

The University of Arizona®
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
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Minutes: January 11, 2021

3:00-5:00 p.m.

VIA ZOOM

<https://arizona.zoom.us/j/9503583576>

Present: M Hingle (Chair), M Brewer, B Brummund, J Dudas, J Durán, T Dysart, L Folks, N Ghosh, R Hammer, L Hudson, J Lawrence, W Neumann, D Ohala, S Sen, T Singleton,

Absent: S Helm, P Gordon, J Summers (sabbatical), and S Troutman

Guests: J Curry and J Frumkin

Call to Order

Chair Hingle called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes of December 14, 2020

The minutes of December 14, 2020 were approved.

UPDATES

President's Office – Secretary of the University, Jon Dudas

Dudas opened by discussing UArizona's role with COVID-19 vaccine distribution. Dudas explained that a week ago, in discussions with the Pima County Health Department, UArizona will be a point of distribution for Pima County. Strict state and county guidelines must be followed very carefully in order to distribute the vaccine, and being a distributor adds additional convenience for UArizona's faculty, staff, and students. Clarity and final guidance have not been received from the Pima County Health Department regarding whether or not UArizona will be the exclusive/primary provider for K-12 and Pima Community College, or if there a prioritization level within educators, and written mandates from the County will hopefully be obtained today. Administration is communicating information as soon as it's received. Brewer asked if there were going to be different approaches to prioritization. Dudas responded that UArizona has either conflicting or no clarity yet. Hammer asked about UArizona employees outside of Pima County, as well as students who are teaching assistants and research assistants who fall under the employee group. Dudas responded that UArizona is planning on being as liberal as possible within the UArizona community. UArizona will be the provider for educators in Pima County, including NAU and ASU providing vaccinations in Tucson. A drive-through on the University Mall will be implemented because the ratings have been good. The dates to implement 1B vaccinations have been changing per the County Health Department. Ghosh said that people with allergies will be on

standby, and after injection, a fifteen-to-thirty-minute waiting period is warranted for both vaccines to make sure there's no allergic reaction. Dudas concurred. UArizona will distribute the vaccine that is delivered, most likely Johnson and Johnson, and has no choice of vaccine producers because UArizona has no authority over any distribution decisions. Currently, January 22, 2021 will be the start date for UArizona's vaccine inoculations. Brummund asked how many vaccinations at capacity can be done daily. Dudas responded that 1,000 a day, moving up to 2,000 a day. Much would depend on having multiple distribution locations, which is possible since it has been authorized. Brummund ask how much freezer storage capacity is available. Lawrence posted in chat that UArizona has capacity for 1.6M doses. Dudas isn't entirely certain of the space available, but vaccine replenishment will be provided based on how quickly it can be distributed. Duran asked Dudas about policies with regard to issuing statements concerning the U.S. Capital events of January 6, 2021. Dudas said that two issues need to be heeded; 1) actual politics, and, 2) political positions of faculty and students. Groups cannot advocate on behalf of the University.

