

**Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**August 22, 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 3:00

**2. Approval of Agenda—Kate Ellis**

Agenda voted on and accepted.

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

FS President introduced new Faculty Senate Admin and discussed various Vacancies in the various committees.

- Andrew Stevens is introduced as the new Faculty Senate Admin.
- Various vacancies are discussed in the committees.

**4. NAU President's Report—President José Luis Cruz Rivera**

President Cruz Rivera receives many kudos for his remarks at the convocation and gives a brief review of his convocation remarks.

- Celebrated the last year & introduced the priorities for the upcoming year.
- Invited members of the senate, faculty and students to participate in the work for the upcoming year.
- Discussed NAU 2025 implementations, Operational Foci, and ABOR objectives.
  - NAU of the future (e.g., campus site), and a connection with the community
  - NAU Online
  - Enrollment Management
- Compensation, the Legislative Agenda, and fund raising (possible capitol campaign).
- VPs provided significant numbers of focus areas that fit into 2025.
- LMS, mental health care center, searches at a variety of levels.
- **Questions:** *Where are we at with HSI?* Karen has appointed two advisors and a set of strategic areas have been identified, we are hoping to expand so that students have a greater voice to drive the conversations and movement in this area. A gap analysis would be important (what do we currently have, and what do we not have); frameworks, templates, project management like organizational structures. Tasks we are doing well (access NAU) need to be grown and built upon (e.g., ABOR grant to produce recruitment materials in various languages).

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

Provost Karen Pugliesi begins by thanking all Senate members for their work and provides updates to Senate Faculty members. These updates contain information following the dean searches, elevating excellence proposals, HSI, and the agenda for the coming year.

- Big thanks to all senate members for all the work last year and looking forward to this year.
- Provost discusses a hope that the senate can elevate their communications with each other across the campus, leading to the completion of academic priorities together.

- Provost encourages Senate members to welcome new faculty and introduce themselves at the New Faculty Welcome Event on September 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Update on two new dean searches; Forestry is moving along quickly; SBS has begun their screenings this September.
- Elevating Excellence proposals (of the 108 proposals, 80 were from academic affairs). Some of the proposals were very similar and are needed to be knit together to create synergy.
- HSI; Luis and Claudia have a draft vision and mission with priorities. The next step is to roll out a draft so other Senate members can offer further feedback. Some goals mentioned is to strengthen student engagement, and search for a chief diversity officer.
- The Agenda for the coming year:
  1. Continue foundation building/trust in academic affairs; strengthening communication from administration/provost to faculty and the general community; a space for academic directors and chairs to gather (ACDC).
  2. Elevate our thinking from the ‘weeds’ (ourselves and internal matters) to those we serve (students community) – begins with the elevating excellence strategic plan (Especially priority one; academic excellence).
  3. High impact learning/instruction practices become infused into our curriculum approaches. What experiences for high impact practices do your students currently have vs. need to have?
  4. Programmatic evaluation: Do those we have, meet our needs?
  5. General studies implementation
  6. Academic advising
  7. Design of the New NAU (ABOR goal)
  8. A focused exam of NAU online
  9. Student success orientated foci: Academic, Career support; preparation and exploration. Possibly introducing some assistance in landing that first job.
  10. Teaching and learning center is also focusing on course design with an eye to excellence and equity.
  11. Calls have been sent out to deans for a hiring priority (deans are to respond by September 15<sup>th</sup>).

**6. Workload Policy and SOE Guidelines—Karen Pugliesi**

Reschedule with Audrey.

**7. General Studies Implementation—Yvonne Luna**

Yvonne Luna discusses a plan to tackle remaining challenges regarding diversity and general studies.

- The program is set to launch in fall of 2024.
- Slides provided by Melinda.
- Global diversity capacity is strong.
- Indigenous peoples, intersectional identities, American institutions, and ethnic diversity all, in terms of capacity, are weak.

- Wednesday meetings regarding the program to lay out a plan to tackle remaining challenges.
- Submitted an elevating excellence grant that was awarded: offer PD funds to people who have submitted courses for those areas above the greatest need; develop semester long faculty development communities to prop up the challenged areas above; Gateway courses for PD funds to translate the upper level courses to a lower level (UNDG); also a lecture series, and support any who would like to initiate a course proposal to build capacity.

**8. Syllabus Policy Statement Revision—Maribeth Watwood**

Maribeth Watwood reviewed changes in the Syllabus Policy Statement. Blue has been contacted by these groups to pay for his materials in order to circumvent the copyright process, and we need to prepare faculty for this probability. If a faculty member's College has requested the syllabi to be uploaded (already) there is an option to update on BB Learn. **Motion to approve from Rodrigo, with Blue as a second. Motion Approved.**

**9. Proposed Revisions to the Policy on Principal Investigator Eligibility—Jason Wilder**

Jason Wilder defined Principal Investigator. The policy has been updated to meet new employment categories and to include NTT faculty who are research active.

**10. Senate By-Laws Revision Planning—Kate Ellis**

Kate Ellis will be updating the Senate By-Laws to meet the standards of the new constitution, then connect with those who have expressed concerns and ideas. Following that, Kate will request volunteer senate members to work on the edits for eventual approval by the senate and the larger faculty. A goal for a late spring faculty meeting to vote on the new document was made.

**11. Mental Health Task Force Updates—Carl Dindo**

Carl Dindo is a member for the counseling service program and discusses the MH task force and their rebrand to the Mental Health Collation.

- One initiative is a tiered approach to mental health and suicide prevention trainings.
  - Online virtual training (Cognito)
  - Campus connect (a suicide prevention training) will be maintained.
  - QPR question, persuade, and refer (certification attached to this training).
  - Mental Health First Aide and Flagstaff based community training (eight hours commitment).
  - Counseling services updates:
    - Continue to provide telehealth services
    - All trainings, outreach and consultation is available to you.
    - Faculty resource page for the website is under construction (not a substitute for employee wellness).
    - Faculty decision tree to help faculty make the appropriate decisions when it is needed in the moment / immediately.
    - A third-part counseling group (life works; Jacks care 24/7) has been brought to campus to supplement our services. This service offers thousands of virtual counseling services in the moment and can meet

immediate demands for services when necessary. It is both free and confidential.

- NAU.EDU/jacks-care

**12. Council and Committee Reports—Blue Brazelton**

**Academic Standards Committee Bylaws (simple changes) motion to approve: Jon, Rodrigo. Motion Carried.**

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

The meeting was adjourned