1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair of the Faculty Michael Brewer at 3:07 p.m. in the Old Main Silver and Sage Room. Brewer thanked outgoing Senators Aleamoni, Blalock, Brennan, Finnegan, Jull, Lee, O’Keeffe, Ritter, Sears, Smith and Wright. Brewer reminded Senators that the Committee Annual Reports are linked on the Faculty Governance website. President Hart is traveling and unable to attend today’s Senate meeting, and acknowledged her steadfast support of the Faculty Senate. Chair of the Faculty Nadel wants to congratulate Hart as she steps down, and says that he has enjoyed working with her. The UA is a better place than it was when she arrived, for which she, and the leadership team she assembled, deserve credit and gratitude.


2. ACTION ITEM: ELECTION OF UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON ETHICS AND COMMITMENT, COMMITTEE ON CONCILIATION, UNIVERSITY HEARING BOARD, SHARED GOVERNANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE, GRIEVANCE CLEARINGHOUSE COMMITTEE, SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, BIOSTATEMENTS OF NOMINEES.

Brewer announced that the Senate Elections will take place this meeting for two seats on the University Committee on Ethics and Commitment, three seats on the Committee on Conciliation, four seats for the University Hearing Board, one seat for the Grievance Clearinghouse Committee, one seat for the Senate Executive Committee, and one Senate Representative for the Shared Governance Review Committee. Tallies will be taken and results will be announced at the end of the meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF APRIL 3, 2017

The minutes of April 3, 2017 were approved with one abstention.

4. REPORT FROM THE FACULTY OFFICERS – VICE CHAIR OF THE FACULTY MICHAEL BREWER

Brewer said that in addition to the report on the Faculty Governance website, that the modifier “Nontenure-eligible” for a majority of contracted faculty will be changing to a different modifier to better represent the faculty’s function. A survey and Chair Talk were sent out recently to find out if the modifier “Career Track” was acceptable, and other surveys will follow. The Non-college area, typically including the Libraries, Arizona State Museum, and others under the Office of Research, Discovery and Innovation, will be changed to individual groups and include Senate representation for each group. There will be more bylaws changes forthcoming in the fall semester, and included will be the Classified Staff Council’s request for a Senate seat.

5. QUESTION AND ANSWER FOR ASUA, GPSC AND APAC

There were no questions.

6. REPORT FROM THE PROVOST – PROVOST ANDREW COMRIE

Comrie reported that Promotion and Tenure process is complete and letters were delivered to the Deans on April 28, 2017. The next round of reviews are underway for the 2017-2018 cycle. The interim deanship in the College of
Education has been assigned to Bruce Johnson, while candidates for the permanent position are still under consideration. Dean Jory Hancock has given notice to step down as the Dean of the College of Fine Arts, but will continue as the Director of the School of Dance. Hancock was once the Chair of the Faculty, and has also served as the Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR) for the last eleven years, and a search for a new FAR is underway. Hancock has established one of the top dance programs in the country. An email was sent out to the College of Fine Arts’ faculty to gather recommendations for an interim dean. An interim dean will be appointed for the Veterinary Medicine Program while the accreditation process continues. Three Honors College dean candidates will start to arrive for campus interviews on Wednesday, May 3, 2017 through the remainder of the week. The dean appointment for the College of Architecture, Planning and Landscape Architecture is in its final stages and an announcement will be made shortly. The 153rd Commencement is May 12, 2017 at Arizona Stadium. Conmie recommends that faculty attend and support the students who are graduating. An RSVP link has been provided on the report.

7. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT – SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY, JON DUDAS

Dudas reported for Hart who was traveling. The delay with the Governor’s decisions on the budget are due to the allocations made to the Universities. The Governor would like to may sure there is bonding authority in place, which may be as high as $1B. One other piece included in the plan is the sales tax recapture at $30M, and city and local sales tax at $7M. and will result in the Universities to match the funds over a twenty-year period. Arizona is one of the few states that do not receive tax dollars. The current discussion is a $27M appropriation over a twenty-five-year period. The appropriations would be for campus expansion, deferred maintenance and the like. A separate $14M in one-year funding to be split between the three Universities based on resident student population.

8. QUESTION AND ANSWER FOR PRESIDENT, PROVOST, FACULTY OFFICERS’ REPORTS

There were no questions.

