**NAU Faculty Senate *Meeting Quick Notes* April 20, 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**

* Faculty Awards Ceremony: Wednesday, April 22, 3:30 pm, HCCC
* President’s Installation Ceremony: Thurday, April 23, 2:30 pm, Ardrey
* President’s Campus Forum: Thursday, April 30, 3:00 pm, Prochnow
* Social Hour to honor Provost Huenneke: Monday, May 4, 5 pm, 1899. All faculty and staff invited!
* Update from provost search (Eric Yordy, chair): Review of applications is underway, possible Skype interviews next week, then on-campus visits during finals’ week. If no good matches emerge then the search will be postponed until fall.
* Report from Arizona Faculties Council meeting, at ASU, April 9: We presented three main faculty concerns to ABOR: a) All three faculty senates support in-state tuition for DACA-approved students (“DREAMers”), b) faculty leadership urges ABOR to develop “quality metrics” and involve faculty in the process; c) faculty concerned about new ABOR “assured admissions” guidelines that include the option to replace “competency in fine arts” with “competency in career and technical education (CTE)”—this will dis-incentivize school districts to continue to fund fine arts programs.

**Approved Action Items** (proposals are *generated by Senate committees and faculty/admin working groups; you can review all videos and materials in Senate BbLearn shell, which is open to all faculty*)

* Annual revisions to CoFS document
* Recommendation to provost to allow expedited review for faculty on NTT, after first promotion (i.e. same options as for faculty on TT).
* Slate for Senate elections. (Open positions! To get on the ballot contact Bruce.Fox@nau.edu)
* Liberal Studies Committee annual report
* Restoration of Liberal Studies Essential Skill, “Creative or Aesthetic Thinking”
* ACE Alternative Credit Project: a) Senate charges Academic Standards Committee with developing policy specifying the maximum number of alternative credits that can be transferred into NAU from the list of NAU faculty-approved courses and ensure that the NAU transfer policy is up-to-date regarding alternative credits. b) NAU faculty, who serve as course evaluators for the ACETS (Arizona Course Equivalency Tracking System) process, will evaluate ACE-recommended courses for transfer.
* Procedure for commissioning of AFROTC senior cadets. [This only affects 2 students this spring.]

**Provost Huenneke** reported that hiring is still in progress for fall; evaluating enrollment and registration numbers. Efforts to reduce faculty time spent in meetings and on admin tasks; redistribute faculty work: streamline, centralize, and recapture faculty time.

**President Cheng** presented proposed tuition/pledge and fee increases, ABOR will decide on May 4. Two sources of revenue: state appropriations and tuition. If one goes down then the other one has to fill the gap to maintain programs, staffing, facilities, services: $17.3 million cut to NAU roughly equals the tuition revenue of 1700 students or cost of 240 (faculty/staff) positions. Importance of enrollment growth and good match of students to NAU culture/environment to ensure retention and graduation. Strong competition from other universities for high-achieving students. Sustainable/planned growth. Other measures to address budget cuts: Slower hiring of faculty and staff; (staff) lay-offs around 10 for fall (have all been notified); re-evaluating employee benefits by fall (no decisions yet); centralized purchasing and classroom support for IT equipment (could save 10%); refinancing of debt and renegotiation of contracts (dining, bookstore). Not much hope to regain previous levels of state funding. State appropriations now amount to less than 20% of our total budget.