

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA®  
**General Faculty Standing Committee**  
Faculty Center  
1216 E. Mabel St. - PO Box 210456  
621-1342 (Fax: 621-8844)

## **Committee of Eleven**

### **Annual Report 2013-14**

#### **April 30, 2014**

#### **Membership:**

Dr. Patricia Hoyer, **CHAIR** (5/05-5/15),  
Physiology

Dr. Peter Strittmatter, **VICE CHAIR** (6/09-5/15),  
Astronomy

Mr. Taylor Ashton, (8/12-5/14), ASUA

Dr. Warren Breidenbach, (1/13-5/14), Surgery

Dr. John Hildebrand (5/00-5/14), Neuroscience

Dr. Wanda H. Howell (5/05-5/14),  
Chair of the Faculty

Mr. James Howell (10/13-5/14), GPSC

Mr. Doug Jones (6/07-5/15),  
University Libraries

Dr. Elizabeth Ritchie (6/12-5/15),  
Atmospheric Sciences

Dr. Steven Schwartz (6/13-5/15),  
Chemistry/Biochemistry

Dr. John Ulreich, (6/11-5/15), English

Dr. Dr. Marlys Witte (6/08-5/14), Surgery

Dr. Maria Nieves Zedeno (6/12-5/14), Anthropology

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#### **Committee of Eleven:**

The committee was established in 1947 by President James Byron McCormick to obtain advice from the faculty. When the Faculty Senate and Constitution were established in 1948, the Committee of Eleven was defined constitutionally and membership determined by faculty-wide election. It is unique in higher education governance structures and is independent of other faculty or administrative committees or organizations. The Committee of Eleven is University-wide and does not have a prescribed agenda.

#### **Faculty Constitution Article V, Section 3 provides:**

The Committee of Eleven shall:

- a. Initiate, promote, and stimulate study and action dealing with and looking toward solution of situations and problems of interest and concern to the faculty and to the University.
- b. Make reports to the General Faculty or the Faculty Senate.
- c. Speak for the General Faculty as and when authorized by the General Faculty.

#### **Issues Discussed:**

The Committee of Eleven's focus for 2013-2014 Academic Year included the following activities and topics:

- Health Sciences/Medical School Issues;
- Vice President for Research search;



- Never Settle strategic plan and Campaign for Common Sense;
- UITS concerns;
- Research mission at U of Az and membership in AAU (American Association of Universities)
- Arizona state legislature relations and state budget;
- BIO5 Institute and interdisciplinary research;
- Tenure and faculty demographics;
- White Paper preparation

### **Guests:**

As is its practice, the Committee of Eleven met with key individuals throughout the academic year. These included:

Dr. Michael Waldrum, CEO, University of Arizona Health Network (Oct 22, 2013)

Dr. Steve Goldschmid, Dean, College of Medicine (Oct 22, 2013)

Dr. Joaquin Ruiz, Dean, College of Science; College of Arts, Letters and Sciences (CALs); Vice President for Innovation & Strategy (Oct 25, 2013)

Dr. Allison Vaillancourt, Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness & Human Resources (Nov 22, 2013)

Provost Andrew Comrie (Dec 6, 2013)

Dr. Skip Garcia, Senior Vice President Health Sciences (Dec 20, 2013)

President Ann Weaver Hart (Jan 31, 2014)

Tim Bee, Senior Associate Vice President for Legislative & Community Relations (Feb 28, 2014)

Kim Sabow, Senior Director for State Relations (Feb 28, 2014)

Dr. Fernando Martinez, Director BIO5 Institute (Mar 14, 2014)

Dr. Gary Rhoades, Department Head, Education Policy Studies & Practice (Mar 28, 2014)

Jim Florian, Associate Vice President, Institutional Analysis (Apr 11, 2014)

Dr. Lynn Nadel, Chair of the Faculty - elect (Apr 11, 2014)

Michele Norin, CIO/Executive Director University Information Technology Systems (UITS; scheduled, May 9, 2014)

### **Annual Project:**

The Committee of Eleven (C11) decided in Fall, 2013, to prepare a white paper as a project for the year. A subcommittee to work on this project (comprised of Strittmatter, Chair; Hildebrand, Schwartz and Jones) was formed. C11 agreed upon a theme to evaluate the status of the research mission at the University of Arizona (current and future), with the impact of this on the University's membership in the American Association of Universities (AAU). Many of the guests attending C11 meetings were asked to contribute their thoughts to this overarching theme.