SPBAC – Sabrina Helm and Barry Brummund

Brummund reported that SPBAC had a very busy December and January's schedule is filling up. Topics are usually scheduled a couple months in advance to provide preparation time for presenters. The number of recent topics has been met with urgency, and the committee met each week in December instead of every two weeks. Following the completion of the UArizona Global Campus (UAGC) acquisition in early December, SPBAC reviewed and had discussions of the strategic breakout of the different modalities online and how that fits with UAGC and a discussion of strategic branding. On December 9, 2020, the committee met to follow up on a prior discussion with Provost Folks and CFO Rulney on Activity Informed Budgeting. A survey was implemented and feedback was provided to Folks and Rulney. During that meeting, the committee had a presentation by Senior Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Impact, Elizabeth Cantwell, on how Facilities and Administration research funding allocations work. On December, 16, 2020, SPBAC reviewed financials and mission support for different groups of auxiliaries and Athletics. On January 6, 2021, SPBAC undertook an in-depth review of the FY20 University Comprehensive Annual Financial Statement. Agenda items for future meetings this semester include follow-up on research, follow-up on spring registration, enrollment, and tuition, and follow-up on fall 2021 recruitment and financial aid processes. A session is scheduled on the upcoming legislative assembly. When SPBAC has an agenda item that overlaps with another shared governance committee or *ad hoc* committee, that committee is invited to the SPBAC meeting to make sure efficiencies are at a maximum with all the stakeholders involved. Hingle asked for elaboration on the consultant reports for the auxiliaries. Brummund responded that Rulney and Comptroller Salazar asked for feedback from SPBAC on the reports. Brummund said that the reports are officially part of the financial sustainability operational effectiveness work effort, and make suggestions to leadership on a weekly basis. No recommendations have been made yet and doesn't know the timeline for such. Sustainability should be the focus moving forward. Hammer said GFFAC members received an invitation from Co-Chair Helm to run for SPBAC in the upcoming spring election. Hammer feels that the information presented at Faculty Senate on in-house run auxiliaries needs to be communicated more broadly to the campus. Hudson asked about the contracts in Athletics and if any other information is available on the buyout of the previous coach and what the source is for the big contracts. Dudas responded that the new coach's contract has not been approved by ABOR, and mentioned the mitigation clause, which said contract's payout is diminished by the salary of other employment. The cost is absorbed by Athletics' budget and no other university funds are used outside of those within Athletics. Brummund added that all survey results are shared with leadership, even those with dissenting opinions.

Vice Chair of the Faculty – Melanie Hingle

Hingle said that her foremost project this semester will be working on the Shared Governance Review Committee. The committee's purview is to assess the health, as broadly defined by shared governance, of the University, including staff, students, faculty, and administration. The committee will also work on ensuring the MOU that was rewritten last year can be agreed to and signed by the administration and faculty leaders. Robbins is supportive to work toward the goals of the committee. Elections are approaching and Hingle encourages faculty to run for seats. Two Faculty Senate meetings are scheduled one week apart for January 25 and February 1, 2021. Hingle suggested topics for the upcoming Senate meetings.

Chair of the Faculty – Jessica Summers

Summers is on sabbatical.

Secretary of the Faculty – Michael Brewer

Brewer reported that the annual review group has been working with Colin Blakely and Andrea Romero to finalize the recommended changes to the annual review process for faculty, and once completed, UHAP Chapters Three and Four will largely mirror one another. In the fall, Constitution and Bylaws changes will be voted on in the spring election, but will be brought back to Faculty Senate prior to the election for approval. Brewer asked committee members their thoughts on making the Senior Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Impact an *ex officio* member of Faculty Senate. Brewer also discussed adding an *ex officio* member from administration to some Faculty Senate Standing Committees in order to enhance communication and perspective, and making that addition part of the Bylaws. Point of View Informal Mediation in the Grievance section will be revised, since HR no longer formally offers that service. Hudson feels that *ex officio* members of Faculty Senate should not have voting privileges. Brewer pointed out that there are other members of Faculty Senate who are not administrators, i.e. the Faculty Officers. Hudson asked for a smaller subset of administrators, and Brewer deferred the suggestion to the Shared Governance Review Committee.

Provost – Liesl Folks

Folks reported that campus is gearing up for Phase One launch for the spring semester due to high COVID-19 numbers. An email was communicated announcing plans to spend \$1M to provide additional support to faculty who are struggling with caregiving responsibilities due to the pandemic. Folks has been working with the deans to make the administrative load as small as possible to get the additional support to faculty as quickly as possible. Folks' office issued guidance asking for timely feedback on academic programs to students, and it became clear that there is no existing policy on mid-semester feedback to students with regard to grades. Folks has asked Senior Vice Provost Burd's team for a review and to devise a policy for the Undergraduate/Graduate Councils to weigh in on. Clarifications were made to class absences and syllabus language, all in part due to discussion at a previous Senate Executive Committee meeting. The College of Science Dean announcement will be forthcoming. Hingle asked about the mid-semester student feedback, and was under the impression that students needed 40% of their grade in place by that juncture. Neumann and Ghosh both clarified that the guideline fell under the General Education jurisdiction. Ghosh was under the impression that grades were to be reported 24-48 hours after finals. Folks clarified that there is no specific date for finals and accumulative grades for students should be known by a specific date by mid-semester. Dates need to be set campus-wide for all grades to be submitted. Titles for Career Track faculty need to be finalized. College Academic Administrators Council (CAAC) has been restructured into two different committees, Undergraduate Academic Administrators Council and Graduate Academic Administrators Council. The separation will allow for better attention to detail for undergraduate and graduate priorities, as well as policies and

