

As your Senator, I am sending you this summary of what was discussed, presented and/or voted on at this month's meeting. The summary is not a full accounting of the meeting minutes but rather a snapshot of what occurs in the hopes that you will share your thoughts with me and also with your colleagues.

### **Faculty Senate Meeting December 2, 2013 Summary**

In the open session, an issue was raised concerning the Athletic coaches commercials for companies in direct conflict with UA (the example was Sean Miller promoting Carondelet Health network). President Hart responded that she is in contact with Athletic Director, Greg Byrne. President Hart encourages faculty to continue to voice opinions and concerns.

ASUA President Abraham presented effort to engage ASUA in strategic planning and by-laws changes; a report on student polls is on going. <http://asua.arizona.edu/ASUASite/ASUA.html>

GPSC President Brooks reported that travel grants continue to grow as well as the number of Project grants available. A student/faculty survey around mentoring is underway. Faculty is encouraged to participate. There is an on-going concern over the effects of the Affordable Care Act for graduate students. A student-developed FAQ is one of the best out there. <http://www.gpsc.arizona.edu/>

Robert Mitchell, Vice Chair of Faculty, reported on the success of the breakfast for the Arizona Board of Regents and commended Chair Wanda Howell for her leadership in organizing the event.

Provost Comrie reported on three items: 1) Implementation of the Never Settle plan is on going and currently focuses on developing a committee structure with the Deans; 2). RCM is in development and the recommendations of the various sub-committees will be used to develop an overall plan that can be tested beginning in January, and 3) the Provost is visiting all Colleges across the UA to gather information and interact with faculty and administrators.

President Hart reported on the success of the presentation of the Never Settle plan and the need to focus now on implementation. She also encouraged faculty to contact their state legislators to support the package budget plan the three Universities and ABOR has offered to the legislature for this coming budget session. The success of the academic plan is dependent on the success of this budget.

Faculty Senate approved two items: Policy on Undergraduate Certificates and the establishment of a Masters of Professional Studies in Indigenous Governance offered through the College of Law with support of American Indian Studies and the Graduate Council.

Greg Byrne, Athletic Director, presented an academic progress report of student athletes. The UA has an attendance policy for athletes; CATS academics is working hard to support all student athletes; and the Graduation Success Rate is presently at 74%.

Two important documents had initial review by Faculty Senate:

Guidelines for Reorganization and Mergers of Academic Units. This is an update of the 2008 guidelines to establish some key principles that can guide shared governance rather than waiting to respond to a crisis or threat.

Revisions to the Grievance Policies and Procedures in the Faculty Senate By-Laws. These revisions are designed to provide faculty more options for their grievances to be heard and to allow the Grievance Clearinghouse Committee to review and determine what grievances need to be reviewed by the Committee on Academic Tenure and Freedom (other than those specifically determined by ABOR policy).

For more information on these documents, please see your College Senator or contact the Faculty Center.