# Northern Arizona University Faculty Senate – 3:00 PM February 16, 2004 Kaibab Room

Members Present: Roger Bacon, Virginia Blankenship, Joseph Boles, Tom Brunell, David Camacho, Jeff Carrico, Marge Conger, Charles Connell, Bill Culbertson, Susan Deeds, Mary Dereshiwsky, Joel DiBartolo, Jack Dustman, Marcus Ford, William Gibson, Liz Grobsmith, John Haeger, Gloria Horning, Richard Howey, Gae Johnson, Volker Krause, Chunhye Kim Lee, Marty Lee, John Leung, Melissa Marcus, Janet McShane, Eric Meeks, Ray Michalowski, Larry Mohrweis, John Neuberger, Willie Odem, Michael Ort, Lon Owen, Nita Paden, Nancy Paxton, Peggy Raines, Mary Reid, Jon Reyhner, Reed Riner, Karen Sealander, David Sherry, Martin Sommerness, Sandra Stone, Laura Umphrey, Tom Waters, Bob Yowell, Marsha Yowell.

**Excused and Substitute:** Nando Schellen, Jeff Carrico for Karen Underhill, Stephen Mead for Peter Vadasz.

**Absent:** Jose Colchado, Kitty Gehring, Denise Helm, Astrid Klocke, Dave McKell, Brian Painter, Guy Senese.

Visitors: Susana Maxwell, Patty Moore, Charlene Wingo.

## **ACTION ITEMS FROM MEETING:**

- Connell: Send out notice of reception for Donna Van Dyke.
- M. Yowell: Do minutes.
- Howey: Follow up on DVD reception.
- Bacon: Bring forth proposed By-Laws clarification from the Committee at March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## \*\*\*Announcements\*\*\*

- 1. L. Mohrweis to serve as Senate representative on new Eduprise Follow-up Council.
- 2. Tuition hike of \$475 proposed: ABOR to act on March 11-12 (see handout)
- 3. Gloria Horning to serve as Senate representative on Portal Committee.
- 4. New! Online-Delivered Course Evaluation System (see handout)
- 5. Spring enrollment highlights (handout)

### **AGENDA**

Item #	Topic	Discussion/ Action / Presenter
1	Call to order	Chuck Connell
2	Acceptance of Minutes/Agenda	Action
3	Opening President / Vice President Comments	Chuck Connell/Larry Mohrweis
	Restructuring Status Report/Athletics Direction	President Haeger
	a. Recommendation for Special Senate	
4	Meeting on March 8 to review Restructuring Proposals	Action

5	Diversity Sub-Committee Representative  John Leung: nominee	Action
6	UC 101: Recommendation from LSC	Action
7	By Laws for Assessment Committee	Roger Bacon: Review
8	Senate Scholarships Recommendation: 2@ \$500 for 2004-05	Action
9	Report from Provost/Academic Positions	Liz Grobsmith
10	Future Agenda Items	Discussion
11	Adjournment	Action

### **MINUTES**

- 1. President Connell called the meeting to order at 3:06 PM.
- 2. The January 26<sup>th</sup> Minutes which had been distributed prior to the meeting, were accepted unanimously. 3. The Agenda which had also been previously distributed was accepted unanimously without comment by the membership.
- 4. **Opening Remarks: President Connell** announced that there would be a reception for retiring Senate Office Staff member Donna Van Dyke. An announcement will be made when there is confirmation of the dates. (**Secretary's reminder: It will be held immediately after the Senate Meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup> at the Inn at NAU.) All Senators and past Senators that have worked with Donna are encouraged to attend.**

Lisa from staff made an announcement on Cancer event and request for support. There are a couple of things coming up. Summer Salaries issue will come up at the March meeting. A faculty committee has been meeting on that and is making progress. Also there have been some concerns expressed about the administration of the Program Review Process and there will be recommendations made at the March meeting about that.

