

The University of Arizona®
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
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Minutes: April 18, 2022
3:00-5:00 p.m.
VIA ZOOM

Present: M Hymel (Chair), M Bolger, B Brummund, C Casey, H Cui, D Cuillier, J Dudas, T Dysart, W Fink, P Gordon, R Hammer, L Hudson, M Hymel, J Jones, J Milbauer, D Ohala, C Rankin, M Stegeman (Parliamentarian), C Simmons, P Robles, C Rocha, R Tsosie, and L Ziurys

Absent: J Curry, L Folks, and L Irizarry

Guest: J Frumkin

Call to Order

Chair Hymel called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

The meeting agenda was approved.

Approval of the Minutes of April 18, 2022

The minutes of April 18, 2022 were approved.

UPDATES

President of the University – Jon Dudas

Dudas reported that the Incident Command System (ICS) continues its work for COVID-19, as well as the addition of Monkeypox. Wastewater testing continues. UArizona is compliant with all State, Federal and local laws related to COVID. A small amount of dorm space is reserved for any students who may need to be quarantined with larger space available, if needed. Centers for Disease Control and Environmental Protection Agency protocols are being utilized for keeping the campus clean. A mask mandate is not permitted under state law, but UArizona is strongly recommending mask usage. President Robbins will continue to strongly recommend all employees and students get vaccinated and boosted per CDC guidelines.

Provost – Liesl Folks

Folks was absent.

Chair of Faculty – Leila Hudson

Hudson reported that the new faculty leadership has reformulated and is beginning to charge committees with issues of concern to the faculty. The search to fill a vacant Faculty Center staff position has been ongoing throughout the summer. Hudson has been working with Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Romero, as well as the Provost, to define a series of pathways to get a higher percentage (up to 30%) of career-track faculty into multi-year contracts. Hudson and Robbins are discussing ongoing UAGC concerns, access and advocacy for Academic freedom and

expression, including the Dobb's Supreme Court ruling, which affects future issues of faculty's concerns relating to reproductive health research. Hudson's would like to ensure that academic freedom continue to protect having the difficult conversations concerning governance, grievance, and abuse.

Vice Chair of the Faculty – Mona Hymel

Hymel announced the new Faculty Governance website has gone live, and continues to be improved and updated.

Secretary of the Faculty – Tessa Dysart

Dysart reported that the Constitution and Bylaws that were voted on and passed in the Spring 2022 election were submitted to the President for approval, but his office discovered inconsistencies between the documents he received and the documents posted online. Many of the housekeeping changes previously approved by Faculty Senate were not reflected in the online version of the document. Once the updates are made to the documents, the President's Office will expedite its review for approval. Dysart started to discuss how Research, Innovation, and Impact (RII) has met the standard in the Bylaws for a Senate seat, but had to leave and rejoin meeting due to technical problems.

IT Liaison – Jeremy Frumkin

Frumkin reported that all systems are operating optimally. Brummund added that high volume of connectivity on campus is substantial. Different metrics are looked at daily, and the five closely followed are web authentication numbers, Wi-Fi connections (approximately 200,000 every hour), D2L connections, Zoom connectivity problems, and 24/7 service requests and wait time. Extensive planning with the IT infrastructure for the start of the fall semester is ongoing, especially with Tuesday and Thursday having heavier traffic than Monday and Wednesday. Rankin requested assistance with Zoom phone and colleagues' difficulty retrieving messages, and asked for a short How-To with instructions.

SPBAC – Barry Brummund and Cindy Rankin

Rankin reported the committee had its first meeting on August 17, 2022. Co-chairs presented an overview of SPBAC's history and mission. Small group and round table discussions were held to find priorities for SPBAC's coming year, including ongoing topics. Future strategic planning rather than urgent sustainability forced by the pandemic was adopted overall, with no surprises in agenda priorities. An increase in broad, transparent communication is planned by sending information in advance, an informational session meeting, and a subsequent meeting to discuss the topic in detail based on facts presented. Agendas will be planned six to eight weeks in advance.

University-Wide General Education Committee – Joan Curry

Curry was absent. Stegeman who sits on UWGEC reported that the committee is working through the approval of courses for the new General Education program and has a minimal amount of backlog. Applications for new courses are being accepted, but reworking of old courses has been postponed until the end of the spring semester.

Graduate Council – Co-chairs Ron Hammer and Hong Cui

Hammer introduced Co-chair Cui and explained that there will be a transfer of council leadership next semester with Cui transitioning into the role of Chair. The Council's upcoming meeting will be held September 16, 2022 with a report on program changes to Faculty Senate at its September 12, 2022 meeting.

Undergraduate Council – Molly Bolger

Bolger reported that the first Council meeting will be held on September 13, 2022. Subcommittee meetings will start on September 27, 2022. Two proposals from Undergraduate Council for the Consent agenda will be voted on; BS in Religious Studies for Health Professionals and UG Minor in Southwest Studies. Bolger will be on sabbatical for the spring semester and Claudia Stanescu has agreed to step in during that time. The leadership pool for UGC is increasing by having new subcommittee chairs who will work with the previous chairs this year.

