

REPORT TO FACULTY SENATE

FROM: The Faculty Officers <http://facultygovernance.arizona.edu/>

DATE: October 5, 2020

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on the MOU for Shared Governance finished their work and handed off the MOU to the Shared Governance Review Committee to make any last changes necessary for all sides to agree on signing. A survey was sent to Senate to gauge members' satisfaction with the state of the MOU as drafted. Satisfaction was high, with 75% to 95% of those that responded signaling their satisfaction with different elements of the MOU.
- the Shared Governance Review Committee, an existing University committee that has not met in the past decade, has been reconstituted to address concerns about the health of shared governance at the University of Arizona. Two Senators, Leila Hudson (two-year term) and Paul Gordon (one-year term) were elected to represent Senate.
- The votes on Housekeeping changes taken in September through Qualtrics were voided, due to Senators not being given the opportunity to discuss them prior to voting. The package of proposed changes will be discussed and voted on in October.
- In response to Senator requests for more opportunities for discussion and debate between meetings, the Faculty Officers/Faculty Center Staff continue to offer the following options:
 - A [Faculty Discourse Forum](#) wherein topics can be introduced, discussed, and debated by the general faculty. Relevant to Senate, there is a "Lounge" feature within the site for Senators only to communicate with one another between monthly meetings. **Should we keep Discourse as a medium for discussion? No one has used it since August.**
 - Weekly "Senate Office Hours" every Tuesday, 4-4:50pm hosted by the Faculty Officers <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/94767916308>; no agenda, open discussion; hosted by Jessica Summers, Michael Brewer, and/or Melanie Hingle.

GOALS:

- GFFAC and SPBAC continue to work together to understand furlough/finance decisions by administration, and are gathering data to present in a one-page summary to our faculty and staff employees. It is mission critical to integrate faculty input and efforts across shared governance groups to better understand the university budget and finances, so that we can advocate for pay equity, a less severe / no furlough, greater participation in financial decisions that impact the university at large.

- Convene the Shared Governance Review Committee who will be tasked with strengthening shared governance input on major operational domains, decisions, and areas of concern at the University of Arizona, as well as any priorities or areas of focus where faculty, staff, students, and administration should work together including but not limited to budget (re)allocations or cuts, inclusion, equity and diversity, employee compensation, academic policy and curricular affairs, recruitment & financial aid, and acquisitions.

SHORT-TERM

- Complete the work of the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on the MOU for Shared Governance, toward developing a document that can be endorsed by Senate and signed by Administration in September / October 2020.
- Work with the Provost, the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Career Track Faculty, and others to move forward proposed changes to clean up faculty data and improve and clarify titling for career track faculty. Any policy changes will come to Senate prior to approval and implementation.
- Bring potential changes in UHAP to annual reviews and post-tenure review being developed by Vice Provost Andrea Romero, Ron Hammer, Colin Blakely, and Michael Brewer, to Senate for discussion.

LONG-TERM

- To ensure a continued successful, safe, and healthy return to campus life for all members of the UA community.
- To broaden participation in shared governance to ensure that the University lives up to its values and supports its mission as we move ahead.
- To work with you to do all that we, as a community, can do to save lives, support our most vulnerable community members, and increase faculty participation in all decision-making that affects our lives and the long-term health and well-being of all of us.

To Our Senate Colleagues: We remain grateful to you for your hard work, your input, your ideas and your continued engagement in shared governance. We continue to work to support the work of the University and to ensure the prominence of the Faculty voice.