

**The University of Arizona®**  
**Faculty Senate Executive Committee**  
**1216 E. Mabel St. (PO Box 210456)**  
**621.1342**  
**facultycenter@email.arizona.edu**  
**Minutes: January 22, 2024**  
**3:00-5:00 p.m.**  
**VIA ZOOM**

Present: M Hymel (Chair), J Bernick, H Cui, T Dysart, W Fink, J Frumkin, G Heileman, L Hudson, J Jones, K Little, K Maggert, R Marx, H Nelson, T Ottusch, C Rankin, C Simmons S Su, M Stegeman (Parliamentarian), J Vetter, and L Ziurys

Absent: J Dudas, A Sanchez

Guests: K Kelleher, M Madden, L Sandoval

**Call to Order**

T Dysart called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. (Chair Hymel experienced a momentary internet malfunction)

**Approval of the Agenda**

The meeting agenda was approved.

**Approval of the Minutes of November 20, 2023**

The minutes of November 20, 2023 were approved as written with one abstention.

**Review agendas for the January 29, 2024 and February 5, 2024 Faculty Senate meetings**

Faculty leadership discussed the two upcoming Faculty Senate meetings and agendas for each. Open Session speakers were listed on the January 29, 2024 agenda. Some items were rearranged and moved to the February 5, 2024 agenda. Time allotments were specified for each item. Honorary Degrees will be sent from the Provost's Office for the February 5, 2024 Faculty Senate meeting and provided to all Faculty Senators prior to the meeting for voting in Executive Session.

**UPDATES**

**IT Liasion – Jeremy Frumkin**

- Frumkin reiterated that the President's financial plan has been submitted to ABOR. Stated in the plan, *"restructure unit controls for common administrative services beginning in FY 2025 to eliminate redundancy and create operational and financial efficiencies. Reporting structure for local managers within the functions of information technology, human resources, marketing, communications, business,*

*finance, and development will shift from individual units to central administration by function. This will begin with IT employees this year.”* Frumkin assumes this means this upcoming fiscal year, and the FY 2025 is probably meant to be FY 2024. Essential IT leadership is exploring scenarios relative to this announcement with intent to reach out to identified stakeholders for input with an expedient move. No details have been provided.

- Fink asked if the *ad hoc* IT committee is privy to make recommendations. Frumkin responded that they’ve met one time in the spring semester and have another meeting scheduled. More faculty are being added to the committee and hopefully a chair will be put in place shortly. The committee didn’t discuss specifics, but strong shared governance involvement was agreed upon.

### **President’s Report – Jon Dudas**

Dudas was absent.

### **Chair of the Faculty – Leila Hudson**

Hudson spoke to the escalating community pressure on President Robbins and Faculty Senate. Calls for action are being received but Hudson feels that not taking action is a prudent decision currently. Moving slowly and deliberately is a wise choice since additional information is still being received. Cost cutting measures have been initiated in the academic and support units at a quick pace, whereas big ticket items that are responsible for the financial situation are moving more slowly.

Simmons asked for a more detailed account of the most recent calls for action. Hudson said that her informal metric “the vote of no confidence meter” has been off the charts, especially by new people reaching out from both inside and outside the institution. Different stakeholders will be asked to report to Faculty Senate in the coming months.

### **SPBAC – Cindy Rankin and Greg Heileman**

Heileman reported that he was absent at the last SPBAC meeting, but reports are that John Arnold gave a good presentation with good conversation. Conversations will be continuing with John Arnold.

### **UWGEC – Jeremy Vetter**

The committee is pressing forward with a large number of course proposal reviews, as well as several other issues. The committee has worked diligently to speed up the process of proposal reviews after hearing of frustrations stemming from the lengthy shared governance process. Last fall’s workload was extremely heavy after proposal submission halted and was then reopened.

### **Graduate Council – Hong Cui and Sanlyn Buxner**

- Cui reported the first meeting of 2024 was held last Friday. A poll was taken of committee members to move the meeting from the third Friday to second Friday of the month to create a longer gap between GC and SEC meetings to get proposals onto the agenda in a reasonable time frame.

- A suggestion was made to distribute onboarding information to new Council members and onboarding materials have since been prepared.
- A discrepancy was discovered with the Faculty Bylaws versus the Graduate Council Bylaws depicting different members who are represented on the Council. APPC will review the discrepancy. Cui said that two Faculty Senate representatives need to be appointed to the Council.

### **UArizona Staff Council – Jeffrey Jones**

- A fundraiser in the form of an art exhibit is scheduled for all University employees, retirees, and volunteers. Everyone is encouraged to participate. Public viewing will be held January 29 to February 10, 2024, virtually as well as in-person. Awards will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2024, in the UArizona BSRL Lobby from 1:00-3:00 p.m.
- A small sample poll was taken for a Vote of No Confidence with 16 yes, 4 maybe, and 5 no's.

### **C11 – Wolfgang Fink**

No report.

### **RPC – Lucy Ziurys**

In Ziurys absence, Fink reported that the January meeting is currently being rescheduled. The committee will delve further into the acquisition of Centers and Institutes. Increasing Indirect Costs to PI's from 2% to 5% is questionable due to the current financial situation.

### **APPC – Keith Maggert**

Maggert reported that out of nine policies the committee has looked at, six were sent forward and there's been no feedback from stakeholders. The committee is looking at the Code of Conduct to make it less weaponizable. The next meeting is this coming Friday.

### **SAPC – Kristin Little and Tim Ottusch**

Little reported that she and Ottusch have been appointed the new Co-chairs after Casey and Ohala stepped down. The first meeting is next Wednesday.

### **Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion – Tad Pace and Spencer Willis**

Hymel reported that committee would like to create a survey for ongoing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion issues on campus. Dysart expressed her concern for no Native American faculty representation on the committee.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.