1. CALL TO ORDER

Presiding Officer of the Faculty Senate, Mona Hymel, called the April 10th Faculty Senate meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. via Zoom. Secretary Tessa Dysart and Parliamentarian Stegeman were present.


Absent: Senators Addis, Behrangi, Dial, Duran, Gordon, Hammer, Haskins, Lamb, Nichols, Pace, Robles, Vedantam.

2. APPROVAL OF THE FACULTY SENATE AGENDA FOR APRIL 10, 2023 (00:01:02)

- Vice Chair Hymel stated she was previously under the understanding that time allotted for each agenda item, other than adjournment, were suggestions, now there is an aim to be stricter on allotted times. Vice Chair Hymel stated she still reserves the ability to add five minutes if there is ongoing discussion although, she can also end discussion if time is up, this can approve efficiency in the meeting. Vice Chair Hymel stated there was a change to the agenda where Item 5 was added to allow the President fifteen minutes to speak; another change includes Old Business Item 7C to allow Chair Hudson to present a DEI resolution.
  - Chair Hudson stated she will share a DEI resolution as a seconded resolution which comes from the standing committee on DEI, this was shared the previous night via email.
- Vice Chair Hymel stated another addition to the agenda is Old Business Item 7E where Parliamentarian Stegeman will share a Parliamentary Procedure Update. Vice Chair Hymel stated she removed the APPC Resolution from the Agenda, which was a misunderstanding, therefore it can be added back.
  - Chair Hudson stated APPC informed her that the resolution can be left off the agenda.
  - Vice Chair Hymel stated the APPC Resolution Agenda Item will be rolled over onto the next meeting’s agenda for Old Business.
- Vice Chair Hymel stated there was a motion on the floor for the iSchool Agenda Item and it will be rolled into the current meeting, this will include parliamentary procedure. Vice Chair Hymel stated she received a request to add an additional thirty minutes to the meeting with a hard stop at 5:30 PM, this is because many individuals who are invited to speak do not usually get the chance to.
- Senator Ziurys stated some individuals are unable to join the meeting.
  - Sabrina Smith from the Faculty Center stated the link was resent via email to the faculty senator listserv.
- Secretary Dysart moved [Motion 2022/23-90] to adopt the April 10, 2023 Agenda with the amendment to adjourn at 5:00 PM.
  - Secretary Dysart stated several individuals have reached out to her stating it is difficult to obtain childcare until 5:30 PM and the meeting was scheduled on short notice.
  - Vice Chair Hymel stated there are no items in the end of the meeting that will require a vote.
  - Secretary Dysart stated there was originally nothing to vote on in the March 27, 2023 meeting and
stated her motion is to adjourn at 5:00 PM.
- Motion was seconded.
- Senator R. Witte stated he does not want to have a rigid stop and would like to follow normal operating
  procedure at the end of the meeting where there is a motion to adjourn, a vote, then dismissal.
- Vice Chair Hymel stated the Senate can now take a vote on the amendment to adjourn at 5:00 PM
  instead of 5:30 PM.
  - Parliamentarian Stegeman stated there is a new agenda on the floor and a motion for a 5:00 PM
    adjournment.
- Vice Chair Hymel stated the Senate is voting on adopting the agenda with a 5:00 PM hard stop.

- [Motion 2022/23-90] passed with twenty-six in favor, eight opposed, and two abstentions.
  - Parliamentarian Stegeman stated the vote was on the amendment and now there should be a vote
    to pass the agenda which can be passed by unanimous consent.
  - Vice Chair Hymel stated she believes she and Parliamentarian Stegeman are on two different pages
    as she believed there was a vote on the entire agenda amendment.
  - Parliamentarian Stegeman stated there was a replacement of the agenda with an amendment but
    there should not be a vote on the entire agenda.

- Vice Chair Hymel moved [Motion 2022/23-91] to adopt an updated agenda with the friendly amendment to adjourn
  at 5:00 PM. Motion passed by unanimous consent.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 27, 2023 MINUTES (00:15:01)

Chair Hudson moved [Motion 2022/23-92] to approve the March 27, 2023 minutes. Motion was seconded.
Motion passed by majority vote with thirty-nine in favor.
- Vice Chair Hymel stated there are changes that amendments need to be made to previously approved minutes of
  February 27, 2023, and March 13, 2023, these items will be voted on in the next Faculty Senate meeting.
- Secretary Dysart stated it is news to her that past minutes can be reconsidered, and it would be helpful if changes
  can be shared in advance of the next Senate meeting because minutes have already been approved.
- Vice Chair Hymel stated these items will be delayed until the next Faculty Senate meeting to ensure everyone
  can view needed amendments to the minutes and vote up or down.

4. 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. (00:33:14)

Open Session Statement: Senator M. Witte (00:18:42)
We are pleased to announce a new initiative to provide awards to undergraduates across all campus colleges for
original, innovative student generated research projects. Based on discussions at the Faculty Senate several
years ago, RII has granted our office $15,000 per year for the next 5 years for undergraduates to pursue their
own research questions with faculty mentors of their choice. 10-15 awardees per year will be competitively
selected by a cross-campus multidisciplinary committee to receive $1000-1500 each, which can be used for
stipend, travel, supplies or equipment, and may be supplemented by additional funds if promising progress is
made. An Annual Forum will be held to report progress, and awardees will be expected to join a larger
Questioning Student
community in a campuswide “Questionarium” setting.
The first early bird application deadline is May 27th for Year 1 and in January of each subsequent year.
Application forms with specific instructions will be available next week.

Open Session Statement: Senator R. Witte (00:21:01)
I think I am not the only one that believes that the proceedings here in the Faculty Senate are broken and need
improvement. From the Parliamentarian procedures to Consent Agendas showing up that are possibly not
consent, and more. I am interested in solving problems so I would like to introduce three ideas.

The first thing is, I went to the website at ASU and Nau and started looking at their Bylaws and Constitution. The
first thing I noticed is, our website is third world. ASU defines Shared Governance from Administration to maintain a State-of-the-Art website, it is included in the bullets. I am going to call on all of us to redo the website. There are broken links, we can’t find things, there are old Bylaws and new Bylaws. Another recommendation includes travel to other Faculty Senates to see how things are done.

The second recommendation is based on ASU and NAU who both have Faculty Senate committees overseeing all curricular affairs and assessments. ASU has twenty elected senators, one from each unit which meets regularly to deal with all aspects of new academic units, etcetera. NAU has a learning council of four elected senators and is the conduit to their University committee which is also required to have Senator representation. We don’t have a Faculty Senate committee overseeing this.

The third recommendation refers to Senator Sleipn’s email from March 22, 2023 where he created a blueprint for evaluating programs. A few things on the list which should be looked at includes a pros and cons analysis cost benefit for any proposals, as quickly and early in process as possible. The list also includes inner connectivity, cross program enrichment, impact to University, community risk liability, and a data room where information can be shared. There is no way to upload documents, a folder has been requested to share information with other Senators. There is opportunity for response and redress once a vote is taken, this should be revisited.

Open Session Statement: Senator Schulz (00:23:41)

I am speaking on behalf of my role as the Dean’s Representative to Senate. On March 27, 2023, this body held a special meeting regarding the resignation of the General Faculty Committee on University Safety for All. After remarks by the committee co-chairs, the Senate Vice Chair welcomed comments from invited guests.

Dean of Science, Carmala Garzione shared thoughts that I wish to underscore on behalf of my fellow Deans. Dean Garzione thanked the Faculty Committee for its hard work and dedication. She noted that both the work of that committee and President Robbins’s decision to commission an investigation by the PAX group had the shared motivation of increasing safety and security. Dean Garzione concluded by stating “what I would really love to see is people working together to make this campus safer.” The University’s twenty academic Deans, who are charged with leading colleges on Main Campus as well as in Phoenix, Sierra Vista, and Oro Valley are steadfastly committed to the shared goal of working together and making the University safer. We are unwavering in our collective focus on this critical issue.

In addition to regular meetings with the Provost, the Deans meet independently once a month. Our Dean’s only meeting last Thursday was devoted to sharing perceptions within our diverse colleges, regarding safety and security. We then began to compile a list of measures we have taken unilaterally within our colleges, as we await implementation of the recommendations in the PAX report. We as leaders of the academic units that compromise the University, look forward to working together with the University leadership, the Faculty Senate, and all our campus partners, constituents, and stakeholders on any and all measures to make our campus safer in the broadest possible sense. Moreover, we acknowledge that success in doing so depends on a climate of mutual trust. We look forward to continuing to do all we can as Deans to foster and sustain such a climate. We encourage you to contact your Dean and college leadership for any thoughts, ideas, and or concerns you have as we move forward together.

Our thoughts continue to be with Dr. Meixner and his family, his colleagues, students, and all of those whose lives were touched and shaped by this remarkable human being.

Comment (00:26:14)

- Vice Chair Hymel stated one aspect of the March 27, 2023 minutes that were approved were that they would be disseminated to the leadership because during the meeting, there were various questions asked and ideas stated throughout the meeting. Vice Chair Hymel stated she would like to ensure President Robbins has a copy of the minutes as there was a lot of discussion. Vice Chair Hymel stated to Senator R. Witte’s comment about the website, there was work done to start improving the website.

5. STATEMENT FROM PRESIDENT ROBBINS (00:27:46)

- President Robbins stated he would like to thank Chair Hudson to allow him to share several timely updates regarding Campus Safety Initiatives and the future engagement with everyone. He has had several meetings on a daily basis over the past couple of weeks, with members of the Faculty Senate, both on a one-on-one basis and in small groups. There have been over fifty conversations which have been centered on the recently released PAX report on Safety and Security and other topics of interest. He has listened intently, taking notes, learning a great deal, and he is inspired by the conversations. While individual priorities and concerns may vary, one thing is clear: faculty want to make the University better and are eager to roll up their sleeves to drive improvement together. He wants to thank everyone who has met with him including the Faculty Senate leadership who has paved the way for productive interactions in ongoing follow-ups.