9. OPEN SESSION: STATEMENTS AT THE PODIUM ON ANY TOPIC, LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SPEAKERS IS FOUR. NO DISCUSSION IS PERMITTED, AND NO VOTES WILL BE TAKEN. 8 MINUTES OR LESS.

Amanda Krause from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) spoke to Senators about her office’s designation to ensure that the campus remains accessible, and continues to evolve with its accessibility features for students, employees and guests. The DRC has a progressive approach to accessibility options on campus, and the goal is to make sure that disabled people have the same experiences to that of their non-disabled peers. There is a notion that disability is an individual condition or problem that needs to be cured. The shift is that the environment can be created to include people with impairments. The DRC’s mission is to make campus environments seamlessly accessible without the need for individual accommodation. Most of the DRC’s work is designing the campus community with the assistance of faculty. One upcoming change will be aligning the DRC’s access consultants with academic colleges to better focus on the accessibility of the UA environment.

10. ACTION ITEM: CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS REVISIONS – CHAIR OF THE CONSTITUION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE, AMY FOUNTAIN

Fountain explained that most of the revisions are housekeeping changes that will be approved in Senate, but that votes will be taken for others that may substantial enough to require an election in the fall. Revisions that do not change intent can be voted on by the Senate, unless the Senate determines otherwise. The Constitution will be looked at first. 1. A change to the description of the process by which new Graduate Programs are approved (Section VI, article 6). The existing language implied that ABOR approval occurred at the end of the process, but in fact ABOR approval occurs earlier. The inclusion of mention of ABOR approval was unnecessary in the paragraph, we propose removing it. 2. A correction of the name of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee by adding “Faculty Senate”. (Section VII, Article 4). 3. The process required to amend the constitution made reference to ‘mail or electronic ballots’. We propose changing these to ‘an electronic ballot’ to reflect current practice (Section X, sections 2 and 3). Fountain moved to vote on all three as one vote, [Motion 2016/17-32], motion was seconded, and passed unanimously.

The bylaws changes are as follows:

1a. The Constitution and Bylaws Committee proposes to remove the nomination petitions process, and replace it with a declaration of candidacy. The proposal would eliminate the petition-gathering step, and allow the Committee on Elections to verify eligibility of candidates to run. This change may remove a barrier to participation in the process for potential nominees, while still ensuring that nominees are eligible for the office they are seeking (Article IV, Sections 1
and 2). 1b. The Committee proposes renaming the ‘biographical statement’ that candidates submit, and which appears on the ballot, to a ‘candidate statement’. This is in response to concerns that the ‘biographical statement’ often focuses on candidate’s past history, when voters would like to know more about candidates’ rationale for running for elected office (Article IV, Preamble). 1c. The committee proposes changing the names of the elections to better reflect terminology used in municipal, state and federal elections; so that the first round of Faculty Elections, in which most races are decided (and which is currently called the ‘Primary’) would be called the ‘General Election’, and the second round, in which ties are broken and additional races are included if necessary (which is currently called the ‘General’) would be called the ‘Runoff Election’. The suggested terms better reflect the nature and importance of each election (Article IV, Sections 2 and 3). Fountain asked if the three proposals could be voted on together, or voted on individually. Senator Russell indicated that all three proposals should be voted on separately. Fountain asked for a motion [Motion 2016/17-33] to approve Item 1a. Motion was seconded. Senator Paiewonsky asked in what form the declaration would be accepted. Fountain responded that there would be a form on the Faculty Governance website with instructions for the content for the various positions available. The declarations would be reviewed by the Committee on Elections for accuracy and eligibility. Senator Russell said that she evaluates candidates based on their service to the University, which is why a biographical sketch is more appropriate. Paiewonsky called for Point of Order and reiterated that the vote was for Item 1a. Senator M. Witte said that some colleges are small and candidates have trouble obtaining signatures. Witte liked the change of wording to declaration for candidacy, rather than biographical statement. Senator Hymel stated that the petition indicates support from those that sign the petitions. Brewer said that trying the new process could work and if it doesn’t, the old process can be reinstated. Russell said she makes the effort to go across campus to gain signatures, and people who sign her petition know what office she is running for. Senator Hammer said that he doesn’t have twenty people in his college in Phoenix, and it was necessary for him to drive down to Tucson to get the required signatures. Fountain called the question. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed. Fountain called for a motion [Motion 2016/17-34] to move the item to the election for General Faculty vote. Motion was seconded. A voice vote confirmed that item 1a. will be put on the next election ballot for voting by the General Faculty. Fountain explained Item 1b, to rename “biographical statement” to “candidate statement.” Fountain asked for [Motion 2016/17-35], which was seconded. Paiewonsky asked if there will be a general outline of what the expectations will be for the statement. Fountain said that currently there are no specifications in the Bylaws, just that the candidate shall provide one. [Motion 2016/17-35] passed. Fountain asked for a [Motion 2016/17-36] to forward Item 1b. to the University election ballot. Motion was seconded. Paiewonsky said this issue is a matter of semantics and doesn’t need to go to the General Faculty for a vote. A voice vote indicated that the motion failed, therefore, Item 1b. is approved by the Faculty Senate and will not go forward through the University election process. Item 1c. is the proposed change in the name of the elections. Fountain asked for [Motion 2016/17-37] to approve, motion was seconded. There was no discussion. [Motion 2016/17-37] passed unanimously. Fountain then asked for a motion to move Item 1c. to the University election. There was no motion to move Item 1c. to the University election for a General Faculty vote.

