**NAU Faculty Senate *Meeting Quick Notes* January 26, 2015**

*From notes taken by Susan Harris (Senate Secretary) and Kate Ellis (CAL Senator). These are "quick notes." For detailed minutes, check the Senate BbLearn shell after the next meeting.*

**Announcements**

* **Campus Forum on Civil Discourse**: Wed, Jan. 28, 4-6 pm, Native American Cultural Center.
* **University Town Hall, Serving the Whole Student: The role of learning outcomes**. Wed, March 4, 8:30-11:00 am, Ashurst. The purpose of the Town Hall is to consider your degree program’s student learning outcomes in the context of the student’s full university experience. The Town Hall will provide an interactive setting where you will work with groups across the university (such as Advising, Learning Communities, Academic Transition Programs, etc.) to examine how we are educating the “whole” student and identify how you can use other resources to support the work you are doing within your degree program.
* **Elections** for seats on Faculty Senate and on Senate-charged committees (UCC, UGC, LSC, UAC, etc.) will be conducted by March 1, before SOEs for next year are drafted. Each college runs own elections for their share of seats. Senate internal elections (offices, committees, councils) will be held at last Senate meeting, on May 4.
* Senate Bylaws Committee is reviewing **definition of “faculty”** for shared governance purposes: who can serve on Senate and who is represented? Senators will be asked to engage in conversations with each other and with their constituents. Make sure to participate.

**Astrid Klocke,** Faculty Senate President, reported that members of the Senate Executive Committee will attend the President’s Leadership Retreat (on Jan. 27) and represent faculty perspectives in this forum where each VP presents funding priorities. Another factor to keep on radar are developments around the K12 lawsuit, which could result in the state owing 1.2 billion dollars to the public school system. However, as of Jan. 26, the two sides are in mediation--potentially a good development for the state budget.

**President Cheng** reported that the impact of state budget cuts for higher ed on NAU will depend on how the overall amount and the formula for allocating cuts among the universities will be adjusted (from enrollment to percent of state support). It is early in the process. The governor has presented a budget to the legislature and will begin conversations with the Appropriations and the Higher Ed committees this week. President Cheng will meet with the governor and legislators on Wed. and will make a presentation to House Appropriations Committee on Thursday. It will be a tough budget year, but NAU needs to keep the focus long-term on the role of higher ed in AZ, as key driver of the economy. University leadership will have discussions with student leaders soon about the importance of keeping/funding the Pledge. We will look to reserves and to growth, and continue to push forward.

**Provost Huenneke** reported that next week’s ABOR meeting at UA will focus on the UA. Materials and the link to the live webcast are on the ABOR web page: <http://www.azregents.edu/> She also reported on the COACHE advisory team’s recommendations. An official response will be coming soon. Interest in interdisciplinary work is central: putting together a working group to address this.

**Denise Helm**, Provost’s Faculty Fellow, presented the Provost’s Office response to the SETE evaluation group’s recommendations. You can review the presentation’s Powerpoint in the Senate BbLearn shell.

**Wendy Holliday**, Head of Teaching, Learning, and Research Services at Cline Library, responded to questions about the new University Repository. You can watch a video of her presentation in the Senate BbLearn shell.

**Nora Timmerman**, SBS Senator, presented an overview of the goals and action groups of the non-TT working group on campus. You can review the presentation’s Powerpoint in the Senate’s BbLearn shell.