

**MINUTES  
FACULTY SENATE  
February 3, 2020**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Presiding Officer of the Faculty Senate, Michael Brewer, called the Faculty Senate meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the Old Main Silver & Sage Room.

Present: Senators Adamson, Behrangi, Benson, Bourget, Brewer, Castro, Colina, Cooley, Duran, Durand, Fischer, Gerald, Ghosh, Gordon, Hammer, Helm, Hildebrand, Hiller, Hingle, Hudson, Hunt, Hymel, Johnson, Lawrence, Leafgren, Min Simpkins, Mulcahy, Neumann, Ohala, Oxnam, Pau, Provencher, Rafelski, Rosenstengel, Ruggill, Russell, Simmons, Slepian, SM Smith, Summers, Teemant, Tropman, Vendantam, M. Witte, and R. Witte.

Absent: Senators Acosta, Brown, Brummund, Cuillier, Dong, Fink, Folks, Fountain, Frey, Gries, Hernandez, Hess, Hurh, Knox, Robbins, Roberts, Rodrigues, M Smith, Spece, Story, Sulkowski, Tran, Wilson, and Wu.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 2, 2019**

The minutes of December 2, 2019 were approved.

**3. OPEN SESSION: STATEMENTS AT THE PODIUM ON ANY TOPIC, LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES – MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SPEAKERS IS FOUR. NO DISCUSSION IS PERMITTED, AND NO VOTES WILL BE TAKEN.**

Senator Colina spoke on behalf of the faculty in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. The faculty of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese are deeply concerned about recent changes to the Study Abroad model imposed by UA Global, which include budgetary modifications and curricular decisions. The Department of Spanish and Portuguese has a long trajectory of providing diverse Study Abroad opportunities with curricula taught only in the target language. The programs have served well the departmental objectives of providing an enriching linguistic, cultural, and academic experience that has been available and affordable for a large segment of our student population. These objectives are coherent with the University's goal of increasing the number of students participating in Study Abroad Programs, and the objectives have been achieved by maintaining costs that are as low as possible without adversely affecting the quality of the academic and cultural components. It is alarming that the new UA Global budget model significantly increases costs for all Study Abroad programs, thus reducing the number of students who are able to participate in them, running counter to the University's plans to increase student participation in Study Abroad and to Pillar 3 of the Strategic Plan to become a leading HSI. Our department serves a large number of Latinx students who are first-generation college students and economically challenged and who are not served by the changes to study abroad. Together with colleagues in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, we are concerned about the way these new policies have been rolled out, with little or no input from faculty who run successful international programs. Like them, we call for reconsideration of UA Global's strategies for the implementation of these programs and for the creation of a faculty advisory committee for study abroad as soon as possible so decisions can be made with appropriate curricular input from the faculty.

Senator R. Witte spoke about current 4G technology for Bluetooth, cell phone and wireless use. The roll out of 5G technology is posing serious health risks the world over, with over 10,000 peer-reviewed studies describing negative effects of non-ionizing microwave radiation on biological organisms, including microbes, plants, insects, animals, and humans. Landmark studies by the Army, Navy, Air Force, NASA and CIA are included in these studies since 1927. 5G technology adds two new higher bands of microwave radiation to the air, further increasing risk. The Environment Minister of Brussels in Belgium implemented a moratorium on small cell 5G towers in 2019, along with many other communities around the world. Finally, the largest study ever on cell phone radiation conducted by the National Toxicology Program and the National Institutes of Health was published last year, showing "clear" evidence of nine different types of cancers, primarily in the heart and brain, as well as cardiomyopathy or structural damage to the heart, from 4G radiation. Witte suggests more discussion and forums to bring the dangers of microwaves and 5G technology to light and provide safety tips for students, faculty and staff to reduce exposure.

David Gibbs, Professor in the Department of History spoke to Senators about the University's Freedom Center and its association with the Department of Political Economy and Moral Sciences. Gibbs offers new information and perspectives and shared the history of the departmental funding from the Charles Koch Foundation. Hundreds of documents released to citizens of the University show donor agreements allowing donors to exert influence on the functioning of the units. Gibbs reiterated the lack of any adequate review of the units since the Freedom Center's establishment in 2008, and the Department of Political Economy and Moral Sciences' establishment in 2017. The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS) conducted a lengthy review with internal and external reviewers, which raised serious concerns with the composition of the committee. Imbalance of committee showed heavy bias in favor of exonerating the Freedom Center. More recently, the Senate Standing Academic Personnel Policy Committee looked into obtaining the SBS report, but nothing has been released to the University community. Proper transparency is being ignored, and Gibbs is fearful of a major public controversy. What is needed is a faculty-driven, fully independent transparent review of the units, and Gibbs urges the Faculty Senate to take this matter seriously.