- There were two items he asked about including what the analysis was of the Faculty Senate Safety for All Report and the PAX report. The second question was how he can, as the President of the University, rebuild the broken trust to bring everyone together and move forward as Dean Schulz discussed. He is committed to doing so and
In concert with Steve Patterson and senior leadership, the ICS Team will now be on point to address and track the PAX finding and the Faculty Senate’s Committee input. ICS is currently developing timelines to address the PAX finding and the Faculty Senate’s Committee input.

The Incident Command System (ICS) structure provided its value and improved its worth through the pandemic. It passed unexpected tests with flying colors and remains in place to address emergent challenges and needs as necessary. There has been an establishment of a proven internal operating structure which can be relied on.

Community safety extends well beyond campus units and organizational structures therefore there will be a new Safety Advisory Commission. The Commission will be comprised of community members and campus representatives including Faculty members who served on the General Faculty Committee on Safety for All. There are three individuals in that committee who he has sent out requests, asking them to serve on the new commission. The commission will directly advise Steve Patterson as he oversees implementation of the PAX report recommendations. As everyone understands, it will be important to hear from a variety of constituents and incorporate those voices into collaborative actions.

President Robbins stated he has made the decision to move the University of Arizona Police Department from its current reporting structure within Business Affairs, to the new Chief Safety Officer. The move is effective May 1, 2023. This best aligns with Safety and Security objectives and will enable specialized support for UAPD. He informed UAPD colleagues of his decision earlier in the day and is confident that this change will result in enhanced safety for the entire community, which is the primary goal. The new reporting structure will elevate safety operations and enable the University to better coordinate and streamline all communications and responses.

There is continued engagement with the PAX group as they have committed to assisting with the development of a campus-wide master facility plan. The continued access to the national experts is appreciated. Operating nimbly and efficiently within the University and across the campus landscape will be critical, especially in moments of urgency or emergency. There has been an establishment of a proven internal operating structure which can be relied on.

The Incident Command System (ICS) structure provided its value and improved its worth through the pandemic as the University was able to navigate the difficulties and complexities by COVID-19. This is to ensure student learning is continuously enabled, faculty and staff work is accommodated, and the needs of the community are met. This includes through the establishment and operation of the campus vaccination pod on the UA Mall which delivered more than a quarter of a million shots to community members. The ICS framework involves representation, representatives from across the University who serve specific roles were pressure tested and refined through the pandemic. It passed unexpected tests with flying colors and remains in place to address emergent challenges and needs as necessary.

In concert with Steve Patterson and senior leadership, the ICS Team will now be on point to address and track progress with implementing PAX reports, recommendations, and other safety related items deemed necessary. ICS has already been activated for this purpose, there have been established weekly meetings, and soon there will be regular, live streamed briefings which were popular and used during the pandemic to provide updates and answers to questions from across campus in media audiences. President Robbins stated he looks forward to participating in those briefings.

ICS is currently developing timelines to address the PAX finding and the Faculty Senate’s Committee input regarding the following: physical and environmental changes, university crisis response, communication, other
President Robbins stated he knows he covered a lot of ground with the update and greatly appreciates the All matters are very important. Presidential Events is arranging for two near term forums/townhall meetings to discuss campus safety which he will be in attendance. One will be for staff in coordination with the University Staff Council, and one is for students in coordination with ASUA. All steps are only the beginning, and the work will continue.

President Robbins stated he knows he covered a lot of ground with the update and greatly appreciates the additional five minutes. A lot of the update is focused on physical issues, but one thing that was present in conversations with many individuals, is that the way to move forward and have a safer campus is if everyone commits to working together and communications. President Robbins stated in the case of Thomas Meixner’s killing, and all the reports and conversations he has had, communication was a huge problem that was failed upon. There are other things he looks forward to discussing regarding changes that will occur in the future.

- **Senate Ziurys stated** President Robbins addressed a lot of the safety issues but him to address the trust issues and fears of retaliation that have been occurring. *(00:45:56)*

- President Robbins stated in the past couple of months, and more refined in the last couple of weeks, there were not just safety issues but also safety issues. Topics should be discussed for each topic such as the furlough, UAGC, and many other things he has had many positive discussions about. Discussion can occur in formal meetings, committees, or other venues and he looks forward to sharing more in the coming weeks of changes, these are necessary to rebuild the trust on campus.
Chair Hudson stated she would like to reclaim some of her time to share her prepared statement and stated that appropriate risk management for big structural changes requires threat assessment and management from protecting privacy and civil liberties, to action is one that is an area which she has carried on that work, contacted him to ask if there is any interest coming to work with the UA to ask the faculty to focus their expertise on threat management, the science, research, and actions of threat management. This is something he would like to take more time to discuss in the future. Threat assessment and management from protecting privacy and civil liberties, to action is one that is an area that is part of the compelling of moving forward.

Chair Hudson stated she is receiving text messages where people are stating if things stay the same, there is a wave of confusion. In strong Shared Governance, the work and pressure that has been put in, is not the job of the Review Board and it is the Faculty Senate’s job to review, repute, approve, or deny.

