

REPORT TO FACULTY SENATE

FROM: The Faculty Officers, Jessica Summers, Chair of the Faculty; Melanie Hingle, Vice Chair of the Faculty; Michael Brewer, Secretary of the Faculty <http://facultygovernance.arizona.edu/>

DATE: April 5, 2021

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The Committee on Elections, UITS, Faculty Center Staff and Faculty Officers met to formalize a protocol for Faculty Voting. This protocol was been implemented with the March run-off election and is available here <https://facultygovernance.arizona.edu/faculty-elections-protocol>. Other elections-related changes that have been implemented include automatic release of tabulation data for all Senate elections, and the structure for a report on elections that characterizes the voting body for each of the elections in the past 5 years and will form the basis for annual reports released hereafter. Ongoing debate about paper ballots have not been satisfactorily resolved, and this topic will come to Senate for discussion in May.
- Work is also continuing to make the full Census of the General Faculty available through NetID. Individuals can currently see if they, or their colleagues are General Faculty members in the UA Phonebook, but the intent will be also to make the full Census available (including name, title, and vote code/college).
- The Shared Governance Review Committee was convened for the 4th time on Friday, March 19th; members discussed indicators of a functional shared governance, and how to coordinate across the governance bodies of faculty, staff and students. Planned SGRC deliverables for this AY include the signed Shared Governance Memorandum of Understanding and a draft “playbook” for shared governance to serve as a guide to the role of shared governance in day-to-day operations, as well as how to get involved and utilize the system to support and advance faculty goals.
- Worked with the Provost, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Career Track Faculty, and others to move forward proposed changes to clarify titling for career track faculty. Relevant policy changes will come to Senate prior to approval and implementation.
- Met with members of Office of Gen Ed, UWGEC, UGC, and Provost’s Office to discuss Gen Ed Refresh, and implications for faculty governance.
- Presented as part of the HeadsUp Workshop on Shared Governance.

GOALS

SHORT-TERM:

- Work with administration on streamlining the program approval process while ensuring for adequate engagement from faculty shared governance entities, including Senate. Goal date: by May 3, 2021.
- Work with members of the Shared Governance Review Committee, Faculty Senate, President Robbins, Provost Folks, Secretary Dudas, SVPR Cantwell, & CFO Rulney to establish a functioning “playbook” for shared governance & signed Shared Governance Memorandum of Understanding indicating agreement to how we will collaborate on decisions and direction of the university. Goal date: by May 3, 2021.
- Revise the membership and mechanisms for populating the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils to include ex officio representation from Senate and to ensure Councils have representative faculty membership and adhere to the Shared Governance Memorandum of Understanding.
- Ensure appropriate continued faculty representation on UWGEC, UGC given planned changes to Gen Ed.
- Finalize and publish Census of the General Faculty behind NetID login.

LONG-TERM:

- To ensure a continued successful, safe, and healthy return to campus life for all members of the UA community.
- To broaden participation in shared governance to ensure that the University lives up to its values and supports its mission as we move ahead.
- To work with you to do all that we, as a community, can do to save lives, support our most vulnerable community members, and increase faculty participation in all decision-making that affects our lives and the long-term health and well-being of all of us.

To Our Senate Colleagues: We remain grateful to you for your hard work, your input, your ideas and your continued engagement in shared governance. We continue to work to support the work of the University and to ensure the prominence of the Faculty voice.

Contact us: email (hinglem@email.arizona.edu), phone (520.621.3087), or Office Hours (weekly, Tuesdays, 4-4:45pm <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/94767916308>). Chair Summers remains on sabbatical during Spring 2021; she will continue to attend Faculty Senate, Shared Governance Review Committee, and ABOR meetings in Spring 2021. Vice Chair Hingle and Secretary Brewer will stand in for Chair Summers this Spring at all other meetings requiring her regular attendance.