4. **QUESTION AND ANSWER FOR ASUA, GPSC, APAC, CSC, RPC, APPC, SACP REPORTS**

There were no questions.

5. **REPORT FROM THE FACULTY OFFICERS WITH QUESTION AND ANSWER - CHAIR OF THE FACULTY, JESSICA SUMMERS**

Summers reported that a University Club is coming to campus. Events have been planned, and if you would like to learn more about the University Club and your colleagues, the Spring Showcase will be held in the Arizona Room in the Student Union. Please RSVP to Lynn Nadel at [nadel@u.arizona.edu](mailto:nadel@u.arizona.edu).

6. **REPORT FROM THE PROVOST WITH QUESTION AND ANSWER – PROVOST LIESL FOLKS**

Folks was on travel and absent.

7. **REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT WITH QUESTION AND ANSWER - PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY, ROBERT ROBBINS**

Secretary of the University, Jon Dudas reported in Robbins' absence. A full ABOR meeting will take place on February 13, 2020. Regents are determining which legislative bills to support, collectively. The Governor has disclosed the budget and is more favorable to the Universities since 2008. Last year, the University of Arizona received more money, \$8M, in ongoing dollars, and this year, \$35M in ongoing (permanent) funds with 32% for UArizona, and \$9.4M one-time dollars will be allocated at 27%. There is a total of \$10M in one-time state matching, with the University of Arizona hopefully receiving 50% of those funds. ABOR would like to look at goals and metrics and differentiation between the three in-state Universities. The institutions' peer set will be looked at in comparing ones that are objectively determined at other research, land-grant mission institutions. Tuition setting will be forthcoming. California passed a bill allowing student athletes to earn dollars on name, image, and likeness. The NCAA is cautiously opposed. One bill is pending in Arizona to go into effect August 2021. The official stance with ABOR is to wait and see what the NCAA decides. The Senior Leadership Team has expanded into a larger group, and the President waited to name its participants until all the Senior Vice Presidents were in place for a semester at the University. The Cabinet team will be named in the very near future.

8. **ACTION ITEM: CONSENT AGENDA – PROPOSAL TO STANDARDIZE OFFERING UA UNIVERSITY CREDIT FOR UA STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS; UNDERGRADUATE MINOR IN CRIMINOLOGY – CHAIR OF THE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL, NEEL GHOSH**

Brewer asked if either of the proposals warranted discussion. Senator Bourget asked for the Proposal to Standardize Offering UA University Credit for UA Study Abroad Programs [**Motion 2019/20-10**] to be moved to the Non-consent agenda for discussion. [**Motion 2019/20-11**] Undergraduate Minor in Criminology passed and is detailed at the end of these minutes. Senator Bourget stated that there have been several requests to implement a Faculty Advisory Committee to oversee the numerous changes in the Proposal to Standardize Offering UA University Credit for UA Study Abroad Programs. Bourget said that several bodies have given feedback on the proposal, but the recommendation for a Faculty Advisory Committee is not found in the proposal. Bourget asked why there is resistance to a Faculty Advisory Committee to give oversight on the decisions being made. Vice Provost for Global Affairs, Brent White, responded that he thought a Faculty Advisory Committee was an excellent idea, but today is the first he's heard of the suggestion, and White agreed to form one immediately. As far as curriculum decisions, the proposal puts those decisions in terms of Study Abroad in the hands of the department and academic units. Prior to any course being offered for University credit at any approved Study Abroad location, that decision would have to be made by the academic unit, and those procedures are spelled out in the proposal. There are approximately 120 courses already offered for University credit

at our Study Abroad programs, including some in Italian, Spanish, Arabic, very heavy in the languages, but across SBS, Humanities and other departments. There were questions asked a few years ago if this was an acceptable practice with the Study Abroad Office, and we were assured by the Higher Learning Commission it is a best practice and important for students who want to study abroad that they know they can earn credit that will advance their degree program. The idea is to make Study Abroad more academically advancing for students. That is one of the barriers to study abroad, but all curricular decisions rest with the academic unit and they are never made in the Study Abroad office. On the suggestion of a Faculty Advisory Committee, White reiterated that he thought it was a good idea. Bourget asked White if Senate had his assurance that he would form a Faculty Advisory Committee for the Study Abroad Program. White replied in the affirmative. Senator M. Witte moved **[Motion 2019/20-12]** that the vote be amended to include a Faculty Advisory Committee created by shared governance mechanisms. Motion was seconded. Senator Acosta moved that the motion be amended to include that the representatives from the departments involved in the Study Abroad programs be the members on the Faculty Advisory Committee. **[Motion 2019/20-12]** passed and is detailed at the end of these minutes. A request for secret ballot was approved to move forward with the vote on the amended Proposal to Standardize Offering UA University Credit for UA Study Abroad Programs. **[Motion 2019/20-10]** passed and is detailed at the end of these minutes.

