University Senate Meeting # 8  
Spring 2014  

UAC Chair’s Report  

Thomas Schildgen  
President of the University Senate
1. Summary of 2013-2014 University Senate Accomplishments

1. Completed a review of the Senate constitution and bylaws and updated as needed (Task Force – Chaired by Chouki El Hamel)

2. Constituted a University Senate Task force to work on the issue of Institutional Ethics and Integrity at ASU. End result being a fully developed ethical framework in which to implement with the ASU community. (Co-chaired by Jason Robert and Cristi Coursen)

3. Constituted an Ad-hoc committee to develop a single source web site that has ASU policies and resources related to domestic violence and intimate partner abuse. End results are a full spectrum website that is found by using basic search words from the ASU system.
4. Constituted an ad-hoc committee that was tasked with the review and redesign of the new course proposal guidelines. Outcome was a revamped system that is more responsive to the speed of change at ASU, but better protects the integrity of the ASU courses by ensuring that quality and rigor are not sacrificed at the expense of speed.

5. Reviewed over 65 curricular proposals and nearly 400 new course proposals.
6. Developed and implemented new communication and education initiatives within the Senate:

   a. Enhanced monthly dashboard to all faculty and AP’s
   b. Developed an informational brochure to educate and inform faculty, AP’s and their units about the Senate and its processes.
   c. Improvements in the Senate Office and Conference Room - large format images and door wraps depicting the four campuses and one Senate, and University Club furniture.
   d. Enhanced exposure of faculty excellence through a website add-on that highlights faculty, implementing a Senator Spotlight program, and making regular highlights of faculty accomplishments at Senate meetings.
   e. Initiated the Senate service recognition program to both highlight and better define service commitments to deans, chairs and directors.
7. Implemented improved mechanism for responsiveness to college, school and departmental needs by developing policy and procedures to handle curricular reviews over the winter holiday break and summer session and maintaining eight senate meetings a year.

8. Participated in the review of the General studies programs at ASU.

9. Senate standing committees are involved in a substantial amount of work that will improve the University once completed, a few examples are:
   a. Ongoing work on data archive policies and procedures.
   b. Ongoing work on laboratory safety policies and procedures.
   c. Ongoing work on the role of non-tenure track faculty at the university.
Summary of 2013-2014 University Senate Accomplishments

10. Final Senate Resolution for 2013-2014 - Faculty Commitment to Student Success at ASU

That the University Senate of Arizona State University, representing all faculty and academic professionals, stands committed to student success practices that will enhance freshman retention, increase graduation rates, enhance alumni relations which will ultimately lead to the successful accomplishment of the ABOR 2020 Goals, and provide the State of Arizona with the benefits of increased growth in intellectual capital.

John F. Kennedy once said that with respect to higher education, “All of us do not have equal talent, but all of us should have equal opportunity.”
2. ABOR Meetings in Tucson on April 3 and 4

The four campus Presidents, Eduardo Pagan who is Chair of the Arizona Faculties Council (AFC), and the Senate Secretary Chris Kyselka attended the ABOR meetings at the University of Arizona on April 3rd, the meetings on April 4th were closed executive sessions.

The major accomplishment for ASU was the ABOR approval of the $150/year Student Athletic Fee. This was a fee that the student government proposed that effectively frees up about $10 Million dollars that ASU does not have to subsidize for the Intercollegiate Athletic program, and allows ASU students to attend sporting events for free.

This represents a self-maturation of the student body, by owning a budgetary issue at the institutional level.
3. Non-Tenure Track Faculty Committee
Last meeting Wednesday, April 23, 2014 – Downtown campus

The following Position Papers were submitted to the Senate Personnel Committee for future recommendation to the Provost Office.

a. Understanding the Value of Non-Tenure Track Faculty and Improving NTTF Retention Through Increased Multi-Year and Rolling Contracts
   Lead Authors: Robert St. Louis and Thomas Schildgen

b. Professional Development of NTTF and Professional Leaves
   Lead Authors: Melanie Pitts and Rajni Nair

c. Classification of Lecturers and Clinical Professors by Academic Discipline and Tradition
   Lead Authors – Dean Chiarelli and Thomas Schildgen

d. Non Tenured Track Faculty Options for Emeritus Status, and Other ASU Benefits – to be completed
   Lead Authors: Barbara Fargotstein and Thomas Schildgen

The Senate Motion 2013-42 that Amended University Senate Bylaw II to Reflect the Newly Formed Non-Tenure-Track Faculty Committee as A Senate Standing Committee, has been administratively disapproved effective 16 April 2014 because it duplicates the role of the Personnel Committee.

The Senate is considering alternative approaches to the concerns raised, and by working as either a subcommittee of the Personnel committee, or through a task force we will better communicate the needs of the NTTF.
4. Ad-Hoc Committee on Resources and Protocol for Domestic Violence and Intimate Partner Abuse held the last meeting to Review the Website developed to provide information and support services.

This Ad-Hoc Committee will deliver the final web pages at this April 28 Senate meeting.
5. The Task Force for Constitution and By-Law Changes held their last meeting on February 28 and submitted their final edits to me. The first read of these changes to the By-Laws was at the March 31st Senate meeting, with the final vote today at the April 28th meeting.

The Academic Assembly must vote on the Senate approved Constitution changes, and only the Senate must vote on the By-Law changes.

Three Articles for the Constitution

Four Articles for the By-Laws
6. The RCA Committee is working with a group of professors to examine the Laboratory Safety Policies.

The chair of the RCA, Joe Comfort met multiple times with several faculty members to discuss concerns with the proposed laboratory safety document submitted by Michael Caplan and Seth Rose.

At these meetings two motions were discussed that the Senate might be able to adopt:

1. A new ACD policy on the responsibilities for safety, basically taking the initial part of the Caplan and Rose proposal and making it an ACD policy.
   (This action is analogous to the recent Senate adoption of an ACD policy on data retention.) Such statements already exist in the EHS manual, but having something in ACD would emphasize their importance and the special responsibilities that faculty have.
The RCA Committee is working with a group of professors to examine the Laboratory Safety Policies.

2. A resolution that requests the UAC to work with the Provost Office, and others, to establish a new Provost-chartered University Safety Committee (USC). This committee would replace a current ad hoc committee, and possibly one or more EH&S committees. It would be advisory to the Provost and EH&S. The motion would, in broad ways, convey the thoughts the Senate has about the composition and role of the committee.
The April 2014 Senator Spotlight is on Dr. Larry Olson - Senate Ombudsman

Polytechnic School

Why did you decide to get involved with the Senate?
Having been an administrator before, I believe in shared governance and think that the university is better off when more faculty members are involved in the decision process.

Describe what you have learned during your time on the Senate.
Nothing at ASU stays still very long. It is important that in the midst of change, there is an outlet for effective two-way communication.
Congratulations to Ms. Darby Shaw on 31 Years of Service to ASU

Darby is retiring on May 15th, 2014

There will be a reception to honor Darby on May 2nd in the Senate Conference Room – 12:00 Noon to 1:30 PM