Minutes
Wednesday, November 18, 2015
8:15-9:50 a.m. Old Main Boardroom

present: M. Galilee-Belfer (Co-Chair), R. Richardson (Co-Chair), R. Blakiston,
B. Bowen, B. Bryson, M. Burke, A. Comrie, V. Del Casino, P. Dourlein,
J. Duran, M. Felix, J. Florian, G. Goldman, S. Helm, J.P. Jones,
A. McClure, L. Nadel, M. Proctor, C. Robertson (for M. Miller),
C. Rocha, J. Sun, T. Thompson, T. Tong, S. Umashankar,
K. Urquidez, A. Vaillancourt, K. Whisman, X. Zeng


guests: M. Fleming, A.W. Hart

Call to Order
Co-Chair R. Richardson called the meeting to order at 8:18 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes of November 4, 2015
The minutes of November 4, 2015 were approved.

Guest: President Ann Weaver Hart
President Hart updated the Committee concerning some of the issues around campus.

1. In response to national conversations around inclusion and campus climate, Dr. Hart and
other institutional leaders met with a group of UA students in front of Old Main. The group
discussed their thoughts on the importance of multi-Cultural centers, including location and
funding; the importance of acknowledging cultural differences; and the notion of “micro-
aggressions” in academia.

2. Dr. Hart discussed the funding of athletics on the UA campus (including Pac12 funds from
televized events) and a nascent conversation around a possible student athletics fee.

3. Dr. Hart updated SPBAC about the evolving relationship between UA and the state
government, and the fact that state cuts have meant decreasing support for higher education,
such that students now shoulder a much larger portion of the cost of education.

The three Arizona University presidents, the ABOR president, and the regents have agreed to
ask the state for funding on a per Arizona resident student basis, with an aspirational figure of
one-half of the cost of every in-state student. Currently the state funds less than 1/3 of each in-
state student, and increasing that figure would better reflect the state’s constitutional mandate
that education be as nearly free as possible. It would simplify the process and create a standard
across all three Universities in Arizona. Such a funding model would also enable multi-year
budgeting plans in place of the current one-year plans.

The Universities’ presidents and ABOR leadership met with Governor Ducey to discuss this
proposal. Part of the discussion was a focus on cost containment at the institutions; the UA has
already been successful in lowering the cost by approximately $1000 per student in the last two years.

4. UA faculty salaries, well below the national averages, are an area of concern. Under RCM, it will be up to each college dean to effectively allocate resources to retain, reward, and hire the best faculty. Dr. Hart pointed out that Chair of the Faculty Lynn Nadel is advocating staff and faculty raises.

5. Dr. Hart discussed shared governance at UA as compared to other universities. She mentioned SPBAC and the Committee of Eleven specifically as two bodies that have an active involvement with University decision-making. The Committee of Eleven sent her a letter last month that outlined its hopes and expectations for the future of the UA Foundation philanthropic fundraising.

**Discussion followed**

It is important for the UA to make every effort to help the state understand the value added of UA being a Land-grant University, involving the health of everyone in Arizona, given our medical schools in both Tucson and Phoenix and health-related activities through Schools of Pharmacy and Nursing, plus our new veterinary science program.

Dr. Hart reminded members that, in service to our commitment to access, over half of UA’s first year residents pay little or no tuition because of various financial aid packages.

**Updates**

Provost Comrie had five updates for the Committee:

1. Provost Comrie thanked Karen Williams, Dean of the University Libraries, for taking the position of Interim Chief Information Officer (former CIO Michele Norin has taken a new position at Rutgers University). Provost Comrie is seeking search committee members.

2. There are two finalists for dean of the Eller College of Management, one internal and one external. The decision should be announced in December.

3. The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) conference addressed issues and activities taking place at the University of Missouri and around the country concerning campus climate and inclusion.

4. The Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) started its meetings at UA today, Wednesday, November 18th and will meet through Friday.

5. The Provost read a memo from Senior Vice President for Research Kim Espy announcing the NSF Research Rankings report for FY14.

Co-chair Richardson asked that members email them immediately if they have strong feelings either way about holding or cancelling the December 16th and January 6th SPBAC meetings.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

**Future Meetings**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Discussion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 2, 2015</td>
<td>CANCELLED</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 16, 2015</td>
<td>8:15 am – 9:50 am</td>
<td>Old Main Boardroom</td>
<td>Discussion: salaries and budgeting</td>
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