9. **ACTION ITEM: CONSENT AGENDA – PH.D IN TEACHING, LEARNING, AND SOCIOCULTURAL STUDIES – CHAIR OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL, RON HAMMER**

The proposal comes to Senate as a seconded motion from Graduate Council. **[Motion 2019/20-13]** passed and is detailed at the end of these minutes.

10. **INFORMATION ITEM: UPDATE ON THE ASUA ELECTIONS – ASUA EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, BENNETT ADAMSON AND ADMINISTRATIVE VICE PRESIDENT, KATE ROSENSTENGEL**

Rosenstengel reminded Senators of the upcoming Campus Pantry benefit dinner on February 28, 2020 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Student Union. Registration is open until February 14, 2020. Adamson announced the upcoming ASUA elections and encouraged faculty to tell students in their classes to consider getting involved in ASUA and to run for offices.

11. **INFORMATION ITEM: SPBAC BUDGET UPDATE – SPBAC CO-CHAIR, SABRINA HELM**

Helm stated that on December 5, 2019, a memorandum signed by the Provost, Chief Financial Officer, and Senior Vice President for Health Sciences was distributed to University leadership. The memorandum outlined budget reallocations and assessment changes for FY 2020. The issues in memorandum were never addressed in SPBAC meetings. The scope and process of the budget reallocations was not communicated or discussed with SPBAC members or SPBAC Co-chairs. SPBAC was not copied on the memorandum. SPBAC Co-chairs decided to dedicate the following SPBAC meeting to learning more about the budget reallocation decision and process. In SPBAC's January 22, 2020 meeting, Chief Financial Officer, Lisa Rulney, gave an overview of the budget reallocation, which amounts to a total of \$30.6M. In the first step, the RCM fiscal year 2020 base budgets have been reduced by 1.5% for colleges and 3.5% for support units. The second step will be to increase what is often described as "taxes to colleges," among them the administrative service charge revenue assessment which increased by 1.5%. The assessments on summer and winter session revenues which increased by .4%, the assessments on online and distance revenues which increased by 1%. Additional changes will go into effect July 2020, and the memo is currently available to you on UArizona Planning and Budget website. The need for the budget reallocation results from the fact that net tuition and fees have flattened in past years. State appropriation continues to decrease, and total education and general expenses continue to rise. In part, this budget reallocation also results from the strategic decision to invest in the quality of incoming students, which UArizona successfully increased this past semester, but at the price of an estimated fiscal year 2020 discount rate of 33.6%, decreasing revenue projections for the coming years. So far, the background of the budgetary decision from a SPBAC perspective causes several concerns that were addressed with the Provost and Chief Financial Officer. Helm emphasizes these concerns directly affect the new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), initiating the need for a revised MOU immediately to strengthen the faculty's position and involvement in matters of significance for shared governance such as budgets cuts and reallocation processes. According to the old and new MOU, the SPBAC is the University-level forum for shared governance on strategic planning and projected budget. We, therefore, request of senior leadership to consult with SPBAC when needs for significant budgetary revisions become apparent, not after a decision has been made, and in fact, implemented. We intend to discuss the process by which the recent budget reallocation was decided upon, to detect why there was no integration of SPBAC. Helm regards the fairly recent senior leadership changes on the SPBAC level as an opportunity to design more effective forms of faculty representation with regard to strategic budget decision making processes. This includes, but is not restricted to, the RCM committees and RCM Steering Committee. As a committee, SPBAC works to establish more productive meetings, as well as working groups on particular issues. SPBAC strives to be a valuable partner for senior leadership, while also acting in the best interest of the faculty. Senior leadership should support SPBAC in this transition and to make use of SPBAC in its

consultative function when significant decisions regarding University-wide strategic strategies on budgets are made. Helm is hopeful that an open, honest, and transparent collaboration with senior leadership will develop moving forward. The Provost has confirmed her commitment to working with SPBAC to improve processes and practices moving forward, and she has confirmed that there are large cash reserves in many corners of the University, accumulated in part from RCM revenue shares. Despite current operating challenges, there is money available on unit levels for investment.

