

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA®
General Faculty Standing Committee
Faculty Center
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Committee of Eleven

Annual Report 2018-19

Dr. Steven Schwartz, Chair, Chemistry/Biochemistry (6/13-5/19)
Prof. Moises Paiewonsky, Vice Chair, School of Music, (1/15-5/19)
Dr. Matthew Abraham, English (6/16-5/20)
Dr. Sonia Colina, Spanish and Portuguese (6/18-5/20)
Dr. Javier Duran, Spanish and Portuguese, 6/15-5/19)
Dr. Aileen Feng, French and Italian, (6/17-5/19)
Dr. John Hildebrand, Neuroscience (6/00-5/20)
Ms. Teja Konduri, GPSC, 8/18-5/19)
Dr. Jessica Summers, Chair of the Faculty (6/18-5/20)
Dr. Marlys Witte, Surgery (6/17-5/19)
Ms. Mia Zанrosso, ASUA (6/18-5/19)

The committee was established in 1947 by President James Byron McCormick to obtain advice from the faculty. When the Faculty Senate and Constitution were established in 1948, the Committee of Eleven was defined constitutionally and membership determined by faculty-wide election. It is unique in higher education governance structures and is independent of other faculty or administrative committees or organizations. The Committee of Eleven is University-wide and does not have a prescribed agenda.

Faculty Constitution Article V, Section 3 provides:

The Committee of Eleven shall:

- a. Initiate, promote, and stimulate study and action dealing with and looking toward solution of situations and problems of interest and concern to the faculty and to the University.
- b. Make reports to the General Faculty or the Faculty Senate.
- c. Speak for the General Faculty as and when authorized by the General Faculty.

The Committee of Eleven's focus for 2018-2019 Academic Year included the following topics:

A central focus for this year was the establishment of yearly, rigorous reviews of Deans and other administrators. A central component of our suggestions was the inclusion of faculty at all stages of the review process. At present, review of deans is a sole function of the provost with essentially no faculty input. We also made clear, that we see no effect of these reviews, with many deans in office for decades.

Our recommendations were communicated to the Senate in the form of an amended UHAP chapter 5 to include our proposed changes. In addition to communicating these proposed changes to the senate, at the request of Interim Provost Goldberg, I represented the committee at a meeting of the Provost's Dean's council. There was significant angst expressed regarding these changes. The Deans clearly felt review by faculty to be inappropriate.

We have continued to work with the Chair of the faculty to provide times for interaction with President Robbins. These have primarily been gatherings at the Presidential Residence. Wide groups of faculty have been included from the most senior to the most junior. It remains unclear what actual effect these gatherings have had, but the very act of meeting with the University President is a useful interaction for the faculty.

In addition, we have had multiple meetings with President Robbins and Interim Provost Goldberg. This has been a year of significant ferment on campus with the changes President Robbins is bringing to campus. Senior administrators are being replaced. One or more of us have been involved in the search for a new Provost, and new Senior Vice President for Research, a new Senior Vice president for Finance, and a new Dean for the medical School. Time will tell the success of these choices.

The Committee of Eleven has now a significant change. The makeup of the committee next year will have half of the elected representatives from the College of Humanities. There are no members from the College of Science or the College of Medicine in Tucson. It is hoped that the committee can continue to gather concerns from faculty across the campus as a representative body of the entire faculty.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Schwartz, Chair
Committee of Eleven