6. Statement from the Chair of the Faculty, Leila Hudson (00:49:29)

- Chair Hudson stated her thanks for President Robbin’s remarks and stated accountability starts with listening which he has done in the last week, with difficult conversations and thoughtful actions. What was stated today regarding reorganization of the Police Department sounds look a good start, which is needed. Chair Hudson stated as President Robbins was speaking, she was receiving text messages about the scope of his remarks and the lack of a path forward in the academic domain, under the Provost’s office, and the Dean of Students. Chair Hudson stated she is receiving text messages where people are stating if things stay the same, there is a wave of retaliation and retaliatory expected for all individuals who spoke with him frankly and honestly over the last week. Chair Hudson asked the President if she can count on him as he formulates next steps in the reorganization, to take personal attention with any retaliation that arises.

- President Robbins stated he is committed to ensuring that if there is any retaliation, which he hopes there is not, there will be swift action for response and accountability. President Robbins stated as discussed in the last Faculty Senate meeting, retaliation can have many forms and he is committed to working with everyone across the University to respond to and foster a fair and just culture that he hopes will allow for open communication so everyone can work together and rebuild trust. President Robbins stated when he was at Texas Medical Center, there was an institute established for the training and best practices as there was a focus on hospital and K-12 shooting environments. Since he left, the individuals who have carried on that work, contacted him to ask if there is any interest coming to work with the UA to ask the faculty to focus their expertise on threat management, the science, research, and actions of threat management. This is something he would like to take more time to discuss in the future. Threat assessment and management from protecting privacy and civil liberties, to action is one that is an area that is a part of the path going forward.

- Chair Hudson stated she would like to reclaim some of her time to share her prepared statement and stated threat assessment is very important Chair Hudson stated if changes are not forthcoming in policy and oversight in the academic domain, many are fearing the risk of soft and hard retaliation. Chair Hudson stated she would like to remind everyone of the needs of the Hydrology and Atmospheric Sciences in terms of getting their space issues settled, things like this are part of the compelling of moving forward.

- Chair Hudson stated regarding the iSchool, appropriate risk management for big structural changes requires faculty governance review, and due diligence. Chair Hudson stated she wants UArizona to have the world’s best iSchool as soon as possible and the iSchool staff and faculty are the basis and foundation for that. If the responsibility as the Faculty Senate is shrunk, to ask questions and demand answers on difficult questions, no one else will ask them. There was no faculty consideration of the iSchool proposal before it came to the Senate. Outside of the iSchool faculty, an important group of senators are fine with that, but it cuts at the heart of a Shared Governance, faculty strong university. It eliminates a critical opportunity for review and improvement. Chair Hudson stated even after another week of asking questions with the Presidential attention attached, she still doesn’t know what the effect of the iSchool departure will mean for the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS). Chair Hudson asked what happens when there is a fifteen-million-dollar pillar taken out of a struggling seventy-million-dollar structure and stated it does not help. It doesn't help that no one will speak about this, more specifically the Dean of Finance of SBS, now promoted to the Vice President of Finance in March 2023 who refuses to answer questions. If the fundamental shift from SBS to a standalone iSchool bases its potential on unexamined, international partnerships, entities called "Kozybayev University Great Learning, BYJU" and others who are unnamed. There needs to be written agreements of those agreements. Chair Hudson asked why the senior leadership spending is so much of its time, in this critical time, in Kazakhstan as it doesn’t help that those who promise radical transparency are not providing it. If the iSchool proposal were a dissertation or grant application, there would be a requirement to revise and resubmit the application to remedy any remaining confusion. In strong Shared Governance, the work and pressure that has been put in, is not the job of the Review Board and it is the Faculty Senate’s job to review, repute, approve, or deny.
• Vice Chair Hymel stated Chair Hudson’s time is up and it is now time to move onto the next agenda item which is the iSchool.

