**Faculty Senate Meeting**

**Minutes**

**January 30, 2017**

Please email corrections to [Faculty.Senate@nau.edu](mailto:Faculty.Senate@nau.edu).

1. **Call to order/ Acceptance of Agenda: Bruce Fox**

Faculty Senate President Bruce Fox called the meeting to order at 3:00 in the Kaibab Room of the University Union.

FS President, Bruce Fox presented the [agenda](file:///\\naushares.ucc.nau.edu\FacSen\AGENDA\FS%20MEETING\2016\March%2021%20Regular%20Meeting%20Agenda%20V3.doc) for approval. **A motion was made and seconded to accept the agenda. The motion passed.**

1. **President’s Report President Cheng**

* President Cheng reported on the following:   
  Legislature is in full session.
  + Optimistic about Governor’s budget.
  + ABOR meeting will focus on legislative agenda Tempe at end of week, including HB 2359 that calls for modifications in the role of ABOR. (go to azleg.gov for info)
* Tuition and fee discussions will be in March and April. NAU wants to keep the pledge but a 2%/year rate tuition increase cap is not an option to maintain pledge.
* Searches:
  + CAL Dean candidates are on campus now.
  + Airport interview s being held for FCB Dean
  + Vice President of Research—airport interviews soon.
* Extended campuses update: Trying to quickly address declining enrollments. EC will not be a separate unit. Articulating of academic programs is the next big step.
* Pres. Cheng thanked by Senate for rapidly addressing executive order on Immigrants and Refugees. An objection was raised about the president’s statement, specifically to the language of “economic competitiveness and prosperity,” and how that language did not address student fear and confusion. NAU has fewer than 10 students impacted by the ban and deferring to other campuses with a more significant immigrant/student visa student body impacted by this. The majority of our students from the Middle East are Saudi. Concern expressed by Senators about how will NAU assuage the concerns of faculty on campus with a green card.
* Concern expressed about snow day schedules with respect to child care issues when local schools are closed but we weren’t, and assistance with disability and mobility around campus with weather conditions.

1. **Provost’s Report Dan Kain**

Provost Kain reported on the following:

* Strong enrollment this spring.
  + Leadership day a week on February 6. Goal: Determine where would we spend money if we had it; i.e. setting priorities. Dean’s will be included in setting priorities.
  + Everyone present can offer up three priorities. Academic Affairs:
    - increase tenure/tenure track faculty;
    - get support for marketing recruiting in graduate programs;
    - Phased increase in salaries to reduce salary gap between lecturer andassistant professor in the tenure-track rank,as well as increase in part time pay by increasing salaries
* Two key elements of ABOR general education (liberal studies) quality initiative:
  + Criteria for course selection
  + What are the outcomes, how to we know that the works.
* ABOR impressed with how we organize our liberal studies program.
* Governor’s state of the state message about teacher academy. Academy would allow people to go to teaching without any debt. No one knows what it actually means yet. University presidents are working on approached to that.

1. **Senate President’s Report Bruce Fox**

Bruce reported on the following:

* Two places to find information about the bills: NAU government affairs website and AZ Legislature website [www.azleg.gov](http://www.azleg.gov)
* Faculty numbers they have gone up a little bit over the past few year. NNT have gone up at a higher rate than TT. State support, restoring funding in fiscal year 08-state was a little over $11,000 per FTE, FY17: approx. $8,200
* Faculty may need to update their part of web sites for the HLC site visit.

1. **Vice Provost for Academic Personnel: Roger Bounds Bruce Fox/Roger Bounds**

* Need good people here quickly, and need them happy so they stay here.
* To make a good case for tenure track hires important to address the research/scholarship/creative activity profile of the departments

1. **Tobacco Free Update Melissa Griffin**

* Noticeable improvement around campus of less smoke, less cigarette trash
* Trying to determine consequences for repeat offenders
* Programs in health promotions to provide support for those who want to quit smoking.

1. **Council on Rights and Responsibilities: Academic Freedom Gioia Woods**

Working on strategies to ensure that all faculty academic freedom is protected in a clear way. COFS document needs to be clearer on subject. (Note made: AAUP document on this topic is very strong on this matter.

Potential for a campus survey regarding academic freedom on campus. Good models available. Will meet February 13th to continue discussions.

1. **Council on Part Time Faculty: Salary Scale Philippa Winkler/David Godley**

Need fairness for part time faculty in the same way there is for NTT.

Concern about timing of pay reduction for part-time (and NTT teaching overloads) faculty and lack of full notification

Also concern that reduced pay may negatively affect quality

Potential legal obligations (Affordable Care Act and Arizona Retirement System policies and regulations) that cause this change in policy

Such issue should be brought to the senate for discussion

1. **Student Opinion Survey/Action Item Bruce Fox**

A new 10 question survey being prototyped and had been vetted throughout campus. Surveys will be on-line

Question: nothing regarding student assessing their effort in the class. This concern will go to the group following this pilot.

**A motion was made and seconded to approve implementation of the pilot survey.** [**The motion**](file:///\\naushares.ucc.nau.edu\FacSen\MEETING%20HANDOUTS\2016%20to%202017\FS%20December%205\APPROVED%20DECEMBER%205,%202016%20%20Resolution%20diversity%20and%20universal%20safety.docx) **passed with one abstention.**

1. **Announcements/Old/New Business/Adjournment Bruce Fox**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.