

**Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**October 10, 2022**

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

**1. Call to order—Kate Ellis**

Faculty Senate President Kate Ellis called the meeting to order at 3:03

- **Those Present:** Kate Ellis, Jon Lee, Tarang Jain, Rodrigo Bastos De Toledo, Karen Pugliesi, Roger Bounds, Andrew Stevens, Josh Mackey, Bjron Flugstad
- **Those also present (electronically):** Gioia Woods, Mohamed Mohamed, Blase Scarnati, Lisa Tichavsky, Donna Simon, Karina Collentine, Blue Brazelton, Andrew Iacona, Linsey Graff, Rebecca Seeger, Taylor Lyster
- **Those absent:**

**2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes - Kate Ellis**

Agenda voted on and accepted.

**3. Faculty Senate President's Report - Kate Ellis**

Senate President Kate Ellis gives her report regarding what has been worked on, and what will be worked on. Also a poll regarding the approval of changing the language in the SCA. **Motion to endorse changes to the SCA's Policies regarding wording. Motion Approved.**

- Approval is high endorsed and encouraged by Gioia Woods, regarding the fact that we are hiring highly qualified scholars and it is critical to support them

**4. Provost's Report—Karen Pugliesi**

Provost Karen Pugliesi gives her report regarding updates from the Provost Office

- At the ABOR meeting, the week before last they finally adopted the ABOR COFS in regards to supporting our teaching track
- The SEFANS dean search has conducted their finalist interviews and the search committee will be meeting tomorrow to decide and move forward
- SBS dean search is now conducting video interviews with candidates and will get finalist recommendations on Friday
- Looking to get them in place for January
- One opening for regents professor and the President is looking for nominations
- About to post a position for a Vice Provost in Faculty Affairs
- Still looking at authorized colleges to move forward with searches for next year, over 60 to 70 requests
- Working with Roger with position descriptions to better recruit more diverse and qualified along with making the descriptions more compelling
- Roger will be working with deans to give them guidelines in regards to the faculty title alignment that we need to wrap up after implementing the teaching track
- We will be having an Academic Leadership Summit on OCT 19<sup>th</sup> with topics of, the workload policy, and Academic Excellence initiative

- Seeking names of people for a short term committee to look at the results of the NESI survey and create a summary that can be shared with faculty and compare to previous results
- Idea brought up about an Equity “Think Tank” working with the TLC a team would look at large multisession “Gateway” courses, study the data and see if they had disaggregated student outcomes and provide suggestions to faculty leaders and units on what we are seeing
- Cody Canning is currently doing this with the Equity Academy, but it is more focused on smaller and more individual courses and professors
- Jon Lee expresses his opinion on Cody Canning’s work and how it is eye-opening and is very appreciative of it

**Questions:** *In regards to searching for faculty, what are the priorities especially with our general studies programs soon to be implemented? There is a priority on hiring for the general studies programs, like the diversity perspectives and American institutions, the new programs and classes that will be offered. For the “Think Tank” what would you define as large classes that will be looked at? We have not defined that, but we are looking to include courses that are large, focused mainly for First and Second Year students, and prerequisites for many programs. For example, BIO181, ENG105, ACC205, etc.*

##### **5. NAU Campus Master Plan – Andrew Iacona and Linsey Graff**

Andrew Iacona and Linsey Graff present a PowerPoint about the campus master plan for facility services.

- The master plan is a guide for development over time for the next 10 years
- A good time to think about what we learned and carry forward for the master plan, along with what values we want to uphold for the future
- Some elements of the plan:
  - Culture and sense of place
  - Equitable Place making
  - Planning for the future of space use
  - Integrating past planning
  - Total cost of ownership
  - Connected Campus: Smart campus elements
  - Systems Thinking: Circulation, open space
  - Asset management implementation
  - Climate Responsiveness
  - Community Dynamics
- Currently there is a steering committee from many different areas of the university that provide direction to the plan along with taking in suggestions from faculty and others regarding the process and plan
- There are many different focus groups that are in place and growing, in these groups patterns are being discovered with what needs to be focused on and answers
- There are 8 upcoming listening sessions with different deans and chairs to obtain advice and ideas

- Question brought up for the FSEC: How can we best interact with Faculty as part of the process?
- Some strategies that are already being used are surveys, open houses, and attending meetings

