**Faculty Senate “Quik Notes”: 12/5/16**

President’s Report: Rita Cheng

* New Hires:
  + Dean, CHHS. Lynda Ransdell, currently Associate Dean in the College of Health Solutions at ASU
  + Director of Alumni Engagement: Stephanie Smith, currently with the City of Flagstaff
  + VP of capital planning anticipated to be announced tomorrow
* New website being developed
* Ted Schuur, professor in Biological Sciences, published in *Scientific American.* He teamed with scientists at the U of A to study asteroids
* Closure of University from Knoles to pedway starting after commencement until mid-March. Knoles at University closure in progress. Mid Dr. and Knoles Dr.: in progress
* Annual Holiday at High Country Conference Center next Tuesday (December 13) 3-5pm
* Solar Panels installation on San Francisco Street garage will begin over break

Provost’s Report. Dan Kain:

* Celebration of long term faculty and staff last week. Two have over 40 years of service to NAU one is Senator Jay Farness
* ABOR Meeting:
  + Regents expressed desire to see program learning outcomes when new programs submitted for approval.
  + ABOR approvals for NAU: new Honors College and BS degree in Infomatics
  + ABOR has established a “Quality Task Force” with an initial focus on General Education (our Liberal Studies). Laurie Dickson and Jeff Berglund represent NAU on that task force. Report anticipated in April 2017.
* Approved keeping current exception from Board Policy with respect to percent of multiyear contracts for NTT faculty permitted at NAU.
* Roger Bounds selected as new Vice Provost for Academic Personnel
* Franke College of Business Dean search: candidates have submitted their resumes and the search firm is seeking additional candidates to add to the pool. The search committee will meet to decide on the top candidates soon after winter break and hope to have a Dean in place by early March.
* Provost Kain expressed his willingness to come to department and college meetings to share his vision of provost

Faculty Senate President’s Report. Bruce Fox:

* Report on November ABOR meeting: Discussions regarding funding by state and student debt, and link between educational attainment and economic development
* Lyndel Manson new regent from Flagstaff. She accepted our invitation to the Senate in late Spring 2017.
* Arizona Board of Regents President Eileen Klein also accepted our invitation to visit this spring.
* Deferred maintenance is a concern of the Regents. NAU has approximately $113 million in deferred maintenance, NOT including infrastructure

Michelle Parker: University General Counsel. Ms. Parker provided her background and discussed role of University Counsel.

Gene Moan: Ombuds Office Report. Dr. Moen described the operation and functions of the Faculty Obuds Program. His full report is available on the BbLearn web site.

Centralized Scheduling. “Live 25”. Pauline Entin and Mikhael Star.

* How to deal with class size discrepancies and furniture availability: Faculty should contact building manager. Discrepancies with equipment, e.g. some Macs and some PCs: as ITS standardizes equipment mix, issue will diminish.
* How to assure faculty are being treated fairly. An algorithm is used to assign classrooms but class assignments still prerogative and responsibility of academic units.
* Accommodating faculty desires for particular room configurations (e.g. types of tables or chairs) not feasible.
* No additional personnel to be hired to work with classroom scheduling

Resolution on Diversity and Sanctuary

* A [resoulution](file:///F:\MEETING%20HANDOUTS\2016%20to%202017\FS%20December%205\FINAL%20DRAFT%20resolution%20diversity%20and%20sanctuary-4.docx) was presented in support for documented and undocumented students in light of President-elect Trump’sstatement that he will end DACA. A petition with over 600 signatures has been signed by NAU faculty, students, and staff in support of this resolution.
* Friendly amendments:
  + Michael Rulon: if DACA students loose in-state tuition institution (NAU) will support the creation of a student legal resource center.
  + Amend definition in language to include all students
  + Amend to replace “Sanctuary” with “Universal safety” in title
* Multiple individuals spoke in in support of the resolution. One Senator brought up a concern from constituents that such a resolution might bring negative attention on NAU.
* Resolution passed 35 yes votes, 0 nay votes, and 1 abstention
* Full text of the resolution can be found on the Faculty Senate web page and BbLearn site.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm