Minutes for AY 2020-21 Senate Meeting #3
Senate Meeting Date: Monday, October 26, 2020  3:00-5:00pm
Senate meeting #3 Zoom Meeting Link https://asu.zoom.us/j/98538941665


Officers: (Downtown) Levinson, Rounds, Sebren, Uriri-Glover; (Polytechnic) Dolin, Kang, Kyselka; (Tempe) Bodman, Haglund, Rose, Stone; (West) Burleson, Pagán, Sweat

Ex Officio: (Tempe) Mark Searle, Deborah Clarke, Elizabeth Wentz, Jared Vibbert

Guests: Ray Anderson, Jean Boyd, Jeffrey Wilson

Absences: (Downtown) None (Polytechnic) None (Tempe) Barnaby, Doty, Fishel, LiKamWa, Maring, Mujica; (West) None

1. Call to Order
   a. Welcome from Senate President Simin Levinson
   b. Quorum with 104 senators present

2. Action on Minutes of September 21, 2020 Senate Meeting #2 Minutes

   Minutes were approved

3. UAC Chair’s Report – Simin Levinson, Senate President and Chair of the University Academic Council

   The Arizona Faculties Council met on October 1, 2020 to prepare for the Arizona Board of Regents meeting. The ABOR food and housing security workgroup is appointing members which will include a mix of faculty and students from all 3 universities. Their primary goal is to assess current practices which will include a data
analysis and literature review of each institution’s food and housing security issues. Their want to understand how the pandemic has impacted this issue as well as student retention. The 3 universities will work together on this initiative. This item was raised by the student regents as part of the concerns about the cost of attendance. The University Academic Council will be selecting the next University Senate president-elect; results will be announced at the November meeting. This month’s Senator Spotlight features Christopher Sharp, a clinical assistant professor in the School of Social Work in the Watts college.

4. **Report from the University President**

   *No report*

5. **Report from the Provost of the University**

   The ASU building in downtown Los Angeles will open this next year and feature a variety of new degree programs as well as event space. In addition, the ASU Washington DC facility is popular as an additional 7,000 square feet needed to be rented near the current space. It features reception areas as well as classroom space. The University is moving forward with recruiting and hiring to bring in new people despite the pandemic or recession. At least 10 positions will be part of President Crow’s commitment to increase representation of African American faculty in the university. Attention is being paid to the federal government and the Departments of Labor and Homeland Security and the rules that have adverse impact on H1B visa holders which means universities will have difficulties hiring internationally. As far as the enrollment for spring, students have been registering for a week now, and the first day enrollment was up. About 30,000 students have already registered for ASU online Term A this spring. The administration will be working on a balance for the spring semester, enabling learning and helping everyone through this pandemic while maintaining the vibrancy of the campus environment. Deans have been asked to provide examples of faculty who are doing innovative and creative things to help faculty learn from each other. The university will not adopt the practice of other universities to force everyone to return for the spring, including the faculty. The plans for spring break will be communicated before the end of the fall term. The University is succeeding in managing coronavirus spread. Students should be applauded for their commitment to adhering to the community of care. There is no record of any transmission on campus except for students in congregate housing. It is important that the University is not one of the contributors to the recent rise in positive cases in the state. The Provost is aware of the concerns about implementing ASU Vita. Some units are experiencing issues but there are a handful of colleges ready to use it this year. The units that are not ready will be contacted by their deans about an extension until June. Deans will also be reminded that a high level of empathy needs to be demonstrated in annual reviews this year as faculty have been dealing with circumstances such as health-related caregiving, schooling, or other unanticipated consequences due to the pandemic.

   In response to questions, Provost Searle indicated that outdoor classroom options are available in Tempe for the spring which can be scheduled through the regular classroom scheduling system. Forty activities currently are being offered through Innovation Quarter. The future for ASU Sync is uncertain. It is important to consider the whole culture and purpose of the University, perhaps some remote learning is possible but on a very restricted basis. Students would have to meet criteria to attend classes remotely. Deans have been advised to be cautious about hiring due to the uncertainty of the pandemic and enrollments. Tuition revenue and student enrollment are the most critical aspects of budget planning. As far as the spring semester, the length of the semester is not expected to change. It is possible that the spring break will not be held to reduce student travel. The situation is under careful consideration to ensure that it serves everybody. The issue of remote teaching and learning and possible effects on course evaluations has not been evaluated. However, no undue harshness was observed in spring and summer course evaluations. Deans have been asked to be more generous and thoughtful in annual evaluations.
6. Other Reports

a. Ray Anderson, Vice President for University Athletics

The last several months for university athletics including student athletes and everyone who supports them have been intense. Students have had to deal with adapting to abrupt changes to their goals of playing college athletics and maintaining an academic scholarship. A group of Pac-12 prominent scientists, infectious disease experts, and epidemiologists from the universities are on hand to advise coaches, student athletes and support personnel. The Pac-12 did not allow other conferences to drive ASU decisions, but the university continues to follow recommendations from the medical advisory group to ensure the health and safety of student athletes. Athletes are currently preparing for limited seasons for fall sports. Unfortunately, fans will not be in attendance. Very strict protocols are in place for training and practice, including limited contact between student athletes as well as cleaning and sanitizing equipment and facilities. The protocols are stricter for high-contact sports.