proposals. A new flowchart is being developed by Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, Greg Heileman.

IT Liasion – Jeremy Frumkin

Frumkin reported that UITS has hired a new Executive Director for Campus IT Partnerships, Maysoon Eshelman, and will be reporting to CIO Lanita Collette. UITS is working on IT support for vaccination roll out, as it did for antibody and COVID-19 testing. Laptops and other technology at sites where vaccinations occur will be overseen by UITS. The Wired Network Registration Project continues to move forward, and will ramp up after the spring semester resumes. The latest statistics on research support from an IT perspective show that over 1100 researchers actively use UArizona's research computing services, including high performance and supercomputing infrastructure and services, which is almost double over the last couple of years. Over 46% of the researchers are responsible for approximately 46% of the total University research expenditures this past year, which is an increase from 40% the previous year, and continues to rise year after year in terms of percentage expenditures related to researchers who utilize computing power. Eighty out of the top 100 researchers are at UArizona.

Graduate Council – Ron Hammer

Hammer reported that the Master's in Philosophy, Politics, and Economy will be on the January 25, 2021 agenda for Faculty Senate approval.

Undergraduate Council – Neel Ghosh

Ghosh reported that Undergraduate Minor in Pacific Asian American Studies will be on the January 25, 2021 agenda for Faculty Senate approval. Other proposals have been approved by the Council, but have not been received in their entirety by the Faculty Center.

University-Wide General Education Committee – Joan Curry

The set of policies that outline the new General Education program will be going to UGC this coming January 19, 2021 to be considered by the UGC Curriculum and Policies subcommittee.

C11 – Javier Durán

No report.

APAC/CSC – Jennifer Lawrence

University Staff has not met since December 2020, but reports that staff are pleased that the furlough ended earlier than expected. The new official University Staff listserv is coming to fruition to make communications to the constituency easier. Staff have questions about leave time taken in conjunction with the shortened furlough and how that will be compensated for any overages. A communication from the Provost mentioned a \$16 an hour base wage for undergraduate students, and many staff make less than that amount. Staff are hoping that the \$16 base is a target amount for future compensation for those making less.

ASUA – Tara Singleton

Singleton reported that the ASUA elections will commence February 15, 2021 for candidacy declarations, wrapping up in March 2021. Singleton will have her replacement in place by May 1, 2021. Different student projects are being undertaken, specifically looking at the current Student Code of Conduct with respect to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Transition continuity with the student leaders is being addressed to allow newly elected leaders more familiarity with the constituencies on campus.

GPSC – Shilpita Sen

Sen reported that GPSC hasn't met since last December, but will be meeting next week. GPSC has been working on submitting reports for proposals for the student services fee.

RPC – Paul Gordon

Gordon was absent.

APPC – Ron Hammer and Tessa Dysart

Dysart reported that the committee has a special meeting tomorrow to review the email changes that Brewer submitted from a UITS-led committee for committee perusal. The committee has a regularly scheduled meeting in February.

SAPC – Diane Ohala

No report. Ohala stressed clear communication on the 1B COVID-19 immunization for students.

Committee for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion – Stephanie Troutman

Troutman was absent.

Other business

There was no other business.

Review agenda for the January 24, 2021 Faculty Senate Meeting

Hingle posted a proposed agenda in chat. Committee members agreed.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Recorded and transcribed by Jane Cherry