UArizona Staff Council – Jeffrey Jones

Jones introduced himself as the newly elected Chair, Melanie Madden is Vice Chair, Rocque Perez is Secretary, and Christina Rocha is Treasurer. The first meeting will be held on August 30, 2022. A new website has been launched, but is still in the process of being updated. The Treasurer oversees the annual budget expensed for events, supplies, and the annual Crossroads Conference, and the Treasurer reports to the Council as needed. UArizona Staff Council is under the purview of the Provost's Office.

ASUA – Patrick Robles

Robles introduced himself as the new ASUA president. One of the issues ASUA will be looking at is Suntran's decision to resume collecting fares in 2023. Many students use Suntran. Robles will present on this issue at the September 12, 2022 Faculty Senate meeting.

GPSC – Luis Irizarry

Irizarry was absent.

Committee of Eleven – Wolfgang Fink

Fink reported that the committee re-elected him Chair and elected Milbauer as Vice Chair. The first meeting of the committee will be held on September 2, 2022.

RPC – Dave Cuillier

Cuillier, incoming chair of RPC, stated that at the April 2022 Faculty Senate meeting, former RPC chair, Dr. Paul Gordon, requested the Faculty Senate consider a recommendation that Principal Investigators (PI's) receive a direct portion of their grants (the portion for indirect costs known as IDC or F&A) under the new AIB budget model to incentivize research. The AIB model, when launched in July, ended up including a provision stating PI's will indeed receive 2% of grants. Cuillier said the Provost recently emailed the RPC and asked the committee to explore several outstanding issues, such as timing of payments to PI's, what PI's could spend the money on, how to handle small allocations, and how to avoid accumulation of large balances. The RPC will meet August 29, 2022 to start working through these and other issues and will report an update at the September 2022 Faculty Senate meeting.

APPC – John Milbauer

Milbauer reported that the half of the committee membership are new members. The committee's first meeting will be held on September 13, 2022. As a new incoming chair, Milbauer has reached out to former chairs, as well as former and returning members to fill him in on past business that needs to be addressed in the coming year.

SAPC – Cheryl Casey and Diane Ohala

SAPC's first meeting will be held September 13, 2022. The committee is looking forward to working with ASUA and GPSC, and to have student representation this year. Committee members agreed to add a member from the Student Success and Retention Innovation unit whose mission aligns with SAPC's. Student basic needs (e.g., food insecurity, housing insecurity, mental health, course materials, etc.) will continue to be the committee's priority. In its upcoming report to Faculty Senate, the campus rollout of CatCloud will be highlighted. Casey requests that Meredith Aronson have time for a demonstration of CatCloud at the October 3, 2022 Faculty Senate. CatCloud is a digital hub for students to actively manage their academic and student life. Students can check grades, organize assignments and quizzes, monitor their CatCash balance, schedule an appointment with an adviser, and more.

Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – Rebecca Tsosie

Tsosie reported the Zenega will attend future meeting. Tsosie reported that last year, Interim Associate Vice Provost for Diversity and Inclusion, Maribel Alvarez, did a wonderful job mapping DEI at the University, which was shared in the newly reformed Diversity Coordinating Council. Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Andrea Romero, and her team did an excellent job putting together resources to better understand faculty equity issues and worked extensively on Post-doc mentoring. The Ombuds Office has been reorganized and is now operating, and an announcement to campus will be forthcoming. Tsosie discussed the need for uniform policies at the three state universities. Tsosie is working on the Education Policy Analysis Center at ABOR's instruction since the Commission for Post-secondary Education was dissolved and its functions were transferred to the Board. Only after Tsosie started engaging with the three in-state Universities did she realize the dramatic differences in policies between the Universities. An honest and confidential discussion with University leadership is needed on how to address this problem.

Old business

The following old business items will be on the agenda:

- Follow-up on the May 2022 Senate Resolution on UAGC and get a report on its status and of the risks and costs involved at the stage of the integration project.
- The Finance and Administration issue that Cuillier raised with RPC. The College of Medicine-Phoenix is developing an MOU with UArizona Health Sciences in order to retrieve revenue. Brummund said there is a request to add AIB F & A discussion to SPBAC's agenda, which will be scheduled in late October 2022.

Review agenda for the September 12, 2022 Faculty Senate meeting

The draft agenda for the September 12, 2022 was shared with the committee. For the COVID update, Fink was dissatisfied with the five-day turnaround to receive COVID test results. Fink requested Dudas to look into results within twenty-four hours for the safety of the campus. Ziurys asked about the return of the furlough money. Dysart suggested a Faculty Senate *ad hoc* committee be created to explore the issue. The item was added to the agenda under old business. Dudas said that the UAGC item's update would be best addressed by President Robbins or himself based on the Department of Education updates. Hudson said that setting rules for voting procedures in Faculty Senate needs to be discussed to regularize the process. The item was added to the agenda. Dysart will present on RII's Senate seat.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Recorded and transcribed by Jane Cherry