exposure guidelines. The U.S. Supreme Court in 2020 upheld a City of Berkeley law requiring customers to be warned at point of sale about harm associated with placing a cell phones in contact with the body. Arizona is 1 of 12 states that can legally pass a similar law according to the ruling. 5G will dramatically increase harmful microwave radiation to the environment. At the U.S. Senate hearings last year, the telecommunications industry admitted that no biological tests for safety has ever been conducted on 5G. Several thousand peer-reviewed papers, however, indicate that microwave radiation (within the range of 4G and 5G microwaves) are harmful to all forms of life. Both the National Toxicology Program and European Commission both completed large studies that concluded non-ionizing microwave radiation emitted by cell phones and wifi causes DNA damage. Witte would like to form an ad-hoc committee with two or three other Senators to assess health effects of microwave radiation and bring awareness to students, faculty, and staff regarding the safe use of 5G technology.

Elizabeth Kelley, introduced herself as the Executive Director of the Electromagnetic Safety Alliance (EMF), a non-profit organization based in Tucson, Arizona. Kelley works nationally and internationally, and manages the international EMF's appeal to the United Nations, The World Health Organization, and the UN Environment Program, which has been signed by over 250 scientists who have published peer review papers in professional journals showing the low-level electromagnetic radiation exposure's biological health effects causing harm to man and nature. The appeal was initiated in 2015. Kelly informed Senators that 5G has never been approved for human health and safety and that current radio frequency human exposure standards are not science-based. More powerful signal will be emitted from 5G cell phones and increase the construction of cell phone towers. Chronic exposure to non-ionizing radiation sources will cause cumulative effects. Kelley will be organizing a medical conference in Tucson, Arizona in January 2021. Scientists who are experts in the field, as well as doctors and engineers, will discuss and mitigate EMF exposure conditions. The target will be educating health practitioners from around the world to prevent, treat, and diagnose EMF associated illnesses. Fifth generation wireless poses an adverse effect on public health, especially to children and the elderly, and those with damaged immune systems. The EMF appeal can be located by visiting the EMF.org website.

Dr. Christy Mattson graduated the University of Arizona in 1979. For the past twelve years, Mattson has been working with patients known as environmentally sensitive. Patients can have lead poisoning, mercury toxicity, mold illness, chronic fatigue, and chemical sensitivities. Often, patients experience electro-hypersensitivity, and some so severely so that it prevents them from living in a regular home. The only solution is for these sufferers to move to remote areas without cell phone service or electricity. Quiet Zones are defined as designated geographic safe areas without wireless microwave radiation for people who suffer from these conditions. Mattson has been seeing younger patients who are

experiencing injury caused by exposure to radiation. A strong, vibrant firefighter developed a brain tumor after working thirteen years forty feet from a cell tower. People are experiencing more infertility, anxiety, depression and extreme fatigue. Particularly vulnerable are pregnant women, children, the elderly, people with autism, and people with an acute, chronic illness. Wireless microwave radiation injury leads to headaches, poor memory, difficulty concentrating, insomnia, heart palpitations, anxiety, allergies, fatigue, muscle spasms, and cancer. Current guidelines are not protecting our health. Symptoms can improve with avoidance. 5G is damaging to living cells, especially the developing brain. Wireless radiation causes premature aging, and college-age student are vulnerable. Everyone should practice good habits by turning off your wifi at night, and not holding your cell phone next to your body or head.

**4. QUESTION AND ANSWER FOR ASUA, GPSC, APAC, CSC, RPC, APPC, SACP REPORTS**

There were no questions.

**5. REPORT FROM THE FACULTY OFFICERS WITH QUESTION AND ANSWER - CHAIR OF THE FACULTY, JESSICA SUMMERS**

Summers thanked everyone for voting and encouraged everyone to vote in the Runoff Election.

**6. REPORT FROM THE PROVOST WITH QUESTION AND ANSWER – SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND PROVOST, LIESL FOLKS**

Folks took questions from Senators. Senator Bourget asked if there would be a report to the Faculty Senate on the Pay Equity study. Folks responded yes, at the April 6, 2020 Faculty Senate meeting, adding that the information is being shared with Provost's Council, SPBAC, and Deans, Directors, and Department Heads.

**7. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT WITH QUESTION AND ANSWER - PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY, ROBERT ROBBINS**

Senator Ghosh asked President Robbins to elaborate on his Campus Conversation with students. Robbins responded that he is grateful to Teresa Graham Brett for scheduling approximately seventy Campus Conversations. On February 19, 2020, students expressed dissatisfaction with actions or inactions about the climate in the classroom, hate speech, and quality of life on campus. A search has been launched for a Senior Vice President for Native American Advancement and Tribal Engagement. On February 27, 2020, a groundbreaking took place for the UA Tech Parks at the Bridges, a sixty-five-acre community of innovation within the University's 350-acre master-planned, mixed use development project. Robbins attended Cats at the Capitol earlier in the day, and former President of New York University, John Sexton will be presenting his book *Standing for Reason, The University in a Dogmatic Age* at the Stevie Eller Dance Theater starting at 5:30 p.m. this evening. The week of April 20-24, 2020, the University will hold a number of grand opening events for its new DC Center for Outreach and Collaboration located at 1301 Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. On March 4, 2020 from 4:30-6:00 p.m., the grand opening of the Faculty Commons + Advisory will take place. Faculty Commons + Advisory is a new meeting space and resource center for Faculty at the Health Sciences Innovation Building and is part of the Health Sciences Collaborative Strategic Initiative UAHS 5.1A. Robbins spoke briefly about the travel ban due to the Coronavirus. Folks added that the University is adopting a new Class Absence Policy in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control's guidelines. Senator Hurh reported, with regard to the CDC recommendations regarding hand washing, that the Modern Languages building does not have hot water. Many Senators reported that their buildings also do not have hot water. Whether the inability for people to wash their hands in warm water might be a barrier to compliance with hand-washing recommendations was not clearly addressed. Senator Bourget asked President Robbins if he was made aware of the last Faculty Senate meeting's discussion concerning budget cuts. Robbins affirmed he was apprised of the concerns.

**8. ACTION ITEM: CONSENT AGENDA – PROPOSALS TO IMPLEMENT BACHELOR OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE; BAS IN APPLIED COMPUTING; BAS IN HUMAN SERVICES; BAS IN INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION OPERATIONS, BS IN PRECISION NUTRITION AND WELLNESS – CHAIR OF THE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL, NEEL GHOSH**

Brewer reminded Senators that all Consent agenda items come as seconded motions [**Motion 2019/20-14 through Motion 2019/20-18**] from Undergraduate Council chaired by Neel Ghosh. The Consent agenda items passed unanimously and are detailed at the end of these minutes.

**9. INFORMATION ITEM: LIBRARY INFORMATION ACCESS BUDGET UPDATE – DEAN OF THE LIBRARIES, SHAN SUTTON**

Sutton updated Faculty Senate on the University of Arizona information access budget that the University Libraries manages for licensing, databases, subscribing to journals, and purchasing or licensing monographs both in print and electronic. The annual expense is just under \$15M. Ninety percent is licensed content and open to inflationary increases. Inflationary increases have a real and compounding impact. Sharing resources with other libraries and networks is the most efficient way to gain access to the most content available. One of the strategies to benefit campus is intensive hardball negotiations with vendors to publishers. Another is moving packages from ownership to licensing to lower costs. The University also engages in consortium licensing with other libraries when possible. Other publishers, like Wiley, will negotiate across state lines. Three dollars of content is delivered for every dollar spent, so it is not always about reducing costs, but getting more for the dollars spent. Multi-year licenses can work both ways, and a down-side is a multi-year deal, and while there are out-clauses while in partnership with other Universities, it's best to avoid them if at all possible. Active management of the University's information access portfolio of resources is never static. In FY20's reallocation of funding, the Libraries received a \$2M increase to its information access budget after several preceding years of flat budgets. Starting July 1, 2020, FY21 increases will be coming from the publishers, and in a flat budget environment, strategically cutting expenditures is the only option to prevent a deficit. A \$500,000 reduction will be required to stay within budget starting immediately. The primary criteria are content overlap between databases, usage data, cost per use, the centrality of the content to the discipline, and availability of alternative means of access. The cancellation list for publications will be released to faculty tomorrow, with cancellations commencing July 1, 2020, and faculty input will be sought with respect to the cancellation list. The Library's ability to meet needs while reducing expenditures is part of its multi-year budget planning. Lessons are to be learned from cancellations of licenses; Inter-library loan demand for the same content is a fraction of the use for the item when licensed. Social networking and media sharing sites are becoming more popular, and sometimes within the constraints of publishing agreements, articles may surface in various places.

