

The University of Arizona®
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
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Minutes: April 19, 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, P Gordon, R Hammer, S Helm, L Hudson, J Lawrence, W Neumann, D Ohala, S Sen, and T Singleton

Absent: J Summers (sabbatical), and S Troutman

Call to Order

Chair Hingle called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes of March 15, 2021

The minutes of March 15, 2021 were approved.

UPDATES

Provost – Liesl Folks

Folks discussed the unresolved aspects of General Education involvement with Faculty Senate, and how UWGEC would potentially be articulated into Undergraduate Council. Hingle said that a meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2021 with all interested parties. Colleagues who are interested in being a part of General Education will be integrated into the work that's currently taking place. Folks is interested in how the constituent members of UWGEC will fit into the framework for the review and approvals processes. Getting clear before the beginning of the fall semester would be optimal. Brewer added that Bylaws changes, if approved, will increase Faculty Senate involvement on UWGEC and the Councils. Folks said that General Education is an academic program and it has structure and architecture like other academic programs and that a clearly articulated framework for faculty oversight is essential. Hudson asked if this item would be new business because the way it was presented on the agenda at the last Faculty Senate meeting was as an information item and no voting was mentioned. After the discussion, Faculty Senators were asked to vote on moving the program forward. Hingle said that "possible action item" was omitted from the agenda, but that she had clarified that a vote would take place during the Senate meeting when Gen Ed was being discussed. She asserted that discussion was sufficient at the last Faculty Senate meeting and that the vote was a valid one. What was voted on was approving the integration of faculty into the General Education process, and that the current framework for General Education could move forward. Folks said that what is being clarified is the role of UWGEC as

a University-wide committee that sits beside or is overseen by Undergraduate Council. The membership also has to be sorted out as to whether the representatives are elected or appointed. Once clarity is reached, then the process flow for individual courses to be mapped into the General Education curriculum can be reviewed to make sure they meet the policy requirements. Curry added that UWGEC oversees General Education. Proposed courses come through their colleges to UWGEC and the committee decides whether that course fulfills General Education requirements. Previously, UWGEC only had authority to approve courses and will continue to do that, but Miller-Cochran and her group will develop architecture for program quality. Most faculty are currently appointed by Deans or Associate Deans in their colleges to UWGEC. Often, it is difficult to find people to serve, so some vacancies remain. Hudson asked Folks about the Emeritus notice sent out that has caused a lot of consternation. Is it a change or a reaffirmation of standing policy? Folks responded that it was only a clarification and nothing is added or changed.

ASUA – Tara Singleton

Singleton introduced Noah Vega, the new ASUA President-elect. Singleton thanked everyone for being part of Senate Executive Committee. Vega's official inauguration is on May 1, 2021. New Senators and elected officials are currently being transitioned into their roles. More participation from students is evident this year. Vega introduced himself.

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

Dudas reported that the most recent ABOR meeting was held last week. The focus is on Maricopa County, and UArizona stated that it wanted to serve students throughout the State of Arizona, with possible expansions in law and business. A robust conversation with board members included UArizona's willingness to serve outside of Pima County and that no borders or boundaries hinder UArizona's commitment to serve students state wide. UArizona's presence would be in Chandler, Arizona, and Arizona State University was opposed to UArizona in that location. TRIF dollars are no longer voter protected, but there is a five-year plan on how to spend those dollars. Traditionally, TRIF dollars are distributed with a set-aside to Arizona State University, and it was determined that set-asides are no longer necessary. A discussion about whether a 40/40/20 split makes sense, and Northern Arizona University had concerns about that split. The Board seemed open to UArizona leading the research front for allocation of most of the TRIF monies. The Board is concerned about vaccine mandates, and whether or not a decision will be made to mandate vaccines for all constituencies for campus participation. Hammer articulated the need for UArizona's presence in Maricopa County with its five existing campuses and the need for expansion. Dysart said that there is a lot of interest at the Law School for expansion into the Phoenix area. The limitations are the school's American Bar Association accreditation and having to do more in-person than online teaching, but hopefully changes post-pandemic may make things easier. Students who want a Legislative experience working at the Supreme Court will definitely benefit from a campus in Maricopa County. Where ASU has excelled is in the ten-months-after-job rankings, which is important to most law students, but there are also more jobs in Maricopa County than in Pima County. Sen asked about a mandatory vaccine policy following the Governor's Executive Order? Dudas replied that the Legislature was looking at a requirement that mandatory vaccines are not allowed anywhere in the state, but voter constituents began lobbying their Legislators and that's possibly what led to the Governor issuing an Executive Order. Universities may be exempt, but the enforcement of mandatory vaccines for campus is certainly probable down the road. Exemptions for any vaccine are based on religious, health, and philosophical concerns. Brummund stated that the population in Maricopa County has grown extraordinarily fast, and for UArizona to be able to act on an educational basis on behalf of the state means supporting residents in Maricopa County. Dudas said that one-third of all students at UArizona are from Maricopa County. A great number

of donors and alumni live in Maricopa County, and have shown interest in supporting UArizona's expansion.