2. Ensuring that the Bylaws reflect the faculty-approved process to replace elected faculty members of various committees if they are unable to complete their terms. 2a. Remove the language surrounding replacement of elected faculty members to Committee of Eleven, which is superseded by the faculty-approved process outlined in Article V Section 6 (Article V, section 1). 2b. Extending the process approved as Article V Section 6 to cover the replacement of an elected faculty member of SPBAC (Article VI, Section 7). Fountain asked the Senate if Items 2a. and 2b. could be voted on together. Senators agreed. Fountain asked for [Motion 2016/17-38] to approve, motion was seconded, and passed. No motion was made to move Items 2a. and 2b. forward to University election for General Faculty vote.

3. Updating discussion of the Ombuds Program to reflect correct nomenclature and Program-internal processes (Article VII, Section 4). Fountain asked for [Motion 2016/17-39] to approve, motion was seconded, and passed. No motion was made to move Item 3 to the University election for General Faculty vote.

4. Typographic/formatting/cross-referencing corrections (pages B-24 through B-26). Fountain asked for [Motion 2016/17-40] to approve, motion was seconded, and passed. All motions are detailed at the end of these minutes.

11. ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL TO MOVE THE SENATE MEETING FROM SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 TO AUGUST 28, 2017 – VICE CHAIR OF THE FACULTY, MICHAEL BREWER

Brewer asked for [Motion 2016/17-41] to approve. Motion was seconded. There was no discussion. Motion passed and is detailed at the end of these minutes.

12. ACTION ITEM: NON-CONSENT AGENDA: PROPOSAL FOR ANIMAL AND BIOMEDICAL INDUSTRIES BS – ASSISTANT DEAN, CAREER/ACADEMIC SERVICES, JAMES HUNT

This item comes before Senate as a seconded motion from Undergraduate Council. There was no discussion. [Motion 2016/17-42], passed unanimously, and detailed at the end of these minutes.
13. **ACTION ITEMS:** APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE COURSE SYLLABUS POLICY, AND ALTERNATIVE GRADE SYSTEM OF S/P/C/D/E WITH S/P/F – CHAIR, RETHINKING THE SYLLABUS REVIEW COMMITTEE, BOBBI MCKEAN

McKean said she was asked by the Faculty Officers to form a Task Force charged with revising the Syllabus template. The Task Force’s first goal was to shorten the current syllabi. The strongest feedback from students was having a course syllabus available at the time of class registration. The Task Force agreed to make a course handbook available to students that contained all of the UA policies pertaining to the syllabi. This would allow teaching faculty to reference one item for policies instead of having to list the policies in individual syllabi. McKean asked Senate to approve the idea moving forward at this juncture, so the Task Force can continue working on its mission to devise a succinct, easy syllabus template available for use by both students and faculty. Paiewonsky said that when he was involved in the student listening tours, one thing that was mentioned was that much of the information was glossed over, and being in the syllabi makes it more difficult to gloss over. One suggestion would be to stress the importance to instructors of going over the syllabi at the beginning of the course. McKean said that the Task Force is thinking of utilizing a pop-up window for the syllabus/policy, or a top banner on the D2L webpage so it’s always available. Having up-to-date policy links is also necessary, and faculty education needs to be implemented. Brewer asked if the Senate approved the idea in principle, with a revisit by McKean to Senate when the changes have been completed by the Task Force. The Senate approved.

