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

Approval of the Minutes of April 20, 2016
The minutes of April 20, 2016 were approved.

Updates Provost Comrie
The Arizona state budget passed Tuesday night. Higher education funding was not cut this year. The three state universities will divide $32M with UA receiving $2.2M discretionary, $2.0M for the UA’s Center for the Philosophy of Freedom and $8M for capital improvements to the Veterinary Medicine facilities in Oro Valley.

The UA finance team is meeting Thursday, May 5th to discuss possible across-the-board salary increases. Provost Comrie thanked SPBAC for their timely budget proposal document (discussed at the April 20th SPBAC meeting).

Approximately one hundred Promotion & Tenure decision letters went out Friday, April 29th.

Negotiations are being finalized for a “creative” structure to the office of the Chief Diversity Officer. An announcement is likely soon.

Co-Chair Richardson asked the provost about the Arizona Geological Survey (AGS) that is to be housed at the UA. Member K. Whisman said that although the survey will be at the UA, there will be no additional funding to cover its costs. Comrie added that the costs
of supporting AGS would not be covered with tuition money and that efficiencies will need to be found.

Co-chair Galilee-Belfer updated members about the Faculty Senate discussion that took place Monday, May 2nd concerning the proposals of the Non-tenure Track Task Force. One proposal is to expand the definition of General Faculty to include those faculty who have been employed half-time or more for the last three of four years, who currently are on year-to-year contracts; this would bring alignment since NTT faculty on multi-year contracts who have been employed half-time or more are already considered members of the General Faculty. This proposal has been approved to go to a faculty vote in the Fall. Individual colleges and units will still maintain discretion on the roles of NTT at the unit level around voting, participation on committees, and other faculty responsibilities. Work is ongoing to find a better word than “non-tenure” to identify those faculty who are not tenure-track – something that has a positive rather than negative connotation. Changes are also happening in the University Handbook for Appointed Personnel (UHAP) around the definition of adjunct to make sure the term is only used as appropriate. Member M. Taylor, Senior Assistant Vice President for Finance & Administration in the Office of Academic Affairs, said that her office is seeing a shift to more multi-year contracts. Co-Chair Galilee-Belfer said that there will be increased clarity in UHAP for NTT faculty on Promotion processes. Further work is being done by Tom Miller, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs.

Members thanked departing SPBAC members J. Sun (GPSC), T. Tong and R. Blakiston for their service to SPBAC. Sun introduced the incoming Executive Vice President of GPSC, Jude Udeozor. Associate Professor in African Studies Bryan Carter was introduced as a new member to SPBAC beginning in August. APAC representative Amy McClure indicated that a decision is still pending on who will represent APAC next year.

J. Duran updated members about the Diversity Task Force, a group convened in late Spring 2016 specifically to respond to the student concerns around diversity and inclusion. The Diversity Task Force comprises eight subcommittees that have started meeting and will continue to meet over the summer to look into campus climate issues. B. Carter clarified that the Task Force differs from the Diversity Coordinating Council, a group that was first formed in late 2014 to strengthen and align university efforts around diversity and inclusion. Co-Chair Galilee-Belfer suggested increased communication around mission differentiation for the two groups, so that people understand the broader UA strategy around diversity and inclusion. The Diversity Task Force will be fully engaging with the new Chief Diversity Officer. Additionally, work is being done on a Diversity website to facilitate better communication across campus.

Co-chair Galilee-Belfer discussed the SPBAC annual report that can be found on the faculty governance website attached to the May Faculty Senate Agenda and also on the SPBAC homepage.
Discussion of Financial Aid—merit, need & access. Kasey Urquidez, Beth Acree, and Rebekah Salcedo

Kasey Urquidez, SPBAC member and Vice President, Enrollment Management & Student Affairs Advancement and Dean, Undergraduate Admissions, Beth Acree and Rebekah Salcedo, both from the Office of Scholarship and Financial Aid presented a PowerPoint to increase SPBAC’s understanding of the 2016 Freshman Class and how it will further ABOR goals for overall enrollment, retention, years to graduation and diversity. After highlighting the ABOR 2025 & Institutional Goals, Urquidez discussed some of the factors that influence UA enrollment, including Institutional & System Goals, National Demographics, Market Demand & Competition, Public Policy, Students’ Needs & Behaviors, College Readiness and Public Education.

The number of high school graduates has actually decreased from 2010 until now and will continue to fluctuate in the future. Students who were admitted but elected not to attend the UA were contacted and asked why. 24% said it was an affordability issue. Those perspective students who said that money was an issue were contacted and efforts were made to increase financial support.

Members questioned the influence of the UA guaranteed tuition and whether mandatory fees were also guaranteed. Mandatory fees (but not course or program fees) are included in the four-year guarantee.

The percentage of Arizona high school graduates who are eligible for admission to state universities has not changed significantly overall, moving from 44.2% in 1989 to 46.5% in 2014, yet the yield rate – those deciding to come to UA after applying – is down, because now students apply to ten to fifteen different schools to see where they can get the best value.

There are a number of factors that influence affordability for students, including the decreased purchasing power of federal aid, rising college costs, increasing discount rates, increased family borrowing, shifting demographics, and declining yield rates. Nationally, the purchasing power of the Federal Pell Grant and Stafford Loans has steadily declined from covering 131% of tuition and fees in 2006-07 to covering just 101% in 2014-15, and actually only 84% for University of Arizona students.

Urquidez shared a bar graph that described the family’s contribution to the student’s costs. The UA continues to admit many of the neediest students who apply.

Currently, UA tuition and fees are slightly above the median of our peer universities. UA provided financial assistance to 37,045 students in AY2014-15 equaling $643M in aid from all sources: federal-$318M; Institutional & Private-$318M; and $7M from the state. The majority of such aid goes to needy students.

B. Carter asked if there has been any progress in having the UA designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HIS). Urquidez said that her office is actively working on obtaining that designation, but it is a very complicated task.
Acree described multiple student scenarios showing what their costs would be and the amount of tuition help they might expect based on actual UA students.

Urquidez explained that changes are coming in how financial aid is calculated and the timing of when documents can be submitted. Such changes, which allow families to use the previous year’s income so as to not delay aid assessment, continue the trend of a rapidly evolving recruitment and admissions process, which has the potential to change the face of enrollment.

**Adjournment**
The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

**Future Meetings**
- August 17, 2016  8:15 am – 9:50 am Old Main Boardroom
- September 7, 2016  8:15 am – 9:50 am Old Main Boardroom
- September 21, 2016  8:15 am – 9:50 am Old Main Boardroom
- October 5, 2016  8:15 am – 9:50 am Old Main Boardroom