In response to questions, athletics representatives indicated that local health authorities have informed the decision-making about allowing fans at games which is driven by community spread within a jurisdiction. At this time, the authorities cannot justify allowing fans at games. There is a difference between professional sports and amateur sports. Athletes are undergoing both antigen testing as well as the PCR test. The antigen test does not take as long but it is not as reliable as PCR. Positive antigen tests are backed up by the PCR. Athletics relies heavily on testing. Daily antigen tests are conducted, and PCR testing occurs every few days. Aerosolization in contact sports is a concern. Distancing and mask protocols are in place. Only essential personnel are around athletes and coaches.

b. Jeffrey Wilson, Faculty Athletics Representative

Student athlete mental health and academic performance are primary concerns. The NCAA, state legislators, and university student health have reached out to student athletes on topics such as racial injustice, voting and COVID-19. Student athletes have continued to do well and attain an all-time high cumulative GPA of 3.29. The graduation rate of African American student athletes ranks third in the Pac-12 at 85 percent. Retention rates are at 90 percent. The Pac-12 provides grant funding for student athlete health and well-being to encourage the Pac-12 universities to work together on issues such as head trauma, injury prevention and mental health. Dr. Wilson reiterated that the health of the student athlete is a priority, decisions to play or hold the season are not made on a financial basis.

c. Ann Sebren, Downtown Phoenix campus President, ABOR report

Ann Sebren reported on the Arizona Board of Regents held on October 2, 2020. Regent Penley outlined the rationale for a substantial request to the Arizona legislature for investment in the state universities. ABOR also discussed the search for the new president of Northern Arizona University. Several faculty are serving on the search committee. The ASU capital improvement plan was approved including the Mesa City Center project. Overall, COVID-19 testing and positivity rates are decreasing. Each university is working with campus and community police on conduct issues particularly related to COVID-19 policies. All three universities have significant COVID-19 related research and collaborative research in progress. Each university is using a health check and or tracing app. The universities report that virus spread is occurring from mostly off-campus activities. Little to no evidence exists of transmission between faculty and students in the classroom or on campus public spaces. President Crow reported strong enrollment, there are more than 128,000 degree seeking students. More than 100,000 students are engaged in other types of learning environments associated with ASU. International student retention includes flexible course schedules and allowing students to begin studies even if they must remain in their home country at this time. President Crow emphasized that overall retention remains close to 2019 levels and substantive research submissions continue. The student regents reported on
the food and housing insecurity work group. An opportunity exists for ABOR to become a national leader in this area.

7. Old Business

No items

8. New Business

a. **First Reads** (First Reads are for informational purposes only on upcoming motions for the next meeting. Senators may seek clarification on first reads, but full discussion is reserved for second reads.)

   i. **CAPC Motions** – No CAPC motions for first read

b. **Second Reads** (Unless indicated, these items have had first reads and are action items to be discussed and voted on)

   i. **New Course proposal consent agenda distributed via email on 09/10/2020** (consent agenda – courses voted on in bulk, unless a request is made to remove a course from the consent agenda for discussion) **Motion 2021-08**

   Final Votes Recorded
   
   Yes = 103  No = 0  Abstain = 2

   Senate Motion 2021-08 was approved

   ii. **CAPC Consent Agenda**

   **Motion 2021-06** | Request from the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering – School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment - for the disestablishment of graduate degree

   **Motion 2021-07** | Request from the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College – Division of Educational Leadership and Innovation – for the establishment of a graduate degree

   Final Votes Recorded
   
   Yes = 102  No = 0  Abstain = 1

   Senate Motions 2021-06 and 2021-07 were approved

   iii. **Other Motions and Resolutions**

   No other motions
9. Senate Committee Reports

a. Student-Faculty Policy Committee, Scott Day

The committee is working on several RFCs, including removing voting barriers for students and food insecurity. They are conducting a faculty and staff survey regarding perceptions of food insecurity on campus. A critical need exists for faculty advisors.

b. Digitally Enhanced Teaching and Learning Ad-Hoc Committee, Lisa Kammerlocher

More faculty peer to peer training opportunities are being developed. The committee is learning what the issues are and they hope to involve faculty in decision-making regarding technologies. They would like to hear from faculty and have mechanisms for faculty input and feedback. Faculty and students can access a variety of software such as PlayPosit, Voicethread, Yellow Dig, and Adobe Creative Cloud.

10. Open Forum (Senators may ask questions, make statements, or present topics of interest to the senate.)

Perhaps the teaching conversations series announced by the Provost could be scheduled at different times, scheduling the sessions at the same time excludes faculty who are teaching at that time. There is concern pertaining to the University of Arizona/Ashford University purchase and the plan to hire adjuncts who will be paid very little. It was suggested that senates join to address these issues. November is Native American month, several events are planned.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.
Appendix A

INFORMATION ITEMS
UNIVERSITY SENATE FALL 2020

Information items that will be reviewed and voted on by CAPC at the October 29, 2020 meeting. View the agenda here for more details.

**College of Health Solutions**
Name Change of an undergraduate concentration  
From: BS in Health Sciences (Healthy Lifestyles Coaching)  
To: BS in Health Sciences (Healthy Lifestyles and Fitness Science)

**The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**
*School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies*  
Establishment of an undergraduate concentration  
BA in Philosophy (Science, Nature and Mind)

**Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions**
*School of Social Work*  
Name Change of a graduate concentration  
From: MSW in Social Work (Planning, Administration and Community Practice)  
To: MSW in Social Work (Policy, Administration and Community Practice)