

# NAU Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes Monday, May 8, 2006

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## **Call to order:**

Senate President Marcus Ford called the meeting of the NAU Faculty Senate to order at 3:06 p.m. in the Student Union/Kaibab room.

**Members Present:** Syl Allred, T.S. Amer, Minnie Andrews, Roger Bacon, Nancy Barron, Virginia Blankenship, Kathy Bohan, Chuck Connell, Bill Culbertson, Sally Doshier, Marcus Ford, Liz Grobsmith, Emily Hill, Glenn Hookstra, Chunhye Lee, Rich Lei, Louise Lockard, Rich McNeill, Janet McShane, Larry Mohrweis, Michael Ort, Lon Owen, Nancy Paxton, Jim Pinto, Jon Reyhner, Reed Riner, Blase Scarnati, Nando Schellen, Astrid Sheil, David Sherry, Bill Stone, Marty Sommerness, and Marsha Yowell.

**Others Present:** Patrick Deegan, Stephanie Edie, Susanna Maxwell, Marilee Sellers, Dayle Hardy-Short, Ben Williams

**Acceptance of Agenda/Minutes:** President Marcus Ford asked for an approval of the agenda with a change to the order of the items. **A motion was made and seconded to approve the amended agenda. Motion Passed.** President Marcus Ford asked for an approval of the minutes from the April 24th meeting. **A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion Passed.**

**Opening Comments:** Senate President Marcus Ford had no opening comments.

**Recognition of Scholarship Recipients:** President Marcus Ford announced the winners of the 2006 Senate Scholarships for outstanding academic performance: Ben Williams, environmental studies major and Stephanie Edie a nursing major each received a \$500.00 award.

**Liberal Studies Proposal Discussion and Vote:** Virginia Blankenship and Blase Scarnati reviewed the changes that are in bold in the [LSRC final report](#). The bold items are what the Senate is voting on today. **Blase Scarnati made a motion with the support of the LSRC, UCC and the LSC committees to amend the final report by adding the following: That "Quantitative Reasoning" be added to the list of Essential Skills cited in section V.A of the March 13, 2006 Liberal Studies Review Committee report.** The skills are listed on page 8 and 9 of the document. Discussion continued. **Motion seconded. Motion passed.**

**Senator Bill Culbertson made a motion to accept the amended Liberal Studies Proposal. Motion seconded.** Discussion followed regarding the freshman seminar. It was asked if the freshman seminar would take the place of the old UC101 course. Virginia explained that is the intent but there are major differences in the two courses. UC101 was required whereas freshman seminar is not. The freshman seminar can fit into all of the liberal studies blocks. Several sections will be offered each semester and courses will be on a variety of topics. There will be a cap of 20 in the freshman seminar. If the class is full when a student tries to register, then the student must obtain permission from the instructor just like any other course that has reached capacity. Provost Grobsmith said that funding would be available for the freshman seminar courses. **Motion passed.**

**COFS Update:** Susanna Maxwell went over the changes that have been made since last week. The changes are listed in the [COFS Summary](#) dated 4/24/06. The final versions of the COFS documents (pending legal council) are posted on the Faculty Senate website at <http://www4.nau.edu/facultysenate/content/documents.asp>.

**Recognition of Senate Faculty Members:** President Marcus Ford recognized the following Senators and Administrator for their dedicated service. Certificates and/or plaques were awarded to

- Bill Gibson
- Bill Stone
- Blase Scarnati
- Casey Donoho
- Charles Connell
- Chris Lanterman
- David Sherry
- Denise Helm
- Gae Johnson
- Helaine McLain
- Jack Dustman
- James Pinto
- Janet McShane
- Karen Sealander
- Larry Mohrweis
- Lon Owen
- Louise Lockard
- Marsha Yowell
- Martin Sommerness
- Nancy Barron
- Nancy Paxton
- Reed Riner
- Rich Lei
- Roger Bacon
- Sheila Nair
- Susanna Maxwell
- Virginia Blankenship
- Wilbert Odem

**Comments from Candidates & Senate Elections:** Campaign comments were made by candidates Blase Scarnati, Bill Culbertson, Chuck Connell and Marty Sommerness. Roger Bacon asked for nominations for Senate councils and committees. Ballots were collected and counted by Roger Bacon and Rich Lei. The outcome for Senate offices was as follows:

- President-Elect/Vice-President: Blase Scarnati
- Secretary: Rich Lei
- Treasurer: Chuck Connell
- Parliamentarian: Roger Bacon
- At Large: Karen Sealander
- At Large: Mary Reid

Current Senate membership information is posted on the Faculty Senate website at <http://www4.nau.edu/facultysenate/content/documents/CurrentSenateMembershipWS.xls>

**Comments from Provost Grobsmith:** Provost Grobsmith had several comments about what happened at the ABOR meeting last week:

- Proposal for a new rank called Principal Lecturer was heard by the board. For policy changes, there are two readings. This was the first reading and there were no questions. The topic discussed again in the June board meeting.
- There was an unexpected motion by Regent Bulla stating that the content of bill 1331 [http://www.azleg.state.az.us/DocumentsForBill.asp?Bill\\_Number=SB1331](http://www.azleg.state.az.us/DocumentsForBill.asp?Bill_Number=SB1331). He suggested that the board take policy on bill 1331 that had just been defeated without discussing it with any of the other board members. Some of the board member spoke in disagreement with Regent Bullock. Arizona Faculties Council Chair Robert Mitchell spoke for the policy on behalf of himself. After much discussion, the board voted 5:4 against the policy. Then a motion was made to table the motion. As the meeting was wrapping up, Regent Calderon requested that the motion be taken off the table and be reactivated. Calderon made a new motion which is now on the board minutes. The motion directs university presidents to continue the process of adopting policies that create methods to notify students at the beginning of courses of the course content including materials to be covered. The process of adopting policies should include the input of the usual campus constituencies including chief academic officers. The presidents are directed to report their progress on these policies to the board by the September meeting. The Provost said the President Haeger has been directed to discuss this with the Senate and report to the board in September. The Provost said the Faculty Senate needs to get deeply involved with this issue.

**Transfer of Leadership: Senate President 2006-2007:** President Marcus Ford made several comments and wished everyone well for the upcoming year. Marcus then transferred to leadership of the Faculty Senate to President-Elect Marsha Yowell. President Marsha Yowell thanked Marcus, the Senators, Administration and Senate Staff for their hard work and support this year.

**Summer Senate:** President Marsha Yowell encouraged anyone interested in participating in the Summer Senate to sign up on the sheet in the back of the room. The Summer Senate will meet in the Pattea Room, Blome Building from 3-5pm on June 5th, July 10<sup>th</sup> and August 7<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business/Announcement:** None

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m. The next meeting will be from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 5, 2006 in the Pattea Room in the Blome Building.