7. Old Business
A. New Academic Unit – iSchool – iSchool Director, Catherine Brooks (00:57:34)
• Vice Chair Hymel stated as the discussion for the iSchool begins, there was a motion on the floor that was not voted on in the previous meeting and she would like to request Parliamentarian’s guidance for how to proceed.
• Parliamentarian Stegeman stated the item was still on the floor because there was an item in process at the time of adjournment, with no disposition, it should be picked up where left off.
• Chair Hudson moved [Motion 2022/23-93] to withdraw the previous motion by unanimous consent. The motion passed by unanimous consent.
• Chair Hudson asked to propose an alternative motion. Chair Hudson moved [Motion 2022/23-94] to decline to approve the iSchool proposal as submitted to the Faculty Senate to create a new standalone academic unit college, until such time, as the proposal is resubmitted with the substantive answers to the queries conveyed, most recently on April 9, 2023, to President Robbins, the motion should be voted on by secret ballot vote. Motion was seconded.
• President Robbins stated he did have his hand raised and he was going to make a comment.
• Vice Chair Hymel stated she will go back to recognizing Chair Hudson to explain her motion before she recognizes others.
• Chair Hudson stated she would like to initiate debate on why the iSchool proposal should be approved when there are many outstanding questions.
• Vice Chair Hymel stated she will recognize President Robbins if he has a comment for debate.
• President Robbins stated he was going to respond to the end of Chair Hudson’s statement regarding the agreements which he knows have been requested, they are public documents, and he is unsure who is supposed to give them, but those documents can be provided.
• Chair Hudson stated her motion is based on the amount of discourse and confusion that has been circulating, her motion is that the iSchool append those agreements as well as all other answers in a single document that would be resubmitted to the Senate.
• Senator Casey stated she does not support the motion and it is Senate’s last meeting before ABOR visits the University of Arizona on April 19-21, 2023. More information about the iSchool can continue to be asked for, but the iSchool has put in a lot of effort to answer questions and follow the existing processes. The proposal is supported by the iSchool faculty and signed off by the Dean of SBS and other administrators. She look at the question document that was shared with President Robbins, there seems to be repetitive questions about the financial and budgetary implications of the iSchool for the College of SBS. If impacts to the remaining SBS departments and impacts to competing units are the basis for opposition to the proposal, it raises interesting questions about the Senate processes for considering proposals when computing interests are involved. Senator Casey stated she would hope to see the motion defeated and would like to see the iSchool approved without any delay.
• Senator Ziurys stated she has trouble supporting the iSchool proposal for what she believes is “simple common sense,” due to its financials which will require twenty new administrative positions of which seven may be completely new. The positions are high-level with large salaries attached. The University should set its financial house in order before it supports new costly initiative such as this one. Senator Ziurys stated this can be compared to building the fifty-second floor of a building when the foundation is rotting, and it is difficult to see that other colleges are being starved when more money needs to be put into the foundation. RPC requested a five percent return on overhead which was approved by the Senate but not by the Provost who stated she needed money for other strategic projects, which the iSchool may be a part of. It would be beneficial to receive the five percent before other initiatives are supported. Another financial issue is the furlough money; a few million per year would be beneficial to pay back the furloughs. There is also the question regarding collaboration with Kazakhstan who is heavily aligned with Russia and the University in question is in the pro-Russia part of the county. Senator Ziurys stated she understands UArizona is to receive money from them in exchange for educating their students and is worried where the money is coming from and what students will do with their education in the long-term. Assumptions beforehand have been naïve such as Ashford which was supposed to be a money-making activity and then became a link for people cheating students. Senator Ziurys stated she worries that this will be damaging to the University’s reputation in the long-term. There is concern about academic excellence, students who cannot handle courses in Computer Science go to the iSchool where they can pass them. Senator Ziurys asked if this is lowering academic standards. There is difficulty in supporting a proposal when individuals state there was hard work and due diligence done, therefore, there needs to be approval.
Senator Ziurys stated a proposal stands based on its own merit and it is presumptuous to think that because people do due diligence, it is a good proposal.

- Senator Spece asked if the Senate needs to approve the action of the iSchool. Senator Spece stated there are many laws that bear on the decision and there should be Senate approval to remain inline with the integrity of the Faculty Senate. Senator Spece stated he resents how the iSchool has come before the Senate and gone through a charade of asking for approval while Senators have read reams of documents.

- Senator Cui stated she is speaking on behalf of herself as a faculty member in the iSchool and is offended by the comment stating students who do not do well in the College of Science go to the iSchool because that is untrue. Senator Cui stated she feels strongly about the iSchool being independent based on her experience as the Chair of the Search Committee, there are two positions open in data science and there are one-hundred-forty-four applications. There are young students who have published in Nature and Science applying for the iSchool, but they cannot be accepted because there are not enough resources and not enough space. There are six-hundred applications for the Master of Science program who cannot be accepted because there are not enough faculty members to teach them. Faculty want Senators to approve the iSchool proposal and there have been documents submitted and questioned answered. Senator Cui stated she understands Senators want further details, but it is right for the iSchool Faculty to ask for an up or down vote.

- Senator M. Witte stated the argument opposing the motion is the “kick the can down the road” and she would propose another metaphor which is “pausing a potential runaway train, getting it back to the station, and in the right direction.” There have been several page-long emails requesting approval for the proposal although it shouldn’t be approved because there has been no precedent for an academic unit such as a department becoming a campus at the UofArizona. The process started with the Faculty Senate and committees haven’t completed examination. Regarding the perils and promises such as AI publicly recognized, included finding references and articles, there is a great matter of great public concern and all individuals and experts on campus should be involved in creating such an iSchool.

- Senator Downing stated discussion shows the strength of Shared Governance where many at-large individuals are evaluating a proposal that may or not affect Senators. Senator Downing stated he supports the other recommendations which suggest the proposal is not ready and part of the responsibility falls back on the Deans who should’ve reviewed this more carefully and imagined potential questions. Senator Downing stated there is value in deliberation and in no way is disrespect being shown by denying the proposal and it is disingenuous to bring students into the matter. Senator Downing stated there is a question on if an individual has a degree from a college versus a department or school, what value does it have for students graduating when they start applying for jobs.