Secretary of the Faculty – Michael Brewer

Brewer reported that actions are underway to document election outcomes and participation. The criteria for General Faculty according to the Constitution will be available on the Faculty Governance website, along with the full census of the General Faculty. The three-out-of-four-year requirement for Career Track faculty has come into question, and faculty in their third year of contracts have been included as General Faculty. Two senators are interested in asking the Faculty Senate to advise the Committee on Faculty Membership if Career Track faculty must complete their third year of service or if they may be admitted into the General Faculty once during their third year. The Committee has been admitting them in their third year, following the October "snapshot." Were it required for them to complete their third year, some CT faculty would not gain General Faculty membership until well into their fourth year, due to when the "snapshot" occurs. Hudson asked about a Parliamentarian for Faculty Senate to help with order. Hingle said that is part of the agenda for the Special Senate meeting discussion on April 26, 2021.

SPBAC – Sabrina Helm and Barry Brummund

Brummund reported that Urquidez provided an update on recruitment and registration of students, which showed a better outcome than had previously been predicted at the onset of the pandemic. CFO Rulney made an update on Financing the Mission and talked extensively about the federal stimulus packages and restrictions related thereto. Another sizeable package is on its way through, but has restrictions related to both the institution and to students. Last meeting, Dr. Cantwell updated the committee on financing and updating the research mission of the University. Questions concerned unit impacts or any change of direction. The committee received updates from CFO Rulney and Provost Folks about Activity Informed Budgeting (AIB). Fifteen minutes are dedicated to AIB updates every meeting. Two meetings remain for the semester. The next meeting will concentrate on the University's endowment and fundraising presented by UArizona Foundation President J.P. Roczniak. The final meeting of the year will be dedicated to housekeeping items, a financial sustainability group looking into financing the Strategic Plan going forward, and then a review of SPBAC priority topics for a month by month meeting agenda for the next year. Hammer asked if the AIB model has been rolled out to colleges. Brummund replied that the final model has not been rolled out. The conceptual model has been shared, with an AIB working group being established in each one of the colleges. The calculation model has not been shared.

C11 – Javier Durán

Duran said that this would be his last meeting with the committee. A new chair of the Committee of Eleven will be elected at its April 30, 2021 meeting. The Town Hall went well last Friday without the President, Provost, or CFO who all declined the invitation by the committee. The gathering was to review the Leadership and Communication survey that took some time to organize and create a clear way for people to understand the data collected. The event was well attended with 260 people including a large group of University Staff in attendance. The committee did not take a stand or do an analysis, but rather decided to be the facilitator of conversation. The committee will take all suggestions and recommendations for a path to constructive conversations next year, which was the overall goal of the survey. This last year, the President, Provost, and CFO all came to C11 meetings and hopefully, this will continue in the future. Duran thanked everyone for their support.