There were no questions on the seconded motion to approve the Alternative Grade System of S/P/C/D/E with S/P/F. [Motion 2016/17-43] passed, and is detailed at the end of these minutes.

14. **INFORMATION ITEM:** UA INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE STATEMENT – VICE PROVOST, INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE AND SENIOR DIVERSITY OFFICER, JESÚS TREVIÑO

Treviño said that since he’s started at the UA in August 2016, he has been working on employing a model of inclusive excellence and diversity for entire campus engagement, and to create a culture where the two are embedded in all aspects of campus life. The UA Inclusive Excellence Statement is designed to attract new faculty and staff, international students, and to increase the flow of research grants. The proposed statement has been endorsed by several groups on campus, and Treviño is asking for the Senate to give feedback before prepares a final statement for the President. Senator M. Witte said that although she agrees with the statement, she questions the first line in the third paragraph, “Every day at the University of Arizona, we are consciously and intentionally broadening our community’s sense of Inclusive Excellence through our actions, taking responsibility for diversity and inclusiveness, providing access, and supporting the success of each and every member of the UA family”. Witte said that she doesn’t see this happening on a daily basis with senior leadership, so therefore, the UA is not ascribing to this philosophy in many instances, and would rather the sentence contain the words “aspire to.” Witte said after recently returning from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the NIH is certainly supportive of institutions with statements such as this, but thinks they must be true statements. Treviño agreed, and said that he is still awaiting all deans’ feedback, and there will be another waiting period before the document is complete. Comrie disagreed, and said that each and every college has been broadening its inclusive excellence and diversity mission, especially in the last four months, and to say that the UA is not doing anything toward inclusive excellence is incorrect. Senator Conway asked Treviño to define “UA family.” Treviño responded that it includes every person, student, faculty, staff and alumni on campus. Conway asked if he was speaking for all those people, and Treviño said it was a matter of being as inclusive as possible. A show of Senators’ hands affirmed that the document should move forward.

15. **INFORMATION ITEM:** UPDATE ON THE TEACHER COURSE EVALUATION’S (TCE) NEW WORKING CRITERIA – ASSISTANT VICE PROVOST, OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT, LISA ELFRING

Elfring explained that the TCE’s have been designated to the Office of Instruction and Assessment (OIA), and she comes before the Senate to get feedback on the current TCE questions and content contained therein. Significant numbers of faculty contacted the OIA regarding interpretations of the questions, remarking that many were thought to be biased. The OIA was prompted to gather faculty from a variety of colleges, and formed a sub-committee to look at any possible sources of bias in the TCE’s, and allow the sub-committee to make recommendations for changes. Research from other institutions was considered, and the consensus was that emphasis was placed primarily on the student experience, rather than a rating on the professor, or how the course was taught. It was also important to identify the target for TCE information, whether for Promotion and Tenure Committees, students considering the class, or the faculty member. Shorter TCE’s resulted in more students completing the questions. Elfring asked for questions and comments in order to move forward. Senator Hammer asked what type of bias is found in the literature provided. Elfring responded that differences most prevalent in the research are related to gender, but there are many more examples of
bias other than gender. Senator Hingle asked about timing and delivery of the TCE’s. Sessions opened up earlier than semesters in the past. Elfring said the decision was made to open it up to students earlier than the last day of classes so the instructor could discuss filling them out with the students, and allow students the opportunity to fill them out in a timely manner. Fountain made a suggestion to consider bias against faculty with foreign accented English and/or stigmatized varieties of English, and asked if rewording the TCE’s in this way would eliminate bias? Elfring said that wording that focuses on students’ lived experiences in the classroom reduces bias, and it would involve asking completely different questions rather than the standard questions. Senator Aleamoni asked if the questions set forth in the example provided were going to replace what was currently on the TCE’s. Elfring said that questions similar would replace the current core questions. Aleamoni asked if the research was reviewed on typical faculty concerns about student rating and instruction. Elfring said that yes, the OIA and the sub-committee looked at the research. Aleamoni said that if you have a well-defined questionnaire, the sex bias does not occur, adding that the way the proposed questions are devised is not the correct way to develop a valid survey. Many of the questions presented by Elfring are double-barreled or multi-barreled. Comrie said that many of the proposed questions and the philosophy behind the change is to move away from subjective questions to objective questions. Hammer said there are other colleges that do not use TCE’s and have their own ways of evaluating teaching. Similar issues can arise with other evaluations as well, and providing the literature to all colleges is extremely important. Paiewonsky said that a couple of problems have arisen in the College of Fine Arts due to the fact that many faculty teach large numbers of students, but the students are enrolled in very small classes that are co-convened across different levels. The individual classes are too small to receive TCE’s, but the office administering the TCE’s will not combine the class enrollments to allow for evaluation. Also, is it acceptable for faculty to incentivize students to complete TCE’s? Elfring said there is no policy stating otherwise. Elfring provided the link to the Qualtrics survey for faculty input on suggested changes to the TCE’s.