**Vice President Mohrweis**: First, we will be taking nominations for various Senate Offices. April 19<sup>th</sup> looks like the Senate meeting we may be doing elections so if you are interested in a position start thinking about it. The Vice President serves as the chair of the nominating committee. Second, we also will be having a Summer Faculty Senate on a volunteer basis. Typically it meets once a month. So as we look down the road you may want to consider serving on that. Third, we will be discussing Restructuring. There have been several questions about Senate involvement in this process. Some people have asked as to the Senate's authority to become involved. The Faculty Senate Constitution states: (He read the emphasized portion from the following section in the Constitution)

**1.3.1 Curriculum.** In the vital areas of curriculum and other academic policy matters, the Faculty has the primary role in decision-making subject to the approval of the University Provost, the President of the University and the Board of Regents. Faculty must approve through the action of appropriate standing elected, representative university committees, all academic policy related to on- and off-campus instruction, including but not limited to curriculum, mode of instructional delivery and continuing education, and all policy regarding research, scholarly and creative activity, and other related Faculty

concerns. Given the mandate for shared governance, the appropriate elected university committee or the Faculty Senate must approve, by majority vote, any policy concerning significant changes in the University's mission, curriculum, and academic structure. When no appropriate university-level committee exists to consider such matters, then they must be brought to the Faculty Senate. If any significant policy change is implemented without prior review and approval by the appropriate university standing committee or by the Faculty Senate, then the Faculty Senate has the right to review it and to hold hearings to determine an appropriate course of action for the Faculty Senate and identify an appropriate course of action for the University.

So given that Constitutional authority, VP Mohrweis said that we will be very much involved on any proposal regarding restructuring.

Connell: In April we are scheduled to have a University wide faculty meeting in which will recognize faculty member's accomplishments (who have been promoted etc). Also the FSEC will prepare a report on the faculty senate's roles and accomplishments in recent years. We would like to do this for recognition of the work and achievements, but also as an encouragement of faculty members to become involved---and take on Leadership roles. If members have any recommendations for inclusion please forward them to Connell or a member of the FSEC. I now call on President Haeger who because of his busy schedule requested to speak to us at the beginning of the agenda. I call on him to report on two items to us: (1) Restructuring, and (2) The status of the Athletic Department Directorship.

**President Haeger:** President Haeger said that he is on the way to meet with students about the proposed tuition increase. He also said that he urged faculty to become involved in the Summer Faculty Senate since lots of decisions must be made over the summer. He said that we will probably not know the budget until after the May Commencement Ceremony. So there will be just like last summer many decisions that must be made then. The summer senate is an incredibly important decision making body.

President Haeger said that the proposed tuition increase of \$475 is important for political reasons since he believes that there will be a cap in the next year or so either federally or state wide to stop all tuition increases. And there will be no credit for institutions who have kept tuition down, so we could get hammered in a bad situation. This increase would still keep NAU in the bottom 1/3 of all institutions in the country. John said that all the AZ institutions, and in this part of the country are in this situation, and that state's economies are not yet in recovery. Many of the institutions are faced with the same problems and are raising tuition.

Athletics There has been a leadership change. It does not take away from the situation that came before, but it does signal that the President believes NAU collegiate athletics needs to take a different direction. A search committee has been formed. That search committee is being chaired by Executive Vice President MJ MC Mahon there are representatives from across the campus including two senate representatives. They are moving very fast. Our hope and timeline is to have a new athletic director by July first. We are most interested in a much stronger integration between Athletics and the University as a whole, it is a window to the world and one in which we want to make sure we have a very positive image. We are looking for someone who can do that for us.