- Senator R. Witte stated regardless of the outcome, he will demand oversight, expanded conversation, educating people, and better integration with other units. He reached out to dozens of faculty, including senior and junior faculty in six different colleges, for those who he visited, he tried not to predispose information shared and others contacted him including individuals in the local community. There was a letter shared by Chair Hudson which was from a PhD graduate who works in virtual reality and learning in Tucson, the individual gave feedback to the iSchool group. There is a question of whether the iSchool should become a standalone college, most iSchools (about fifty-four) are not standalone colleges. An AI expert and faculty member at the University of Arizona addressed the matter with their personal judgement, “The benefits of this organizational change to the University are not clear to me. Many units are situated in colleges and engage in interdisciplinary study across colleges, specifically in the area of focused data science. There are many interconnections all over the University and as I understand it, this will increase administrative cost and not increase the number of faculty in the unit. Many iSchools are home to significant interdisciplinary work, and are situated in colleges, not free-standing colleges, such as the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. It does not seem to diminish their ability to engage in interdisciplinary work. Finally, alternatives for interdisciplinary in this area were considered and I couldn’t find anything, I mean, UC Berkeley, the division of computing science, and data science is almost universal, and integrated into the iSchools. It seems to be lacking here.” Senator R. Witte stated he believes in conjunction with the Faculty senate and the at-large constituents are represented, there can be dramatic improvements to the proposal to put it on a world stage much more quickly, and possibly get infusion ahead of time. People stated this should be a one-hundred-million-dollar proposal with commitments to create a college which is backwards, a delay is the right thing to do.

- Chair Hudson stated she there is a suggestion to allow Director Catherine Brooks to speak if she wishes to.

- Senator M. Witte raised a point of order and moved [Motion 2022/23-95] to end discussion and begin voting on Chair Hudson’s motion, to remain within the timeframe. Motion was seconded.

- Vice Chair Hymel stated the motion on the iSchool is to be voted on by secret ballot.

- [Motion 2022/23-95] for cloture passed with thirty-seven in favor, eight opposed, and one abstention.

- Senator Fink raised a point of order and asked the Parliamentarian how a two-thirds vote is interpreted.

- Parliamentarian Stegeman the two-thirds vote is two-thirds of the Senators present, which is a present.
Discussion has ended and it is now time for a vote.

- Senator Downing raised a point of order and asked if there can be proceeding on the agenda while the votes for the secret ballot are being cast.
- Parliamentarian Stegeman stated the answer is yes, but it is ultimately up to the Vice Chair.
- **[Motion 2022/23-94]** to decline to approve the iSchool proposal as submitted to the Faculty Senate to create a new standalone academic unit college, until such time, as the proposal is resubmitted with the substantive answers to the queries conveyed, most recently on April 9, 2023, to President Robbins, the motion should be voted on by secret ballot vote. Motion was seconded. Motion passed by secret ballot vote with twenty-seven in favor, twenty-three opposed, and two abstentions.
  - Senator Cui stated she does not believe there is a clear definition for the “no vote” as there was discussion in the Zoom chat.
  - Parliamentarian Stegeman stated the “no vote” means the Senate is taking no action, and it is where it was when the meeting started.

B. DEI Resolution – Chair Hudson (01:24:03)

- “We, the elected members of the faculty senate at the University of Arizona, unequivocally oppose the State of Arizona’s proposed SB1694. By banning all the concepts listed in this bill, the legislators are attempting to legalize censorship. Simply put, this bill infringes on freedom of speech and our civil rights and liberties. We see the bill as unconstitutional because it violates The First Amendment right of academic freedom, free speech, and freedom of expression. Academic Freedom and Free Speech as enshrined in The Universal Declaration of Human Rights’s article 19 guarantees everyone the “Right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.” This means embracing and not limiting or hindering the range of viewpoints, facts and knowledge heard. The bill not only impinges on our ability to investigate, invent, discover and to give account but also infringes our right to publish, teach, and research in and outside the classroom without interference or fear of reprisal. We therefore implore the senior leadership team to join us in defending our right to follow truth and explore the world of ideas unfettered by political, social, racial, and religious repression, censorship, or sanction without fear of punishment or retaliation. Censorship is the opposite of liberty, and this is precisely what this bill seeks to do. Therefore, we oppose it without qualification. It is an extremely dangerous precedent to set.”
- The Senate DEI committee asks for support in the following resolution and seconded motion **[Motion 2022/23-96]**:
  
  "We, the elected members of the faculty senate at the University of Arizona, support legislation that prevents discrimination toward individuals and groups based on group membership.

  However, we, the members of the faculty senate, do not support legislation that prohibits scholarship, instruction, and programs on the UArizona campus that seek to understand, promote and maintain our commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI).

  Instead, we the faculty senate, support the following:

  1. Programs that help campus employees to understand DEI and how to promote and maintain it on campus
  2. The creation of positions and the hiring of individuals whose duties include coordinating, creating, developing, designing, implementing, organizing, planning or promoting diversity, equity and inclusion programs.
  3. The expenditure of public funds to support the above programs and individuals
  4. The academic freedom to pursue scholarship, research and teaching on the following:

    a) any theory of unconscious or implicit bias, cultural appropriation, allyship, transgenderism, microaggressions, microinvalidation, group marginalization, anti-racism, systemic oppression, ethnocentrism, structural racism or inequity, ableism, social justice, intersectionality, neopronouns, inclusive language, heteronormativity, disparate impact, gender identity or theory, racial or sexual privilege or or any concept substantially related to any of these theories.
b) topics describing or exposing structures, systems, relations of power, privilege or subordination on the basis of race, sex, color, gender, ethnicity, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation.

c) topics describing methods to identify, dismantle or oppose structures, systems, relations of power, privilege or subordination on the basis of race, sex, color, gender, ethnicity, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation.

d) topics explaining differential treatment or benefit on the basis of sex, color, gender, ethnicity, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation.