IT Liaison – Jeremy Frumkin

Frumkin discussed teaching, learning, research, and service in terms of IT. UITS has been actively involved in the POD and vaccination site and commends all those working tirelessly to make sure there are no gaps in the infrastructure. A consistent theme going on in conversations of teaching, learning, and research is that UArizona continues to improve its risk stance around research data and IT environments across the University. Under Brummund and Collette's leadership, UITS continues to build a safe and secure IT environment for all business done at the University. The wired network registration project has been moving forward to help reduce risk by knowing what devices are on our network to ensure they are not causing havoc. Likewise, controlled and regulated data is monitored with ITAR with expert control, and while services in those areas are good, there is an increase in research to require extended support. The infrastructure of the University is constantly monitored to make sure it is consistent and mature, and how that infrastructure is consolidated so it is being run efficiently and effectively. New services will be offered to campus in the near future, not only for research, but for administrative learning and teaching to provide some of that infrastructure and applications to ensure that the security and administration is done maturely. Any issues that arise can quickly be responded to with audits, and all data necessary will be available. Hudson asked if UITS has looked into secure voting software. Brummund responded no. If the Faculty Senate deems that a different technology to support election is the best approach going forward, then UITS is happy to support that, but with the changes in the process that were made, all parties are confident that the problem is solved and there won't be another encounter with any more problems with Qualtrics. Specific controls for authorization and authentication apply to all the different people at the University. For sign-in, more than 100 different systems are utilized for students, thereby making it necessary to have hundreds of different technologies that are integrated together for single sign on. For any sort of voting system, Qualtrics has the necessary requirements that UITS looks for. Even with all things in place, a simple configuration error can still lead to problems. From a technology standpoint, in technology and contractual terms, many different areas would be considered carefully in technology and basically it would be the same kinds of things in place for the systems that are supported today. As CIO, Brummund would not favor a paper-based system. Several strategic initiatives have been put in place to implement paperless solutions for the University. Frumkin suggested Hudson to reach out to him as a point of contact to answer any questions.

University-Wide General Education Committee – Joan Curry

Curry reported that UWGEC is working with the General Education Office to get the first set of courses through the process by June 1, 2021. Hudson asked how evaluating the entire slate of courses is possible by June 1, 2021. Why is there a rush. Curry responded that the rush is the Spring 2022 implementation, and that there needs to be a certain number of courses available for transfer students starting in Spring 2022, as well as new freshmen. A fairly large workload is expected in the next year and a half. The courses we are going to look at initially are the ones that don't need more than 25% change so they can get a course modification to get a new tag, since they are already in the system as General Education Tier 1/Tier 2 system. The General Education Office will be bringing instructors through a live online Quick Start Program Boot Camp to transition courses. Approximately fifty courses will be offered. Hudson asked how many existing and new courses will be offered. Curry said for now, only existing courses in the system will be modified. Hudson asked what the process is for submitting new courses. Curry said it will go through the usual process and an opening will be announced.

Graduate Council – Ron Hammer

Hammer mentioned a certificate for a name change/consolidation from Law Librarianship to Legal Information will be moving forward on the Consent agenda for Faculty Senate. A proposal for a Master's in Data Science has some scrutiny because it may conflict with a Master's in Statistics and Data Science.

A number of accommodations have been made for this proposal. The Graduate Faculty policy was discussed and input was provided in Faculty Senate, but it did not undergo a formal vote, since the policy making process for UHAP is for changes to be brought to certain groups (including Senate) for input, not approval. Because the definition of Graduate Faculty concerns faculty, some senators felt it should undergo a formal vote in Faculty Senate. Hammer noted that while the UHAP statement defining Graduate Faculty was not voted on in Faculty Senate, feedback was obtained through the thirty-day review period and input from Senate was incorporated into the final version.

Undergraduate Council – Neel Ghosh

Ghosh reported that UGC has largely been working on the General Education implementation aspect. Changes will continuously be happening because the program is new. Feedback will be obtained through UWGEC as it moves forward. The BS in Medicine is falling under scrutiny from the Colleges of Medicine and Science with unsettled items after they both signed off on the program. Vanderah is obtaining information and modifying the proposal and will move forward to Faculty Senate when the issues are resolved. Dysart said that the program mirrors the BS in Law program, and would not recommend any student who wants to go to law school to major in law. Dysart suggests getting someone like Keith Swisher in the law program to participate in the discussion. Gordon said he has six credit hours in the BS in Medicine program's core curriculum material that are not basic science. Gordon had a blessing ceremony with one of his Native American faculty members, which would not help a student score well on the MCAT, but it would help any student in any health professions be a better health professional. With four different tracks, it allows students to find their niche of study. Hudson said working with the other stakeholders on a compromise should include a Memorandum of Understanding in order to move things forward with Faculty Senate. Ghosh said that Vanderah has met with the stakeholders in the College of Science, and revisions will be forthcoming from those meetings. Floor time should be given to both sides to present their views to argue facts with no questions. Then Faculty Senators will decide with their vote. Committee members discussed.

UARIZONA STAFF COUNCIL – Jennifer Lawrence

Lawrence reported that APAC and Classified Staff Council voted to form one unified Council that will represent all University Staff called UArizona Staff Council. Lawrence and Jones will be serving as co-chairs until the end of this year and selecting new officers in May. The Council will be working on new Bylaws and a new website over the next few months. The Employee Recognition Committee has made announcements to all the staff recipients and all surprise visits have been completed. A special celebration to recognize all teams and individuals across campus is being planned.

