REPORT TO FACULTY SENATE

FROM: The Faculty Officers [http://facultygovernance.arizona.edu/](http://facultygovernance.arizona.edu/)

DATE: November 4, 2019

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Faculty Leadership has taken a number of steps to improve transparency and effectiveness of the process by which proposals come to Senate. We will be regularly posting early, informal, summaries of Senate Executive Committee meetings, as we did in preparation for today’s meeting of Senate.
- Senate unanimously approved at its October meeting the addition of a Senate Standing Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI). This allows this initiative to go to the General Faculty Elections in the Spring as a Bylaws change ([https://facultygovernance.arizona.edu/faculty-bylaws-pending](https://facultygovernance.arizona.edu/faculty-bylaws-pending))
- Changes to UHAP Chapter 7, which were approved by Senate last spring are now live on the website and in effect.

GOALS:

- Improve the transparency and effectiveness of the process by which various proposals come to the Senate. This includes providing more information about rationales, history, and motivations for these proposals.
- Ensure that initiatives from the Strategic Planning process are proceeding in a manner consistent with the principles of shared governance at the University of Arizona.
- Mobilize faculty who do not participate in shared governance for input on issues of shared governance.
- Broker critical relationships between the faculty and administration in an effort to open channels for transparency in how we work collaboratively at the University.
- Develop a Qualtrics tool (drawing on our current voting system and UAccess Analytics) that will allow individuals not picked up by the Census to petition the Committee on Faculty Membership for inclusion. The tool will automatically draw pertinent data on petitioners from UAccess and elicit any other necessary information through a survey.
- Vote codes are being created for the new College of Applied Sciences and the College of Veterinary Medicine and faculty are having their vote codes changed to the correct college. A senate representative for the College of Applied Sciences will be elected in the spring. Once there is a critical mass of faculty from Vet Med (there is currently only one member of the General Faculty – the Dean), a representative will be elected for that college.

BACKGROUNDER

The following is composed by Secretary Fountain. Any errors or omissions are her responsibility.
1. A Request

The Proposal for a new Senate Standing Committee (DEI) has been unanimously approved by Senate, and will therefore appear on the ballot for the General Election in the Spring. Approval requires a change to the Bylaws, as marked-up here:

The Ballot must provide a rationale for the proposal, as well as ‘pro’ and ‘con’ statements. Our typical process for this is that the Secretary of the Faculty creates those statements.

In order to ensure that the ballot language is clear, accurate and fair, Amy is asking for the assistance of Senators in the drafting of the pro and con language. If you are willing to help in the drafting or review of proposed ballot pro and con language, please contact Amy (avf@email.arizona.edu).

2. Revisiting the Memorandum of Understanding on Shared Governance (Second Review)

**Why is this being proposed?** The current MOU was passed by Faculty Senate in 2005. In the intervening years, a number of organizational structures and policies have changed, and the landscape in which we are all working has also changed. Vice-Chair Brewer identified the opportunity for an update in the run up to this Academic Year, in light of the fact that there would be a new Provost. Whenever there is a change in President, Provost, and/or Chair or Vice-Chair of the Faculty, the MOU should be (re-) signed.

**Why now?** Because changes in leadership require a new signing of the MOU.

**What's been the process so far?** Officers shared our intent to begin work on this in our Officers’ Report at last Senate. Since then we have benefitted from contributions from and discussion by the Chair of the Committee of Eleven, the Faculty co-Chair of the Strategic Planning and Budget Committee, and the Chair of the Academic Personnel Policy Committee, as well as from the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs. We brought a previous draft to Senate to ask for contributions and feedback from Senate, and to encourage Senators to discuss this document with their constituents and bring additional insights. Senate asked for a red-line version for discussion at today’s meeting.