- Vice Chair Hymel stated she realized she skipped over Item B: Questions from Faculty Senators re UITS consolidation and cyber security, this will be the next item.
- [Motion 2022/23-96] passed by majority with forty in favor.
- Chair Hudson stated she thanks the DEI Committee, Senator Stone, and Chair Zenenga for authoring the resolution.

C. Questions from Faculty Senators re UITS consolidation and cyber security – Chief Information Officer, Barry Brummund (01:34:00)

- Senator Ottusch asked a question on behalf of a constituent “Funding agencies (NIH, NSF, USDA) are increasingly pushing back against funding computer resources (e.g., personal devices, servers, storage) that have previously been included in research proposal budgets. They argue that Universities get indirect funds on top of the research costs which are expected to fund research infrastructure. How will RII and UITS address ongoing research and computing needs?”
  - CIO Barry Brummund stated the University is capped, the facilities and administrative (F&A) rate that the University of Arizona has is a two-part piece. There is a facilities piece and administrative piece. The information technology equipment and services to support research will largely fall into the administrative piece at which the University of Arizona is already at the cap. There can be facilities related opportunities to modify the F&A rate, but he is unsure if there are many opportunities to modify the A part of the rate. The ability to modify the F&A rate at the University as it related to Information Technology is suspected to be limited.
  - Senator Ottusch stated reading from the question, he imagines part of it is storage.
  - Senator Zeiders stated she doesn't know that the question was answered but there are additional questions from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) constituents.

- Senator Downing stated in March 2023, Senators heard the Chief of Information officer stated the proposed changes were in response to the 2018 Auditor General’s Performance Audit, although a group of Senators looked at the public record and that is not what is shown. In 2018, a simulated security attack was made on UArizona, NAU, ASU, and the Board of Regents. Security controls slowed simulated attacks, and vulnerabilities to allow unauthorized access were found. The Auditor General made eighty-five institution-specific recommendations in 2018 and there was a follow up review in 2022. The Auditor reported that ABOR, NAU, and ASU were implementing sixty-two of the recommendations. The University of Arizona was asked to improve its IT Task Assessment and they were given twenty-three recommendations. Twelve were reported in progress, five have been implemented, and six were still not implemented. After four years and two more reviews, the Auditor General (AG) stated the University of Arizona refused to provide “an outline of plan or estimated timeframe for implementing those remaining six recommendations.” It was a refusal, an outline, and a timeline. The AG concluded that “we do not see any further benefit in continuing to follow up with the University of Arizona, therefore, unless otherwise directed by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, this report concludes its follow up work with the University.” Essentially the University of Arizona passed the issue of non-compliance and failure to meet security requirements of the legislatures. Several individuals have reviewed the AG’s recommendations and find no reference at all to centralization, and moving to a predominant cloud base, there are concerns about savings. There is a remaining concern for system vulnerability. Senator Downing stated he and other individuals are disappointed that of the AG’s eighty-five recommendations to ASU, NAU, and UArizona, UITS was the only campus to fail in the entire state, leaving room for risk. The regents must make resolving the unfinished homework, a priority for President Robbins, which he only gets about three to four a year. There has been exposure to potential discussion of the Board of Regents and Legislative scrutiny. The CIO tried to disguise underlying issues by distracting the entire campus into a discussion of proposed scheme when “he hadn’t finished first homework.”

- Senator Zeiders stated her acknowledgement for her CALS colleagues who worked very hard in advocating on UITS. As Senators know, there has been a switch to a new budget model, from RCM to AIB. With changes to
Vice Chair Hymel stated the time on the item is expired and discussion will not continue, perhaps there can be discussion outside of the Faculty Senate meeting with regards to moving forward.

- Vice Chair Hymel moved [Motion 2022/23-97] to allow item 7B: Athletics Update – Faculty Athletics.
8. New Business

