Letter from the
University Senate President

I am happy to report that we experienced another successful year of shared governance at Arizona State University. We considered over 50 requests for consultation from faculty, staff, students, and administrators. Each of these items were either resolved with input from the Senate and our committees, the administration, or have been forwarded to the 2016-2017 Senate for further review. While much was accomplished, I would like to talk about two motions that were passed by the Senate and approved by administration for implementation.

The first is Senate Motion # 2016-29 Converting the Research and Creative Activities Committee (RCA) to a Senate Standing Committee. This change will add consistency and additional Senate staff support for the RCA committee, as well as provide a more stable platform for providing faculty input to the Office of Knowledge and Enterprise Development. Through the development of this motion the Senate was pleased to have developed an even stronger working relationship with the ASU research community.

The second is Senate Motion # 2016-24 Amending University Senate Bylaw IIB.8.b.1 Personnel Committee Membership. This motion will provide Academic Professionals (APs) a dedicated voice at the table of the Senate Personnel Committee. The personnel committee’s new membership structure will now be composed of five members from the Tempe campus and two members from Downtown, Polytechnic, and West campuses, and one Academic Professional from among those serving on the University Senate. This change ensures that APs are well represented in personnel decisions that are studied within this important Senate committee.

Additional committee work impacting shared governance included the Curriculum and Academic Programs committee reviewing and presenting a record number of courses and programs for consideration by the Senate and Provost Office. In addition to the above motion, the Personnel Committee reviewed concerns regarding promotion and tenure and non-tenure track promotions, multi-year contracts and salaries. As always, a complete list of the Senate committee annual reports can be viewed on the University Senate webpage and throughout this annual report.

The Senate and the University Academic Council did an outstanding job and we all should be proud of the continued diligence of the dedicated members of the University Senate. I want to express my sincere gratitude to all of the faculty members, APs and administrators who made this another productive and collegial year for shared governance at Arizona State University.

Sincerely,

Brenda Hosley
University Senate President
The University Senate is the representative body of the ASU Academic Assembly, which consists of all tenured and tenure-eligible faculty, academic professionals, and full-time contract faculty (i.e. lecturers and senior lecturers, instructors, clinical faculty, research faculty, and professors of practice). The Senate is empowered by the Constitution (ACD112-01) to “act for the Academic Assembly in matters relating to: academic affairs, personnel policies, faculty-student policies, finances and university services and facilities.” The University Senate is the conduit in which faculty members and academic professionals share in the governance of Arizona State University.

2015-2016 Content

4 Organizational Design and Representation
Overview
Committees
University Academic Council
Constituency: The Academic Assembly

10 Governance Actions
Review Statistics
Highlights

14 Service Highlights
Communication Initiatives
Shared Governance – The Faculty Perspective
Breakfast with the Arizona Board of Regents
Organizational Design

The office of the University Senate is responsible for providing the administrative support that allows the University Senate organization to function efficiently and effectively year-over-year. It is through this administrative support and the dedicated service from each of its elected members that the University Senate is able to effectively participate in the advancement of the University.

**Authority**

The Arizona Revised Statute §15-1601 states, “the faculty members of each university, through their elected faculty representatives, shall participate in the governance of their respective universities and shall actively participate in the development of university policy.” Faculty governance responsibilities are also mandated by the Arizona Board of Regents in policy 6-201. At Arizona State University, the authority of the Senate can be found in ACD 112-01.

**Function**

The University Senate constitution, approved by the ASU president and the Arizona Board of Regents, states that the University Senate has the power to act for the Academic Assembly in areas such as:

- academic affairs
- personnel affairs
- faculty-student policies
- financial affairs
- university services and facilities
Organizational Design and Representation

Shared governance establishes the ethos and the structures that enable divergent ideas to be placed on the table, debated for their merits, shaped for the larger good of the university community, and put to use in a timely manner. Within the University Senate there are two primary processes utilized, formal and consultative.

**Formal**

The formal pathway for topics under consideration within the Senate typically results in the development of a Senate motion. This process is very important because it leverages the collective wisdom and insight of the Academic Assembly’s representative body. Examples of formal process topics:

- academic affairs and other policy manual changes
- recommendation to change university procedures or practices that would impact two or more colleges/schools
- resolutions that represent the faculty and academic professional perspective

**Consultative**

The consultative process can result in a formal Senate motion, but most often these requests are handled at the committee level. The University Senate office tracks all requests for consultation from the Senate. Examples of consultative topics are:

- policy interpretations
- faculty or academic professional appointments to search committees
- explore/research current event topics affecting higher education
- faculty or academic professional appointees on university level committees

---

**University Senate Formal Process**

**Faculty**

**Academic Professionals**

**Student association, staff and other campus bodies**

- Proposal or Motion
- Office of the Senate President
  - University Academic Council
  - Executive Committee
  - Senate Committees