The Blue Ribbon Committee reported early to the President. It is a fairly lengthy report that the administration is working through. They will be meeting with Deans Thursday & Friday. John has called the administrative leadership together for this weekend (chairs, deans, etc.). On Monday the President will release the entire report to the University & the Press at the same time. There will probably be an Executive Summary. There will be a "Timetable" in which the Senate will play a large role, there will probably be one, and maybe more special meetings of the Senate & the Provost and John are willing to participate in the discussion. There will also be meetings across campus as well. There will be an intensive period where "talk" takes place about the report and the direction ahead. Hagger stated that around April 9<sup>th</sup> the President and others need to make decisions about what to do next. The reasons for that time is because (1) We are coming to the end of the Academic year and (2) He believes that if intense discussion goes on for to long a period of time it begins to have a negative impact. He does not want the campus bogged down too long on discussion. President Haeger stated that we need to move forward. Around April 9<sup>th</sup> they will try to draw down all the recommendations that come forth from the various groups and make some decisions. There could be some movement on the dates, but that is the timetable and reasons why.

**Provost Grobsmith:** We will announce open sessions at various Colleges, although not a meeting with each College but will meet with different groups of colleges. Also the administration would like some discussion groups sponsored by the Senate.

There was a discussion about the tuition increase that followed. President Haeger stated that last year ABOR mandated that Arizona Universities were to move up to the top of the bottom 1/3 of all institutions, and maintain that position. Then we raised tuition last year, but we were not alone. Colleges and institutions all over the country did it too. Right now we are  $42^{nd}$  of 50. This year it is important because the three AZ Universities are under the changing directions directive & are all beginning to develop different patterns. For example ASU raised undergraduate tuition \$330 and Graduate tuition \$1200. U of A raised undergrad \$500, and graduate students \$700 – including out of state graduate students. President Haeger said that although we had an enrollment drop last year we had more revenues than the year before even with the tuition increase. He said that a tuition increase is an absolute necessity to put NAU in a better financial position.

Connell proposed that the Senate hold a special meeting in March before the break on Restructuring. The Senate calendar was discussed. The following schedule was approved by Senate: March 1 – FSEC; March 8- FS (Restructuring); March 27 FS; April 12 – FSEC; April 19 – FS; April 26 – Full Faculty (Promotions & Achievements (reception following). Final FS meeting 5/3 will stay the same.

**Diversity Subcommittee:** Senator John Leung was elected to sit on the Diversity Sub-Committee as the Senate representative all voting aye except Senator Leung who abstained. Their first meeting is already scheduled for Tuesday in Peterson. The Chair is Marty Sommerness.

**UC 101 & Recommendation from Liberal Studies Committee:** The four part Committee recommendation (See Handout – yellow sheet memo from Eibeck, et. al. dated 1-20, 2004) was discussed and on recommendation of the FSEC they were voted on separately. The FSEC and the UCC both recommended approval of the proposal. Some questions were raised. The Provost said

that students who were supposed to take it before, but had not will be allowed to substitute any approved LS course for it. She also said that if a student had flunked the course before there would be a few sections in the fall to allow them to take it over. After further discussion the Senate proceeded to vote. Number 1 – that UC 101 be discontinued as a required course effective fall 2004 passed (all voted aye with one nay & one abstention). Number 2 - That UC 101 be replaced by any other LS 3-4 credit course was passed (all voting aye except one abstention). Number 3 – passed unanimously. Number 4 - (FS to form a broad based committee to begin work in fall 2004 to recommend a plan for restructuring the current Liberal Studies Program) was discussed extensively and the motion to pass it was amended to add a cap of 19 members on the Committee, but the Amended Motion did not pass. Then Number 4 came back up as written and it was passed with all voting aye except one abstention.

The FSEC will consider recommendations & bring in Draft form in March to Senate.

**Donna Van Dyke Reception:** Senator Rich Howey said that we have tentatively scheduled the reception for Donna to be on March 8<sup>th</sup> at the Inn at NAU (Immediately following the Senate meeting 5-6:15 PM). Many positive comments were made by Senate members about Donna's dedicated service.

