We are already halfway through the Fall semester and have remained positively occupied with a full range of activities this semester. Our committees have been busy addressing concerns expressed by our faculty. The Personnel Committee is busy working on a draft salary letter in response to President Crow's letter, policies on processing and approving unit bylaws and funding from online courses that is provided to academic units. The Student Faculty Policy Committee is very busy and continues to refine a guidelines document on Faculty-Student interactions. The Online Education Task Force will meet again to begin to shape a report based on the findings from the faculty survey. A small cohort of the UAC attended the ABOR conference at NAU this September and reported several positive points including increasing interest by the Regents' to improve matriculation of our local high school students into Arizona State Universities.

What is the Research and Creative Activities Committee?
The Research and Creative Activities committee serves as a review body for policies in the ASU research manual and research related topics found in the ACD manual or other manuals at ASU, as well as topics brought to it by the University Provost, the Senior Vice President for the Office of Knowledge and Enterprise Development and/or the University Senate. The Senate is pleased to strengthen its governance ties with OKED. The RCA Chairperson for AY18-19 is: Thurmon Lockhart Thurmon.Lockhart@asu.edu

Paid Parental Leave
The previous ASU policy for parental leave when both parents work for ASU was that the employee parents shared a cumulative six weeks of paid leave between them. The Senate Personnel committee requested a change so that both ASU employee parents receive the full six weeks of paid leave. ASU administration agreed with this request and the policy is in the process of being changed. The relevant policy for the faculty is ACD 710 and for staff it is SPP 708. Faculty members may also find detail information on the Provost's website here.

Summer School is Now Four Days Per Week
In the 2017-18 school year the Senate Student-Faculty Policy Committee requested that summer school be converted from a five day/week schedule to a four day/week schedule. The ASU Provost office agreed and starting the summer of 2019 all summer classes will run Monday-Thursday.

In case you didn't know
All ASU employees have access to services provided from the Employee Assistance office: classes, screenings, workshops, counseling and many other benefits can be found at this link.

Click here: https://bit.ly/2C5WDm0