**10. INFORMATION ITEM: BUDGET REALLOCATIONS AND FISCAL UPDATE FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA – PROVOST LIESL FOLKS, AND SPBAC CO-CHAIR, SABRINA HELM**

Folks thanked SPBAC Co-chairs Sabrina Helm and Barry Brummund for orchestrating a session with SPBAC members to look at SPBAC's role as a shared governance entity on campus and how it can be most effective. The discussion was enlightening, helpful and empowering. Helm oriented Senators on SPBAC membership and its makeup. SPBAC had a recent opportunity to meet with CFO, Lisa Rulney. The committee recommended a Faculty Advisory Board to assist the CFO in shared governance decision making processes. The committee identified priority topics for regular discussion, and the level of involvement the committee would commit to for each topic. Opportunities moving forward will to be involved in the University budget process, reconfirm the role of SPBAC with University leadership via the updated Shared Governance Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), create a SPBAC meeting schedule based on priority exercises to enable recurring discussion and debate, and align meeting agendas with University Planning and budget calendars. Discussion with Co-chairs revolved around the important role SPBAC has held in past years and holding administration accountable for keeping the committee involved in budgetary decisions. Senator Hudson gave an update on the revision of the MOU, apprising Senators that the *ad hoc* MOU Task Force was hopeful to have its revised edition of the document ready for approval at the April 2020 Faculty Senate meeting.

Folks updated Senators on the fiscal climate of the University. Student enrollment continues to steadily increase on an annual basis, as does the cost to run the University with approximately \$1B being paid out in salaries. Undergraduate tuition is projected at \$679M for 2020 with a discount rate of 33.6%. Net tuition revenues are estimated at \$451M. Because enrollment forecasting is challenging, an additional \$22.3M was funded to secure the new student population to the University. The Strategic Plan fund is paid for by the revenues earned from investments made from cash on hand. Cash on hand funds are accumulated funds used cooperatively University-wide. Folks explained that the cash money is safeguarded in the colleges. Unit leaders identified critical needs, prioritizing strategies implemented, and fund-raising efforts were ramped up to meet goals. Branding and marketing had fallen into a slump, and efforts are being made to restructure in order to attract talent. UITS's costs escalate approximately \$1M per year to support the software packages the University uses. Funds were allocated to the Libraries to ensure that journal subscriptions continued. The University had a serious need to invest in Diversity, Equity and Title IX. Funding was also allocated to Student Affairs to aid in Commencement activities, The Office of Sustainability, Optical Sciences to support research efforts, and institutional administrative support. Decisions are still being finalized on \$5.2M, but recent developments point to the Coronavirus pandemic likely getting the bulk of that money. Helm reiterated that the suggestion to form a Faculty Advisory Board made up of SPBAC members to assist the CFO in matters affecting the budget. Helm also thinks that President's Cabinet and the Senior Leadership Team should include faculty leadership involvement. Folks explained that all support units that report to the Provost and the CFO have received a 3.5% cut, with academic units receiving a 1.5% cut, totaling \$7.9M. At 1.5%, layoffs are unlikely. History indicates that 5% of faculty and 13% of staff turnover annually, resulting in a hiring slowdown. Folks anticipates the Coronavirus situation at the top of the list of challenges, with approximately \$6M spent before a plateau of certainty is reached. The Coronavirus will have negative effects on attracting non-resident and international students, and the University is expecting a \$26M slump in net tuition revenues.

11. **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

12. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

**Amy Fountain, Secretary of the Faculty**  
**Jane Cherry, Recording Secretary**

**Appendix\***

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

1. **Faculty Senate Minutes of February 3, 2020**
2. **Report from the APAC**
3. **Report from CSC**
4. **Report from APPC**
5. **Report from the Faculty Officers**
6. **Report from the Provost**
7. **Report from the President**
8. **Proposal for Bachelor of Landscape Architecture**
9. **Proposal for BAS in Applied Computing**
10. **Proposal for BAS in Human Services**
11. **Proposal for BAS in Intelligence and Information Operations**
12. **Proposal for BS in Precision and Nutrition and Wellness**

**Motions of the February 3, 2020 Faculty Senate Meeting**

**[Motion 2019/20-14]** Seconded motion from Undergraduate Council to approve the request from the College of Architecture, Planning, and Landscape Architecture for authorization to implement the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture. Motion carried.

**[Motion 2019/20-15]** Seconded motion from Undergraduate Council to approve the request from the College of Applied Science and Technology for authorization to implement BAS and Minor in Applied Computing. Motion carried.

**[Motion 2019/20-16]** Seconded motion from Undergraduate Council to approve the request from the College of Applied Science and Technology for authorization to implement BAS and Minor in Human Services. Motion carried.

**[Motion 2019/20-17]** Seconded motion from Undergraduate Council to approve the request from the College of Applied Science and Technology for authorization to implement BAS in Intelligence and Information Operations. Motion carried.

**[Motion 2019/20-18]** Seconded motion from Undergraduate Council to approve the request from the Department of Nutritional Sciences, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences for authorization to implement BS and Minor in Precision Nutrition and Wellness. Motion carried.

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