12. **INFORMATION ITEM: FACULTY AFFAIRS UPDATE – VICE PROVOST FOR FACULTY AFFAIRS, ANDREA ROMERO**

Romero reported that the University signed a new three-year contract with UA Vitae. After a shared governance group looked at participating vendors, determination was made that UA Vitae is best system. A new reporting system for the Promotion and Tenure process has been implemented, which includes a new University-level committee. A Faculty Activity Reporting Advancements Task Force with representation from all colleges is being set up to revamp UA Vitae. UITS will offer temporary support for roll out by November 2020. The SPFI program has been changed to allow monthly submissions for recruitment. Faculty hiring now has a New Search Committee training, which incorporates implicit bias in the hiring process. The University has received its Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI) funding and offered Praxis Workshops in 2019, with new Task Forces starting in January 2020. New Faculty Orientation has been refreshed, and Department Head training is now being offered four times a year. Romero would like to wait to offer faculty diversity numbers at this time. Currently, twenty-seven Career-track promotions have been made, OSI funding has been delegated to advance the Hispanic Serving Institution mission, six administrators attended a Best Practices in Hiring Institute, and faculty salons with the President and Provost continue. Romero addressed the issue of faculty wellness and promoted the upcoming lecture by Dr. Celestino Fernandez on February 19, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. in the Kiva Room.

13. **ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL OF THE GUIDELINES FOR SHARED GOVERNANCE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – VICE CHAIR OF THE FACULTY, MICHAEL BREWER**

Brewer asked for a motion to approve the current version of the document. Senator M. Witte moved **[Motion 2019/20-13]** to postpone voting on the document. Motion was seconded. A hand count of votes showed twenty-two in favor of postponing and thirteen opposed. Brewer asked for suggestions on how Senate would like to proceed. Senator Summers asked for a show of hands of those interested in participating on a Task Force to review the document prior to the next Senate meeting. A show of hands yielded five participants. A Task Force will be formed to edit the document.

14. **INFORMATION ITEM: GUIDELINES FOR THE OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, AND GOVERNANCE OF CORE FACILITIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA – CHAIR OF THE RESEARCH POLICY COMMITTEE, PAUL GORDON**

Gordon introduced Dr. Thomas Moon, Post Doc on the Research Policy Committee. Due to time constraints, Gordon moved quickly. Gordon introduced Dr. Samita Pawar and Dr. R. Brooks Jeffrey from the Office of Research, Innovation and Impact (RII). Gordon explained that the committee was working in tandem with the RII on the policy proposal. Moon explained that the proposal proposes a three-tier system with a core scientific director, steering committee, and core facilities manager. The policy proposal will return to Senate for a vote later in the semester.

15. **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

16. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

**Amy Fountain, Secretary of the Faculty  
Jane Cherry, Recording Secretary**

**Appendix\***

\*Copies of material listed in the Appendix are attached to the original minutes and are on file in the Faculty Center.

1. Faculty Senate Minutes of December 2, 2019
2. Report from the RPC
3. Report from APPC
4. Report from the Faculty Officers
5. Report from the President
6. Praxis Report Presentation PowerPoint
7. Proposal to Standardize Offering UA University Credit for UA Study Abroad Programs
8. Undergraduate Minor in Criminology
9. PhD in Teaching, Learning, and Sociocultural Studies
10. Faculty Affairs PowerPoint
11. Guidelines for Shared Governance Memorandum of Understanding revision
12. Guidelines for the Operation, Maintenance, and Governance of Core Facilities at the University of Arizona

#### **Motions of the February 3, 2020 Faculty Senate Meeting**

**[Motion 2019/20-10]** Seconded motion from Undergraduate Council Proposal to Standardize Offering UA University Credit for UA Study Abroad Programs. Motion carried as amended.

**[Motion 2019/20-11]** Seconded motion from Undergraduate Council Undergraduate Minor in Criminology. Motion carried.

**[Motion 2019/20-12]** Motion to amend **[Motion 2019/20-10]** to include a Faculty Advisory Committee created by shared governance mechanisms. Motion was seconded. Motion was amended to include that representatives from the departments involved in the Study Abroad programs be members of the Faculty Advisory Committee. Motion passed.

**[Motion 2019/20-13]** Motion to postpone voting on the Guidelines for Shared Governance Memorandum of Understanding. Motion was seconded. Motion passed.

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