

**Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**February 24, 2020**

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

**1. Call to order/Acceptance of Agenda and Minutes—Gioia Woods**

Faculty Senate President Gioia Woods called the meeting to order in the Aspen A-C rooms of DuBois at 3:04 pm.

Agenda accepted.

January 27, 2020 Senate meeting minutes approved and available on website.

**2. Faculty Senate President's Report—Gioia Woods**

- Faculty Senate hired a part-time staff person, Jaime Yazzie.
- Arizona Faculties Council (AFC) highlights:
  - New metrics in development for the three universities for 2025; AFC recommends measuring faculty retention, student well-being, and carbon neutrality.
  - General education updates; each university in the process of refresh or revision to accommodate new board policy on general education.
  - AFC to host a tri-university faculty symposium on civil discourse at Arizona State University (ASU) on September 25, 2020.
- Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) at ASU highlights: NAU students from #ritaresign in attendance. Regents discussed general education, several legislative bills, and criteria around which to developed new metrics
- Joanne Keene resigned as Chief of Staff; took position with Coconino County. No campus-wide announcement yet about her departure
- “Recreational research?” Gioia discussed with Provost Stearns the confusion over the meaning and implications of the term; suggested it’s dismissive. Agreed that a more accurate and descriptive phrase would be “quality and impact” to describe research and its evaluation. Agreed units and disciplines are ultimate arbiters of quality and impact.

**3. Provost's Report—Diane Stearns**

- Research should be measured by quality and impact; is it a hobby, or your profession? How do we decide what’s good scholarship and what’s bad scholarship? Important to consider how we deploy limited resources
- ABOR metrics discussion: Regent Duval suggested revising metrics so they speak to the *distinctiveness* of the different institutions, help quantify the value of what we do for the state, that speak to the student experience, and that speak to *stress testing*.
- ABOR call to the audience: some NAU students got their facts wrong; President Cheng does not live in Scottsdale, and salaries are not being cut
- ABOR general education discussion: how will we *assess* the efficacy of general education at the three universities? How will we know when we are successful in meeting the learning outcomes? Discussed a variety of measures

- Dean searches: congratulations to Jason Wilder named CEFNS dean. CAL waiting on reference/background checks for finalists. Third candidate on campus for FCB. CEIAS to begin soon.
- Workshop on protecting intellectual property, research, teaching materials, April 15 1-3pm, 1899 ballroom.
- International travel tracking and risk management. Important we know where in the world our faculty are.
- Questions: *Request for additional information on Tom Cheng's position?* (Will follow up on this with the office.) *Changes to First Year Seminar? Is there a grievance process for annual review and merit pay? Can a copy of the SBS budget of the last three years be made available? Clarification on immigration support for hiring new international faculty? Why are international faculty spouses prohibited from studying English with PIE?* (Laurie Dickson is working with provost to address this). *Updates on summer salary for SBS faculty? Why were two faculty lecturers in one department converted to TT positions, what is the policy on this? How can other departments take advantage of this? We understood that converting vacant lines only through attrition would be strictly enforced.* (Provost Stearns: it depends. Can't discuss personnel issues. It's best to do a national search. Gioia: we need transparency around this issue; policy should be our guide)
- VP Bounds and Provost Stearns report back on summer salary across colleges: each college given its own discretion to set caps, usually based on need for summer over-attainment monies. Standard university caps at 16 (undergrad) and 14 (grad). CAL and SBS chose higher caps; others chose lower caps based on accreditation requirements.

#### 4. **VP for Student Affairs—Erin Grisham**

- Updates on student support services available in Student Affairs and Office of the Dean of Students
  - Hired licensed social worker, part-time case manager, and new MSW graduate student intern.
  - Louie's cupboard has grown and served 944 students last fall.
  - Help with emergency financial need, food, textbooks, crises, health care, child-care vouchers. <https://in.nau.edu/dean-of-students/emergency-services/>
- Questions: *Are there any conversations of on-site childcare?* Not aware of conversations on this issue. Last discussion focused on liability issues. *Have resource challenges affected student services?* (Student services are always top priority; we are expanding resources). *First generation student services?* (They have increased, thanks to a generous grant from Souter Foundation). *How can senators be effective communicators of this good information?* (VP Masserini has all the information; VP Grisham will develop concise statement to send out to senate)

#### 5. **Enterprise Risk Management—Mark Ruppert & Michael Zimmer**

- Risk is the certainty that events will occur and affect the achievement of our business objectives
- ERM in process of assessing risks and developing strategies to respond to risks
- Identified about 180 risk events. Created heat map to illustrate current risks (contact [Mark.Grisham@nau.edu](mailto:Mark.Grisham@nau.edu) or [Gioia.Woods@nau.edu](mailto:Gioia.Woods@nau.edu) if you'd like to see that map)

**6. Teaching and Learning Center—Laurie Dickson and Gayla Stoner**

- Soft launch of Teaching and Learning Center. Flower Darby and Amy Rushall and three instructional designers form core of the new TLC. Transition team to help with soft launch, representative of most colleges and faculty-based units including Faculty Senate and ACC.
- Formal launch Fall 2020; Faculty Professional Development to become part of the TLC
- NAU Online: working with the TLC. How do we meet needs on campus and statewide? Workforce education?

**7. Council and Committee Reports**

**Non-Tenure Track Council:**

- Teaching Stream Proposal: NTT Council together with Provost and Vice Provost working diligently on proposal for “Teaching Professor” line. New titles and salary adjustments for lecturers with terminal degrees. Forums scheduled for Monday, March 23, 4-5pm, DuBois, Aspen Rooms A & B; Thursday, March 26 4-5:15pm, Ashurst Auditorium; Monday, March 30, 8-9am, Ashurst Auditorium. **Proposal available on FS website**

**Scholarship Committee:**

- Faculty Senate Scholarship application now live at the FS website! Deadline for applicants April 1. Two senators needed to join TS Amer in reviewing applications.

**8. New Business and Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.