**Questions:** *Currently the building I am in, Babbitt Academic Annex, has been bouncing between Green, Yellow and Red, what is the priority regarding the work that has already been done showing that this building has been a problem? We have been looking at past plans and comparing it to try and fit into our current plans. We recognize that Peterson, Babbitt and SBS west have had the most complaints regarding many issues and we do plan on taking a tour of those buildings coming up. I would recommend doing the review college by college, due to the fact that some college believe that other colleges have gotten better treatment. So ensuring you see all these opinions along with even looking at units to better get specialized information to assist you. We have a survey that has all of the questions that we want to ask, so we can distribute that out to all colleges and units so we can get good feedback and information. How do you foresee the campus plan guiding decision and maintenance? It is a balancing act, we are currently performing a complete facility conditions assessment to be able to back up decisions of renovation or replacing. Are there any board topics that are being brought up consistently? Deferred maintenance and backlog of projects is real, there is a difference between large moves based on infrastructure and small moves based on landscape, Sustainability should include elements beyond energy and carbon, parking perceptions vs. parking reality, modernizing and optimizing space for students, lumpers vs. splitters for wellness and services, there is energy around the edges, create parity for all campuses.*

## **6. Updates/Progress on Service Teams – Josh Mackey and Bjorn Flugstad**

Josh Mackey and Bjorn Flugstad discusses the updates and progress on service teams.

- Travel training is being looked at and the monthly update will come out this week with a link to the data that we have
- Travel is picking up and we are continuing to look at training and the format of it, there will be a recorded option and we will look to revamp it
- There are many vacancies, and staff with less than 2 months of experience, because of this we have hired students who are wonderful and effective in the work they do
- Student reimbursement has been elevated to highest priority of reimbursement
- We are continuing to work on post travel approval and decided that they are going to be moved to a lower priority, and we suggest you get the approval beforehand
- A suggestion regarding the training, for those who have traveled before, the second part of the travel training, which was an example booking, was very redundant
- Creating and annotated worksheet would be very beneficial for those taking the training to retain more information and get a refresher

**Questions:** *How is the staffing going for the service teams? It is a struggle, many of our new hires are within two months, we will continue to work and train with others, along with hiring students to supplement these vacancies. This staffing problem is*

also a struggle across the university with high competition and people moving to other opportunities. *Are different college's travel being handled differently?* There are some variations for colleges across the university due to the flexibility we have given them. We should look at the differences between these colleges and how they are being handled, and then see the satisfaction of those who are traveling. *Is there anything you have learned or found that are positive?* The biggest one is the ability to respond to workload, the work of timeliness with the pre and post approval travel. Also getting more people to be able to get the documents and approval that we need to help speed up the process. *Are you finding a growing stability in the staff that you have hired?* It varies, the procurement side has found a bit more stability with some internal promotions. The travel team is not as definitively and some members have moved to other units in the university. We will hire more students due to them being more productive.

## **7. Graduate Student Government Report and Updates – Rebecca Seeger and Taylor Lyster**

Report from Rebecca Seeger and Taylor Lyster regarding the work that the Graduate Student Government have done.

- Created 3 new positions this year: Poster Symposium who focuses solely on the Symposium, Community Involvement who are focused on social media currently, and an International Student Representative.
- Awarded \$16,600 to students for travel
- Have looked at international travel awards and have shifted to give 2 awards each semester, raising the amount of awards given by 1 per semester, to help more students
- Trying to get students together on OCT 22<sup>nd</sup> there will be a volleyball game to bring graduate students together
- The Arizona Student Body Presidents have been working to do a panel discussion for the governor race, unfortunately one candidate refuses to go on stage with the other candidate
- Looking to send these questions to the candidates and then potentially publish them in the school newspapers
- Looking to move on providing a resource to help and provide textbooks to students, this is due to some students not taking certain classes due to the cost of textbooks
- Comments regarding the cost of textbooks going down yearly

**Questions:** *What are other ways faculty can support your efforts?* The Poster Symposium is a great way to help out and support the efforts of the Graduate Student Government. Also just spreading the word out to students regarding events and programs that can support them and encourage them to meet other graduate students or use resources. *How much money do you have for travel or how many students are you helping?* The budget is \$45,000 with 4 travel windows and we currently have \$29,000 for the last 2 windows coming up. In the newsletters and on the page we inform them of this travel funding.

**8. Council and Committee Reports—Elections**

Updates on upcoming work for the Senate.

- Workload is an ongoing policy that is being worked on
- Work to create a more clear and better guidelines for their teaching portfolio and report for annual review
- Looking for better guidance from the Council of Learning to work together and develop ideas to help faculty
- Roger and Mohamed are co-chairing a working group that will be working on COFS and we are making sure that every college will be represented
- Committee of non-tenure track issues met and only has some issues regarding the workload policy
- Have not had time to work on the Bylaws yet, the first step will be aligning the old Bylaws with the new constitution and then moving from there

**9. New Business/Old Business/ Adjourn—Kate Ellis**

**Motion to Adjourn Approved**