### **Guest Discussion Summaries:**

CEO Waldrum and Dean Goldschmid discussed the structures of University of Arizona Health Network (UAHN) and College of Medicine, and interactions of those two units. There is much overlap between faculty participating in both enterprises, making these interactions complex. They discussed how sources of revenue are generated within both units.

Vice President/Dean Ruiz discussed challenges facing the maintenance of a critical mass of research-oriented faculty within the Colleges of Science, and Arts, Letters and Science. He commented on the need for a more comprehensive long range vision for improving the research mission with increased endowed chairs.

Vice President Vaillancourt discussed issues associated with ERE. She also stated that money from grants that are paid into the Arizona State Retirement Fund for graduate students, which will not be used, are returned to the grants. Other topics of discussion were the aging demographics of faculty at UofAz, and her participation in planning the Campaign for Common Sense.

Provost Comrie discussed the great success of President Hart's presentation to the Board of Regents on Nov 22, 2013, and the favorable impression made by participating faculty at the Regents' breakfast on that day. He also commented on plans for faculty recruitment (immediate and long range) as well as resources that will be made available for the Office of Vice President for Research.

Vice President Garcia discussed initiatives for meeting challenges facing the College of Medicine. These initiatives include hiring of more research-oriented clinician scientists, and increasing funding in the form of NIH-sponsored individual training (K) awards and training grants. He also commented on the progress of current searches to fill the positions of Heads of the Medicine and Surgery Departments, and Director of the Cancer Center.

President Hart discussed various aspects of the Never Settle strategic plan and Campaign for Common Sense which were to be launched in 2014. Additionally, she expressed disappointment that the state legislature provided essentially no budgetary support for the UofAz in upcoming FY2014-5. She indicated that this was due to the legislators' perception of parity equalization with ASU and NAU, and that the UofAz was not in great need of this funding. The \$15million allocated to UofAz was intended to directly fund TGen.

Vice President Bee and Director Sabow discussed Uof Az relations with the Governor and state legislature. They commented on the budget shortfall for 2014-5, but expressed optimism that progress is being made toward increased funding in FY2015-6. This is bound to be enhanced by the appointment of Sabow to a more permanent presence in Phoenix where she will increase interactions with individual legislators.

Director Martinez discussed the importance of enhancing emphasis on interdisciplinary research at the UofAz in order to preserve/expand sources of funding. He pointed out how dedication of specific faculty lines assigned to Bio5, and giving degree-granting authority to that unit would greatly strengthen the overall research mission.

Department Head Rhoades was the General Secretary of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) from January 2009 through December 2011 in Washington, D.C. He discussed the current status of tenure at American Colleges and Universities, and projected that current trends at the National level may affect tenure at UofAz in the future.

Vice President Florian discussed the UAccess system which is in its 5<sup>th</sup> year of implementation. He commented that serious difficulties have been encountered because all aspects of the system were initiated at the same time, rather than phased in one at a time. He also indicated that identification of specific titles/responsibilities of various faculty and staff are somewhat difficult to appreciate because the source of support for various individuals may be widely variable throughout the course of a year, the system on any given day is a 'snapshot' in time. Faculty Chair - elect Nadel discussed his plans for increasing participation in and effectiveness of the Faculty Senate in the upcoming year.

C11 plans to meet with CIO Norin on May 9, 2014, to discuss concerns about the implementation of the UAccess.

**Future Plans:**

The interim VPR, Dr. Jennifer Barton, was not interviewed during the year because of anticipation that a permanent VPR would be named in the early Spring. It is anticipated that the white paper regarding the research mission at UofAz will be completed over Summer 2014, and will be ready for distribution in early Fall 2014.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia B. Hoyer, PhD  
Chair  
Committee of Eleven