Minutes
 Wednesday, October 7, 2015
 8:15-9:50 a.m. Old Main Boardroom


Guests: T. Miller

Call to Order
Co-Chair R. Richardson called the meeting to order at 8:17 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes of September 16, 2015
The minutes of September 16, 2015 were approved.

Updates
Provost Comrie had five updates for the Committee:

1. The UA’s newest location for programing will be University of Arizona Oro Valley, home to the UA's Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree program.

2. The Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) now has a home on the UA campus at 939 N. Tyndall Ave. The new Center for Mexican Studies at that location is a partnership between UNAM, the largest university in Latin America, and the UA, and was established through the work of SPBAC member Mike Proctor, Vice President for Global Initiatives, to maximize the impact of the relationships that exist between the two facilities.

3. An Arid Lands workshop was held in conjunction with the School of Natural Resources and the Environment. The workshop was held as part of an effort to revitalize the International Arid Lands Consortium (IALC), through which the UA and other universities around the world are partnering to solve environmental problems globally.

4. The Provost’s Council held a retreat to identify the most important and urgent activities for the next twelve months within the Never Settle strategic plan, with particular attention to those activities which lack a clear reporting/organizational structure. The results will be shared with SPBAC.
5. The Faculty Senate’s Non-Tenure Track (NTT) task force has been instrumental in helping to identify and address workload and compensation issues for NTT faculty, starting in the Social and Behavioral Sciences and Humanities. The Provost’s office is using Strategic Investment funds to pay for the increased compensation in the first year for Writing Program instructors in SBS and faculty in four departments in Humanities, after which the respective colleges will pick up the cost. Despite deep cuts, the UA is able to make critical investments.

**Discussion**

Members questioned the impact of proposed federal Fair Labor Standards that would increase, from $24,000/year to $50,000/per year, the income threshold for exemption and overtime pay. A. Vaillancourt said the UA is paying close attention to this, especially how it will impact post-docs.

Members asked about pay raises for all UA employees. Provost Comrie said that addressing salaries is very important, but everyone must realize that there isn’t likely to be a source of new money to do this, and the money will have to come from cuts or efficiencies somewhere else.

C. Rocha updated the Committee concerning the change in the name and mission of the former Staff Advisory Council (SAC) to the Classified Staff Council (CSC); the focus at this point is to serve classified staff, advocate for classified staff needs and interests, and serve as a resource for this population.

Co-Chair Richardson shared that the October 5th Faculty Senate meeting covered a range of topics of interest to SPBAC members, including a visit from ABOR President Eileen Klein, and encouraged members to go to the Faculty Governance website for more details.

J.P. Jones updated members concerning the conversations that took place at the recent HeadsUp luncheon. Four college deans - Jeff Goldberg (ENGR), Shane Burgess (CALS), J. Ruiz (COS) and J.P. Jones (SBS) - shared with department heads their respective college strategies to implement RCM. Jones noted that there are differences in style between colleges, but that the essence of RCM is the same, particularly given that within RCU’s there will always be some units that are better able to support themselves than others, while other units, equally mission-critical, will need subsidizing.

Members noted that space is now a part of RCM/budgeting, and this will have an impact on space utilization and efficiency.

**ABOR metrics update-Barbara Bryson**

Bryson provided the Committee with the ABOR strategic plan for all three Arizona universities that was shared with the Faculty Senate by ABOR President Eileen Klein at the October Faculty Senate meeting. The four pillars of the plan are: Educate, Achieve, Discover and Impact. This plan lays out the objectives, metrics and measures and the challenges and risks for each pillar. The new ABOR plan will contain far fewer than the previous thirty-two different metrics. The UA is leading the effort to put all the information into a data warehouse with pre-defined dashboards that will be easily accessible to Board members.

Members discussed the importance of academic quality metrics. Chair of the Faculty Lynn Nadel has requested university-wide faculty volunteers to populate two to four groups that will address the issues of: Quality in Instructional Activities, Quality in Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity, Quality in Student Support, Quality in Administrative Support and Quality in
Human Resources. Approximately forty faculty have already volunteered to be part of these discussions.

ABOR is recommending a new model for state funding where the state will fund 50% of the cost to educate each in-state student. The state currently funds about one-third of that cost. On-line in-state students will be counted in the in-state numbers. She then showed members the Proposed State Investment Model and FY 2017 Budget Proposal. All of this information can be found on the Regents’ website. These documents are also attached to the meeting reminder along with these minutes for your convenience.

**Adjournment**
The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

**Future Meetings**
- **October 21, 2015**
  - 8:15 am – 9:50 am
  - Old Main Boardroom
- **November 4, 2015**
  - 8:15 am – 9:50 am
  - Old Main Boardroom
- **November 18, 2015**
  - 8:15 am – 9:50 am
  - Old Main Boardroom
- **December 2, 2015**
  - 8:15 am – 9:50 am
  - Old Main Boardroom
- **December 16, 2015**
  - 8:15 am – 9:50 am
  - Old Main Boardroom