A. Athletics Update – Faculty Athletics Representative, Ricardo Valerdi

- Faculty Athletics Representative, Ricardo Valerdi stated he would like to give a shout out to Bill Neumann, Roy Spece, Lehman Benson, George Gehrels, and Christine Salvesen who are faculty and administrators on the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee which is the Oversight Committee he is a part of.
- The Student Athletes broke another record for the Overall GPA of the semester, which was a 3.3 GPA, the highest it has ever been. The football team reached the highest GPA for the Fall 2022 semester in their history. There is a positive trend in Student Athlete GPA.
- Faculty Athletics Representative, Ricardo Valerdi stated he is a faculty member in the College of Engineering and spends about half of his time working with athletics in terms of academic eligibility, compliance, and collaboration. If there are any questions, he is happy to be the conduit.
- A major highlight presented in the news was that the University of Arizona was up for review on NCAA violations which were completed through an Independent Accountability Review process. After about four years, the process is now complete. There were infractions and consequences given and the University is responding accordingly. In comparison to other Universities, infractions related to men’s basketball and other topics were similar.
- PAC-12 partners including USC and UCLA are leaving the conference and joining the Big Ten Conference. UArizona is in the final stages of the PAC-12 which is most likely going to become the PAC-10 soon, there is negotiation of a media contract which will determine if the conference stays with its current members or decides to expand and add new members to the conference.
- A massive additional benefit includes an academic award of $5,980 given to eligible student athletes. This is a result of the Austin versus NCAA Supreme Court decision which gives student athletes the ability to receive such academic awards. The award is given on an annual basis and includes academic eligibility requirements.
- There is a new sport which will begin in Fall 2023, this is the twenty-second sport on campus and is the Women’s triathlon. There has been a head coach hired who is recruiting female student athletes to compete nationally. This sport is beneficial to the conference.
- In terms of compliance, Faculty members should never be contacted by a Coach or Athletic Staff Member. The only exception is someone from compliance or C.A.T.S. Academics. Another exception would be in the case of a student visit which would limit conversations about academic offerings.

B. Sustainability and Climate Action Plan – Director, Office of Sustainability, Trevor Ledbetter, and co-Chair, Sustainability and Climate Action Plan, Sabrina Helm

- The University of Arizona has launched its first ever Sustainability and Climate Action Plan process. There will be an event on April 11, 2023 from 2:00-4:00 PM at the Health Sciences Innovation Building for those who are able to attend, would like to learn about the process, and see a timeline over the next six to eight months. The meeting will be live in-person and via Zoom and there will be a recording available after the event. More information can be found at the website: sustainability.arizona.edu/climate-action

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

- Vice Chair Hymel stated for those unable to present, those agenda items will rollover to the next meeting.

Tessa Dysart, Secretary of the Faculty Jasmin Espino, Recording Secretary

Motions of the April 10, 2023 Faculty Senate meeting

[Motion 2022/23-90] to adopt the April 10, 2023 Agenda with the amendment to adjourn at 5:00 PM. Motion was seconded. Motion passed with twenty-six in favor, eight opposed and two abstentions.

[Motion 2022/23-91] to adopt an updated agenda with the friendly amendment to adjourn at 5:00 PM. Motion passed by unanimous consent.

[Motion 2022/23-92] to approve the March 27, 2023 minutes. Motion was seconded. Motion passed by majority vote with thirty-nine in favor.

[Motion 2022/23-93] to withdraw a previous motion by unanimous consent. The motion passed by unanimous consent.
[Motion 2022/23-94] to decline to approve the iSchool proposal as submitted to the Faculty Senate to create a new standalone academic unit college, until such time, as the proposal is resubmitted with the substantive answers to the queries conveyed, most recently on April 9, 2023, to President Robbins, the motion should be voted on by secret ballot vote. Motion was seconded. Motion passed by secret ballot vote with twenty-seven in favor, twenty-three opposed, and two abstentions.

[Motion 2022/23-95] to end discussion and begin voting on Chair Hudson’s motion, to remain within the timeframe. Motion was seconded. Motion passed with thirty-seven in favor, eight opposed, and one abstention.

[Motion 2022/23-96] for Senate’s Support in the DEI Resolution. Motion passed by majority vote with forty in favor.

Text of Resolution:
“We, the elected members of the faculty senate at the University of Arizona, support legislation that prevents discrimination toward individuals and groups based on group membership.

However, we, the members of the faculty senate, do not support legislation that prohibits scholarship, instruction, and programs on the UArizona campus that seek to understand, promote and maintain our commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI).

Instead, we the faculty senate, support the following:

1. Programs that help campus employees to understand DEI and how to promote and maintain it on campus
2. The creation of positions and the hiring of individuals whose duties include coordinating, creating, developing, designing, implementing, organizing, planning or promoting diversity, equity and inclusion programs.
3. The expenditure of public funds to support the above programs and individuals
4. The academic freedom to pursue scholarship, research and teaching on the following:

A) any theory of unconscious or implicit bias, cultural appropriation, allyship, transgenderism, microaggressions, microinvalidation, group marginalization, anti-racism, systemic oppression, ethnocentrism, structural racism or inequity, ableism, social justice, intersectionality, neopronouns, inclusive language, heteronormativity, disparate impact, gender identity or theory, racial or sexual privilege or or any concept substantially related to any of these theories.
B) topics describing or exposing structures, systems, relations of power, privilege or subordination on the basis of race, sex, color, gender, ethnicity, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation.
C) topics describing methods to identify, dismantle or oppose structures, systems, relations of power, privilege or subordination on the basis of race, sex, color, gender, ethnicity, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation.
D) topics explaining differential treatment or benefit on the basis of sex, color, gender, ethnicity, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation.

[Motion 2022/23-97] to allow item 7B: Athletics Update – Faculty Athletics Representative, Ricardo Valerdi to be the next agenda item. Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Attachments within the Minutes
1. Page 1, Item 2: Approval of the [Facility Senate Agenda for April 10, 2023](#)
2. Page 1, Item 3: Approval of the Minutes of March 27, 2023