**Back to Originator**

**Motion Fails**

- Senate Floor
  - Motion Passes
  - ASU/ABOR legal review, if required

**Motion not approved**

- President or Designee

---

Motion is approved and implemented

---

2015-2016 | University Senate Annual Report | 5
The University Senate committees handle requests for consultations from individuals and organizations across Arizona State University. As a service organization, the Senate relies heavily on each faculty member and academic professional that is elected to serve as a chairperson for each of these committees. As illustrated in the diagram below, these Senate leaders advise the University Senate and the university president in areas that are of strategic importance to both the efficient and effective functioning of the university.
The University Academic Council (UAC) serves as the executive board of the University Senate. The membership of the UAC consists of the president, president-elect and the immediate past president of the Downtown Phoenix, Polytechnic, Tempe and West campuses. Each member of the UAC is elected by their peers in the annual Academic Assembly elections. The University Academic Council has general supervision of the University Senate affairs in between each business meeting.

**University Academic Council**

Brenda Hosley  
Clinical Associate Professor  
University Senate President

Chris Kyselka  
Secretary of the Academic Assembly and University Senate

**Downtown Phoenix**

Kristin Hoffner  
Senior Lecturer  
President

Brenda Hosley  
Clinical Associate Professor  
Past President

**Polytechnic**

Keith Hollinger  
Lecturer  
President

Melanie Pitts  
Senior Lecturer  
President-elect

Kathleen Puckett  
Associate Professor  
Past President

**Tempe**

Arnold Maltz  
Associate Professor  
President

Elsie Moore  
Professor  
President-elect

Helene Ossipov  
Associate Professor  
Past President

Cynthia Thompkins  
Professor  
Past President

**West**

Martin Matustik  
Professor  
President

Alejandra Elenes  
Associate Professor  
President-elect

Shari Collins  
Associate Professor  
Past President
**CONSTITUENCY:** The Academic Assembly

**Definition:**
The University Senate represents over 3,000 faculty members and academic professionals employed at Arizona State University. Individuals holding the following job classifications are what makes up the ASU Academic Assembly:
- all faculty members in a tenure-eligible or tenured position
- all academic professionals with full-time, multi-year, probationary, or continuing appointment positions
- the president and the provost of the university
- all full-time faculty members with fixed appointments (i.e., instructors, lecturers, senior lecturers, principal lecturers, clinical faculty members, research faculty members and professors of practice)
- members of the Emeritus College

**Senate Representation**
Senators are apportioned at the level of the degree granting unit. The number of senators provided to each unit is based upon the total number of Academic Assembly members within that unit.
- Less than 40 Academic Assembly members = 1 senator
- 40-99 Academic Assembly members = 2 senators
- 100 or more Academic Assembly members = 3 senators

**Senate Make-up**

**Job Classification**
AY 2015-16

- **1,807** Tenured/Tenure-Track
- **1,315** Non-Tenure Eligible
- **88** Academic Professionals

**Gender**
ALL Campuses AY 2015-16

- **58%** Male
- **42%** Female

*Data from ASU office of Institutional Analysis, May 6, 2016.
**Non-degree granting units can apply for Senate representation through the University Academic Council.
Governance Actions

Review Statistics

The University Senate serves as the final faculty review body for curricular changes and new course proposals made by colleges, schools and academic units. In addition to its curricular review responsibility, the Senate actively participates in the review and development of ASU policy as well as the development of resolutions that represent the ASU faculty and academic professional interest.

Each of the curricular items reviewed by the Senate has been previously vetted by a unit level curriculum committee, college/school curriculum committee and the office of the University Provost staff. At an institution as active and innovative as Arizona State University, it is extremely important that the Senate, and all faculty members and academic professionals maintain diligence in regards to the review of these important curricular items.

Additionally, this section highlights numerous examples of the policy work performed by the University Senate and each of our standing and university level committees.
Breakdown of Items Reviewed by the Senate AY 15-16

AY 15-16 Formal Motions by Classification

- 3 Degrees renamed
- 7 Disestablishments of units/degrees/certificates
- 8 New graduate degrees established
- 9 New undergraduate degrees established
- 10 New undergraduate certificates established
- 14 New graduate certificates established

Curriculum and Academic Programs Committee Reviews

- Concentrations Established: 29
- Disestablished (minors and concentrations combined): 10
- Name Changes: 8

348 Total New Courses Reviewed by Senate
New Program Proposals Reviewed by the Senate

Undergraduate New Degrees

BS  International Trade
BS  Applied Quantitative Science
BS  Innovation in Society
BA  Innovation in Society
BA  Environmental Science
BS  Human Systems Engineering
BS  Health Care Compliance and Regulations
BS  Health Care Coordination
BS  Applied Physics

TOTAL = 9

Graduate New Degrees

Master Integrated Healthcare
MA  Creative Enterprise and Cultural Leadership
MS  Transitional Biomedical Sciences
MAS  GeoDesign and Planning
MA  English Education
EMPA  Public Administration
PhD  Engineering Education Systems and Design
PhD  Systems Engineering

TOTAL = 8
**14 Formal and Consultative Highlights and Recommendations**

Recommended policy changes that would better ensure that military personnel and first responders who miss class for mandatory in the line-of-duty activities would be allowed to make-up missed class assignments.

