

Faculty Senate

Summary of the Monday, April 6, 2015 Meeting and Looking Forward

Minutes of previous meetings, plus reports from the chair, ASUA, GPSC, APAC and the Provost and President are available at: <http://facultygovernance.arizona.edu>

REPORT FROM THE FACULTY OFFICERS

- PAC 12 Academic Leadership Coalition is an emerging organization consisting of the PAC 12 schools' faculty officers and support staff. Conferences are held annually, this year it was held at Washington State University and three from UA attended. The consensus was that the UA's involvement in the organization is beneficial to improve the effectiveness and responsiveness of each member school's shared governance organization, and where commonalities occur, to facilitate academic and research cooperation that is jointly beneficial to participating PAC 12 institutions.
- We have a Non-tenure track ad hoc committee that is charged with working on issues around non-tenure track employment practices and consistency across campus.
- The Shared Governance Caucus, originally consists of the five UA groups represented at the UA; faculty, appointed professionals, staff, graduate students and undergraduate students. Its purpose is to work in concert around issues of concern at the University and to bring more cohesiveness and sharing in shared governance across the entire institution.

REPORT BY PROVOST COMRIE

- UA's tuition recommendation proposal has been delivered to ABOR, with a public tuition hearing scheduled for April 20, 2015 and the final vote on the tuition setting scheduled for May 4, 2015.
- Academic Program Reviews and Promotion and Tenure reviews are underway in the Provost's Office.

REPORT FROM PRESIDENT HART

- Tuition setting process included students in developing the guiding principles. UA is committed to a guaranteed tuition, including mandatory fees, for resident and non-resident students, for four years.
- The UA also submitted a pilot program to the Regents that includes guaranteed tuitions for two to three-year master's degree programs.

OPEN SESSION/GPSC Senator Brock

Starting in 2013-14, graduate students were charged a different interest rate than undergraduate students. Graduate students borrow approx. 40% of their tuition at 6 – 7.2% compared to undergraduates at 3.8-4.6%. Graduate students are three-times less likely to default and result in 77% more profit for the lending provider.

A STRUCTURED DISCUSSION AMONG SENATORS ON THE WHITE PAPER “STATUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA RESEARCH PROGRAM”

The Senate discussion included a report on the Committee of Eleven’s White Paper and information from members of the Office for Research and Discovery. See

http://facultygovernance.arizona.edu/sites/facgov/files/white_paper_for_website.pdf

Senior Vice President for Research, Dr. Kim Espy, will present at a Senate meeting in the fall to continue the conversation on the research mission.

LOOKING FORWARD

The final Senate meeting is scheduled for May 11. Here is a look at what we will discuss at the May meeting:

- Policy Proposal for Engaged Learning when implemented this will create a notation on the student transcript for *Engaged Learning Experience*. There are two pathways for the notation to appear on the transcript; a “for credit” upper division 300-400 engagement pathway, which occurs in the classroom or “non-credit” engagement experience that has been approved by the University of Arizona’s Office of Student Engagement.
- Proposal to simplify the General Education – Tier One Study Area Requirements
- Structured Discussion on Diversity at the UA.

On May 13, a group of Senators will meet from 8 – 11 am to review the restructuring of the Senate meetings and discuss ways to improve the effectiveness of the Senate and encourage more participation from across the University. The meeting will be held in the Old Main Silver & Sage Room.

Reminder that **UA Commencement is on Saturday May 16** and faculty are encouraged to attend.