16. ELECTION RESULTS – SECRETARY OF THE FACULTY, AMY FOUNTAIN

Fountain announced the selected faculty for each position opening:

COMMITTEE ON CONCILIATION
Judith Bercerra, Etta Kralovec, and Cynthia White

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON ETHICS AND COMMITMENT (UCEC)
Patricia Stock and James Watson

UNIVERSITY HEARING BOARD
Barbara Cone, Jennifer Donahue, Lia D. Falco, and Jackie Glazer

FACULTY SENATE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE GRIEVANCE CLEARINGHOUSE COMMITTEE
John Leafgren

FACULTY SENATE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
David Pietz

FACULTY SENATE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SHARED GOVERNANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE
Moisés Paiewonsky

17. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

Amy Fountain, Secretary of the Faculty
Jane Cherry, Recording Secretary

Appendix*
*Copies of material listed in the Appendix are attached to the original minutes and are on file in the Faculty Center.

1. Biostatements of Senate Election nominees
2. Senate Minutes of April 3, 2017
3. Report from Faculty Officers
Motions of the Meeting of May 1, 2017

[Motion 2016/17-32] Motion to amend the Constitution reference “mail or electronic ballots” to “an electronic ballot” to reflect current practice (Section X, sections 2 and 3). Motion was seconded and carried.

[Motion 2016/17-33] Motion to approve the change in the election process by removing the petition-gathering process. Motion was seconded and carried.

[Motion 2016/17-34] Motion to forward the change in the election process by removing the petition-gathering process to a University election of the General Faculty. Motion was seconded and carried.

[Motion 2016/17-35] Motion to change “biographical statement” to “candidate statement.” Motion was seconded and carried.

[Motion 2016/17-36] Motion to move the change “biographical statement” to “candidate statement” to the University election of the General Faculty. Motion was seconded and failed.

[Motion 2016/17-37] Motion to approve the renaming of the University elections from “Primary Election” and “General Election” to “General Election” and “Runoff Election.” Motion was seconded and carried.

[Motion 2016/17-38] Motion to approve the removal of language surrounding replacement of elected faculty members to the Committee of Eleven, which is superseded by the faculty-approved process outlined in Article V, Section 6 (Article V, Section 1), and extending the process approved as Article V, Section 6 to cover the replacement of an elected faculty member of SPBAC (Article VI, Section 7). Motion was seconded and carried.

[Motion 2016/17-39] Motion to approve changes to the Ombuds process in the grievance policy to reflect correct nomenclature and program-internal processes (Article VII, Section 4). Motion was seconded and carried.

[Motion 2016/17-40] Motion to approve various typographical/formatting/cross-referencing corrections. Motion was seconded and carried.

[Motion 2016/17-41] Motion to approve moving the September 11, 2017 Senate meeting to August 28, 2017. Motion was seconded and carried.

[Motion 2016/17-42] Seconded motion from Undergraduate Council to approve the Proposal for Animal and Biomedical Industries BS. Motion carried.

[Motion 2016/17-43] Seconded motion from Undergraduate Council to approve Alternative Grade System of S/P/C/D/E with S/P/F. Motion carried.