GPSC – Shilpita Sen

Sen reported that GPSC has been working on a concern brought to members by the Green Fund regarding a possible reduction in funds for the upcoming year or complete dissolution of the Board. Green Fund has had a couple of public meetings with students and other constituent members to talk through what the process will look like in the future. Students serving on the Board feel their voices have not been heard, especially when close to reviewing projects that need funding for the upcoming year, as well as multi-year projects. Sen hopes that the Board comes to a decision with its next meeting this month and there is no reduction in budget and are able to still continue its function. Green Fund and GPSC will be working closely moving forward. The Graduate Professional Student Appreciation Week was held last week with a series of events. Two more events will take place on April 23, 24, and 25, 2021. On April 23, 2021, GPSC is hosting a drive-in movie. GPSC has been collaborating with the Healthy and Active Mind Society to host a free yoga retreat on the UArizona Mall on April 24/25, 2021. Workshops will be held this month and over the summer months in collaboration with the Grad Center;

a financial literacy workshop and workshop on industry appropriate application materials. The grant programs will remain open over the summer since travel is slowly opening up, and GPSC will continue to support graduate students who are looking to travel for their research field work, internships, and conferences. Elections were held and GPSC is in the process of onboarding its new Executive Board and Council members to be sworn in on May 6, 2021. Sen will continue as GPSC President.

APPC – Ron Hammer and Tessa Dysart

Dysart reported that Neumann will discuss the UHAP definition of Professor of Practice and the changes being made thereto. Ghosh said that Neumann met with the College of Science, and people's concerns are that people have different Professor titles elsewhere, and people on the Career Track thought that this would divide faculty into Lecturer vs. Professor of Practice. Instead, the title Professor of Practice is a broad term as far as definition goes. After teaching requirements are fulfilled, faculty engage in all sorts of different activities, and it's important that voices from people on these groups that had other titles not feel excluded or feel that they are limited to only one category. Neumann will bring the UHAP Professor of Practice definition to the upcoming Faculty Senate meeting for input. As a change to UHAP, it does not require Senate approval, but their approval will be sought nonetheless.

SAPC – Diane Ohala

Ohala reported that a lot of hard work is going into the Student Basic Needs Initiatives, both locally and at the Board of Regents levels. Schalewski has been working with Student Regent Rusk on tidying things up. Hingle and McDonald put forward an application for the Provost Investment Fund (PIF), and the PIF was funded, which will help give sustenance to the Basic Needs Initiatives. The funding will also free up time for Dani Carrillo at Fostering Success and Bridgett Nobbe at the Campus Pantry. A survey was distributed to students and approximately 3600 responded. The data is being analyzed, but SAPC previewed a snapshot of the most important topics that need immediate attention. The survey will go out to students on a regular basis. The SOS for students on the UArizona webpage is still not linked correctly or easily found. Dysart suggested making a presentation to Faculty Senate. Ohala appreciated the suggestion. Ghosh said that help with SOS could easily be faculty and advisor buy-in by pointing people in the right direction and letting students know the resource exists rather than leaving it up to students to find. Have enough students been identified to ask where they would consider looking for resources to aid them, since most have stated that the syllabus is the last place they would look. Flyers in dorms and on bathroom doors would be a good option. Ohala said that different populations of students have different cultural norms and expectations about whether or not to ask for help. Committee members discussed.

Vice Chair of the Faculty – Melanie Hingle

A special Faculty Senate meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2021 to review Constitution and Bylaws revisions, and how the Faculty Senate wants to conduct itself as a body. Hingle referred to the Faculty Senate election candidate statements.

Chair of the Faculty – Jessica Summers

Summers in on sabbatical.

RPC – Paul Gordon

No report.

Committee for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion – Stephanie Troutman

Troutman was absent.

Other business

Folks said that after delving into the Non-tenure Eligible faculty list, there are over 850 Career Track faculty still classified in that legacy category. Folks has emailed all the Deans to have the Career Track faculty properly categorized and assign the proper titles for each. Neumann confirmed that the CT/NT status and transition was never properly sorted out and it had been left up to units to properly code their employees.

Review agenda for the May 3, 2021 Faculty Senate Meeting

The agenda was reviewed, clarification and titles for agenda items were finalized, and time allotments were assigned to each item.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Recorded and transcribed by Jane Cherry