By Laws for Assessment Committee: Roger Bacon directed the Senators attention to a three page handout prepared by the Assessment Committee. After discussion there was a motion to Amend VII Amendments (on page 3) to read, "The Charter may be amended by affirmative vote of 2/3's of the Assessment Committee membership and the approval of the faculty Senate." This language was accepted by the Senate. Then there were further questions that arose specifically about how the members were to be selected and who were supposed to be eligible to sit on the Committee. After further discussion President Connell asked that the Bylaws Committee look at these questions and come back with a recommendation as to how the members of the committee are to be selected and who would be eligible to be a member (see III. Membership on page 2 of the Handout) on March 27, 2004.

**Senate Scholarship:** President Connell presented the FSEC recommendation that the Senate award 2 \$500 scholarships this year for the next academic year. Both Scholarships are to be fully funded from the local account. After a discussion it was so **Moved and Seconded**. All members voted Aye – motion passed.

Provost's Remarks: (1) There is a proposal before the chief academic office to allow a practical Arts course substitution for a Fine Arts requirement. Nothing has been decided. Forestry has made a proposal for an alteration in their Masters of Science of Forestry. It will have to be taken to ABOR as a new Degree Proposal. It is different from the Non-thesis Degree Program we already have. (2) NAU is posting an internal search for a new Director of the International Office. Nick Meyerhofer will be leaving. (3) Capital Assets will review proposals for 3 buildings. The Research Institute, the College of Business Building design is being reviewed, & the College of Engineering renovation is in final stages of review. The administration is trying to have standards so that all new buildings comply with universal standards. (4) The Provost reported that not all units took a 2% cut this year. It was allocated so that different units with greater needs, etc would be taking a lower cut. This has all been settled and done. The \$5 million shortfall has been allocated and the academic affairs allocation was \$1.5 million. It will be difficult for us to meet this 1.5 million dollar shortfall. The Deans are trying to help with this

recapture, but it is going to be hard to accomplish this. There have been \$1.8 million of searches that have been approved. If we are not able to recapture the \$1.5 million there will have to be another percentage cut next year. Anthropology will go to the swing space next. There are plans & proposals for long term solutions for SBS – but no decisions have been made. There will be an engineering study done.

Questions to the Provost: (1) Bob Yowell asked about the proposal on the substitution of the fine arts requirement. The Provost said that this is only for admission to the University. All three Campuses are opposed to it, and nothing has been decided yet. Senator Yowell said that we should hold the line on this if we open the door like this the floodgates will be opened. (2) Senator Ford said that we are downsizing the faculty, the Library, the curriculum. But the administration is not talking about Athletics. Is there any future Committee looking at Athletics? The Provost said that Athletics is taking a significant cut from all sides. Senator Bacon asked about any early retirement incentives and Grobsmith said not this year. There is no money to make it feasible. She suggested that the Senate contact MJ MC Mahon regarding any reports as to the costs and benefits of Athletics to NAU. (3) Senator Sommerness asked about the annual review process and if any progress was being made to make this a less onerous burden. Susanna Maxwell said that they hope to address two things this spring. First the frequency of the review process, and second the Regent's Professor review Process. ABOR does require annual review of faculty = but the process does not have to be this complex. There was a PLEA that the junior faculty should not have to do this twice every year. The AZ Faculty Council has sent out a trial balloon on this issue. But ABOR is not responding. The Provost stated that the problem is that there are good reviews each year then the final one on tenure is negative and this contradiction is based on different people looking at faculty at different times with different standards. (4) Senator Volker asked if there is any way that we can assist international students to strengthen their support to get Visas, etc... Liz said that the administration is aware of the need to strengthen the support of the International Office, but we must do it internally and the amount of staffing in the office is inadequate.

**Connell** stated that on line course evaluations are available and asked Senators to take a look at them and see if we would like to implement it in our units. Senator Sommerness asked about the Portal Committee. NAU is developing a WEB SITE that can act as a portal to anyplace you want to go. This is what the Portal Committee is doing. It is a general thing that they are examining—what are its best uses and allowed uses.

The Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.