

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes August 17, 2020

Call to Order: 3:07 pm

Acceptance of Minutes: Approved

Acceptance of Agenda: Approved

- **Those present (electronically):** Gioia Woods, Tammy Mielke, Marianne Nielson, Kate Ellis, Ed Smaglik, Provost Diane Sterns, Alexandra Carpino, Jessie K. Finch, Bruce Fox, Gayla Stoner, John Georgas, Laurie Dickson, Erin Grisham, Astrid Klocke, Grace Okoli, President Rita Cheng, Jeff Berglund, Melinda Treml, Steve Burrell, Anika Olsen, and Jaime Yazzie.

Faculty Senate President's Report—Gioia Woods

- FSEC provided a report on the start of the semester and each of their classes.
 - Many faculty have raised caps on classes. CAL is offering a special plague seminar to accommodate ~100 students who are affected by canceled classes or classes without instructors (certain classes were not canceled after colleagues were non renewed). In SBS, some classes were canceled, resulting in the rest of the classes to fill up (caps raised). There are still students on waitlists.
 - Students are excited to be back. A few students expressed conflicts with attending class remotely due to change to move-in dates. Many students missed the deadline to attend classes full-time remotely.
 - Technology challenges: students accessing zoom, hosting classes but many were addressed.
- FSEC complied questions and concerns from faculty on the NAU healthcheck, Resident Assistants, and COVID-19 cases. FS president closes the report by posing these four questions:
 - There's some confusion over Question #3 of the NAU healthcheck assessment. The question says, "Have you been in close contact with anyone diagnosed or under investigation for COVID-19 in the past 14 days?" Close contact is defined carefully to exclude anyone at work. What if we are in contact with a student or colleague who has been exposed?
 - Faculty are concerned about the news on the RAs and misinformation of the Daily Sun article. Were the RAs required to get tested before arriving on campus?
 - How many students are confirmed positive for COVID-19 or in quarantine awaiting results?
 - What are the final number of non-renewed NTT faculty broken down by college?

President's Report—President Rita Cheng:

President Cheng began her report by extending thanks to the faculty and staff for a successful opening week on campus. Enrollment numbers are better than expected due to significant outreach. 4,000 students are accessing classes remotely.

- Enrollment has implications for revenue i.e. resident students are present however out-of-state and international students are not. Currently, residence halls are at about 78%, (expected to become 75%). The numbers are still fluid. NAU is at 77.1% retention, down 0.9% compared to last year.

- A record number of students who have won national awards/fellowships and multiple for NIH programs. We had the strongest fundraising year ever; \$20.2 million last year raised by 11,813 donors. We project \$65 million in extramural grants and contracts, doubling what it was in 2014. We pushed TRIF dollars into departments to employ more people on state dollars. Student's successes are linked to scholarly/research activity.
- 1,008 students that moved in on the weekend. A small number of those students, who didn't upload a negative test, tested in health service. Those remained in quarantine. 20 cancellations on housing over the weekend.
- We are seeing good participation with the NAU Health Check. In addition to Covid Watch, NAU is working closely with Flagstaff community to ensure students are safe. There is capacity for testing at the fieldhouse.
- *Questions: Related to the website, what is the destination of the information of the NAU health check and what will it be used for?* It is managed by NAU's campus health. If you are at a level 1 or 2, campus health will contact the person to follow up. If you are at level 3 then it is managing care. For campus health service, the assessment is the first step in exposure management. For students, it initiates a care plan with resident life staff. The purpose is not just for data collection, the data informs health protocols. If the wording is not clear on Question 3, to cover colleagues and students, who fit within those parameters, we'll look into this. *Why is there a "no" option?* Unless you've been in a complete bubble, the health care professionals said that you couldn't say no. *Is there going to be a point at which we have to have the passport on us?* No. *How is the 86011 zip code generated?* The results are aggregated by where the patient lives. The zip code does not capture i.e. commuter student or a faculty member who lives across campus. There is a mix of students who test at campus health services and who report living at 86011.

Provost's Report—Diane Sterns:

- Provost Office is finalizing courses. 100 full-time students who had been required to go fully remote due to changes in the class size, etc. Advising is working with them to see if this is okay. Faculty have stepped up, taken overload, increased class caps, etc.
- Regarding questions about if a student says they test positive in a class, we have posted answers to the Jacks are Back FAQ. We are working on a response to questions of faculty taking temperatures in class. There is also a discussion of the role of campus police, requiring mask-wearing. Mask and face coverings is a policy, not a law. The mask by itself, not a situation for campus police. Hopefully, we can deal resolve these respectfully. There are options with remote learning.
- Some faculty are using different platforms other than NAU flex. Please keep in mind NAU may not be able to assist if you don't use an NAU platform.
- *Questions: What is the team doing concerning ventilation?* Facilities are taking the lead. They are aware, going through room by room, adding fans, check ventilation. They have prioritized rooms that have classes with F2F requirement. They have brought in heating and cooling consultants. *Regarding academic analytics, how departments are being evaluated?* Provost is unsure how exactly people are using it. It's a good database of scholarly productivity. More useful for some units and less for others with good peer data. *Specifically about the comparison group?* They have the most scrubbed data for their clients, but they gather other and broader data. *Why we needed to subscribe to a*

company and why we can't use faculty 180 data? Academic Analytics uses third party data. It has a dashboard for data by discipline, compare faculty to see where faculty should be applying for awards. It allows us to see in many cases where faculty are above the mean in their discipline and helps us to recognize where we are relative to our peers. *Is there a way for faculty to run it on themselves?* No. How we use it is delicate but we can show faculty their data. *Update on the current process of reimagining?* It's still open. We want to be delicate and responsive to feedback received. We want to provide general data to units. *Would like to add the process needs to consider the budget as well. Faculty have asked, based on news from AZ Daily Sun, were RA's required to get tested prior to returning to campus?* RA's came in before we made the announcement. Some had, some hadn't. They all participated in free testing now. They have been asked to test. *Are RA's being expected to care for sick students?* Only thing that RA's might be expected to do is deliver a meal to exterior doors (not interior doors), that is it. Meal delivery is part of the care protocol for students who might be needing to isolate/quarantine. All other care is handled by health care professionals. Doors are outside doors, not hallway doors. Mask enforcement.

Liberal Studies Revision Update—Jeff Berglund

- Jeff Berglund reported on the Liberal Studies Task Force Charge and Goals including improving our current program based on feedback and recommendations from faculty, external reviewers and self study. The Task Force needed to do a better job of articulating essential skills and distribution blocks. Essential skill means something to faculty, but not necessarily to students. The task force has brought voices from across campus.
- For this semester, the task force is meeting bi-weekly. The 2020 goal is to preview models we have been developing. Moving forward, the task force will meet with constituents to bring a refined revised proposal later this semester for consideration. We would like to implement this 2022-23 implementation. We aren't looking at a major overhaul, we are looking at refinement/revision in minimal terms. Moreover, we are proposing diversity requirements (global and US ethnic diversity) come into the new program. Right now, 85% of the diversity courses already sit in the program. There is room to improve these inefficiencies. A fundamental part of civic engagement, educating future citizens and give students the profile of knowledge to engage as citizens of the nation and the world. This is an ongoing and long term review.

Enrollment Update—Anika Olsen

- Anika Olsen provided a report on enrollment for August 17, 2020. The first day of class update, NAU is down about 1,300 students, down turn is starting to come. We are continuing to enroll. Census is September 1. Graduates stayed above the line, above census. We are up 112 student compared to last year. Overall, withdraws are trending up. Community Colleges are reporting a decline of 20% as well which can affect pipeline and dual enrolled students. Online and PL is doing well. Programs that have strong statewide, online and graduate programs are seeing less declines.
 - Largest revenue students are down the most—down 12% out-of-state and international.
 - 78% of capacity on university housing. Cancellations are still coming in.
 - 21% of students have requested online only.

- We expect enrollment will change again due to the Drop/Add deadline.
- Questions: *How enrollment breaks down by college and how tuition fits in? How international students break down by college? If a college has more students that are international do they somehow have more money?* No, it is a collective piece. Out-of-state students did not increase tuition. 30-36% of residential students are on full scholarship. International students pay full nonresident tuition and typically live on campus, have meal plans, and books at the bookstore. The 21% of mountain campus tuition are remote and this impacts the budget. *AZ Daily Sun reported international students, who had signed leases, couldn't get out of them. Are we doing anything to help them?* Erin Grisham is working with off-campus properties. There are domestic students who are in the same situation. Students on campus sign a lease but it doesn't go "active" until they arrive on campus. Application fees are not refundable. *There is difficulty in explaining to faculty how we are not down a larger number of students but this is still impacting the budget. We've been talking enrollment, but it's not limited to that. Enrollment seems to equate to how much money we have, but it is more complex than that. We need some way to share this with faculty.* The reduction in head count of 5% does not equate to 5% down in budget. We have continually refined those projections. Down 12% in highest paying students. We are also significantly down in the amount of dollars the legislature funds per student. In 2008, they funded our per student costs about ~70% and now about 40%. *Information on what is happening to the 12% of students, gap year, coming back, going somewhere else?* We'll know when we run data at the end of October. Still need to learn where they went, if anywhere.

New Business and Adjourn

Moved to adjourn 5:15 pm.