

Here are the questions from the Committee of Eleven (C11) that were intended to be posed to President Robbins during the special Senate meeting last Monday:

1. Here, at this meeting, will you, as President of the University, publicly clarify that shared faculty governance, through its elected faculty representatives, was either unaware or opposed to decisions that led to the financial shortcomings/a.k.a. “crisis”?
Specifically, we are referring to decisions, such as the Ashford acquisition, loans to the Athletics Department, consultant-driven strategic plans, excessive revenue losses on merit-based scholarships to attract OUT-of-State students, and spending-down “orders” from the former CFO and former Provost.
2. You were incentivized and supported by ABOR on these initiatives.
How do you propose to assure that the elected faculty representatives have a voice through you to ABOR to avoid such costly mistakes in the future?
3. Here, at this meeting, will you, as President of the University, publicly state that you unambiguously oppose HB2735 or other legislation threatening shared governance, anchored in ARS 15-1601B?
If not, explain to the General Faculty, staff, students, and the public why you do not.
4. Last month, the Senate approved the first of its proposed shared governance transparency and accountability mechanisms to avoid off-budget spending.
What other transparency and accountability mechanisms would you like to institute together with the elected faculty institutions, i.e., through shared governance, to avoid the circumstances in which we find ourselves?
5. When will a list of specific administrative positions to be eliminated be posted and acted upon?
6. How do you propose to address the Governor’s concerns, supported by the Faculty Senate, regarding the Conflict of Interest of an ABOR-imposed interim CFO?
Who is in charge: interim CFO and ABOR Executive Director Arnold or you, the President?
7. Why do you consistently seek outside consultants for guidance rather than trust your own elected faculty representatives and expertise on your faculty who advise major institutions throughout the world and have recognized expertise?