- **Provided faculty representation during the interview process for the ASU Deputy Provost.**
- **Passed a resolution reaffirming the faculty opposition to legislation regarding guns on campus.**
- **Provided faculty consultation in the development of new metrics for measuring teaching and learning at ASU.**
- **Passed a resolution recommending that ASU pursue health plan benefits that provide transgender services for faculty and staff.**
- **To improve faculty to student feedback, recommended that the academic status reporting system be open all year, rather than just selected times of the year.**
- **Reviewed the university level promotion and tenure committee and provided recommendations.**
- **Provided faculty consultation in the university wide transfer matters initiative.**
- **Studied the use of external review letters in the tenure process and recommended change.**
- **Recommended the development of an electronic suggestion box so that academic units could better understand which elective courses students are interested in enrolling.**

---

**Annual Committee Reports:** To review the 2015-2016 academic year work performed by the University Senate committees, please go to our annual reports webpage.

[usenate.asu.edu](usenate.asu.edu)
Communication Initiatives

When representing a group of individuals as large as the ASU Academic Assembly, it is important to develop clear and consistent communication. The Senate and the Senate office staff develop and sponsor several communication initiatives throughout the academic year.

Senator Spotlight

The Senator Spotlight program is designed to recognize senators who have demonstrated a commitment to the shared governance process and highlight the valuable service they are giving to the university.

Academic Assembly Meeting and Reception

This biannual meeting/reception kicks off both the fall and spring semesters. The Academic Assembly reception is a great opportunity to hear from ASU President Crow, the University Senate president and network with fellow ASU faculty members.

Dashboard

The Dashboard is sent out to the Academic Assembly eight times per academic year and contains information designed to keep faculty members and academic professionals informed about University Senate business.

Shared Governance

The Faculty Perspective

…the Senate is mostly a unified Senate in the sense that we do not have the issues between campuses here (that is, we all come together as equals and do not operate from a hierarchy where one campus is supreme). Second, my colleagues on the Senate are motivated to take their representation quite seriously, and I’ve seen significant advocacy for our colleagues regarding policies and issues. Finally, I have found that our time with the Administration is helpful in clearing up issues that otherwise would fuel negativity and misunderstanding.

— Shari Collins, The School of Humanities, Arts, & Cultural Studies

I am still learning but it’s clear that ASU is a very complex organization with many important stakeholders whose interests and incentives are not always perfectly aligned. This results in a wide variety of interesting issues related to teaching, research, and our community that the Senate looks at. I think the process really works by giving a voice to faculty and I am happy to be part of it.

— Mathias Arrfelt, WP Carey School of Business

During my time on the Senate, I was able to better understand the vision of the university president, the existing and future financial models, and the challenges that may hinder the growth of the university in its pursuit to become a globally recognized leader in higher education.

— Kiril Hristovski, The Polytechnic School

I recommend service on the Senate to my colleagues. They will gain insight into ASU’s governance and may be able to influence the path ASU follows.

— Tim Karcher, LeRoy Eyring Center for Solid State Science
Breakfast with the Arizona Board of Regents

Each year the University Senate hosts a breakfast with the members of the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR). The purpose of this breakfast is to allow the ASU governance leaders an opportunity to interact with the ABOR members and provide them with direct feedback on current and future policy initiatives.

The 2015-16 ABOR Breakfast was an outstanding success. The Senate presented a video that set the stage for a discussion designed to address the breakfast question: How do we create a culture of learning and discovery in the academic experience that promotes high academic standards, fosters student success in the classroom and help students to live productive and engaged lives?

Each faculty member, academic professional and student that attended the event was able to share important stories with each of the ABOR members in attendance.

The most important thing I've learned is simply how the university works. Outside of my department, I had no idea how a university the size of ASU functioned. While being a senator, I've learned so much about ASU. For those new professors, it's an amazing way to gain insight into your work place.

– Danielle Wallace, The School of Criminology and Criminal Justice.

This year I participated on the Graduate Dean Search Committee, and for the past two years I have served on the Committee on Committees and worked hard to develop a slate of nominees for the Downtown Campus. I enjoyed talking to my downtown colleagues about considering to serve on the Senate. I found that it is important to plant the seed so that if someone cannot run in the present year because of existing commitments, they might commit to considering a nomination in the following year or two.

– Judy Krysik, School of Social Work

Serving on the Senate gives an excellent opportunity to learn about university policies and its operations. In addition, the Senate is a perfect place to discuss important issues which impact ASU students, faculty, and the rest of the university community.

– Andrzej Czygrinow, School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences
Get Involved
Interested in service with the University Senate?
Contact University Senate Secretary Chris Kyselka

Questions
For questions regarding this document, please call the University Senate Office at 480-965-2222