ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING AGENDA

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2004

3:15 TO 5:00 PM

SCOB 210

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ACTION ON MINUTES

* A. November 15, 2004 Senate Meeting Summary is posted on the Academic Senate Web page:

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

   A. Senate President’s Report (Barb Kerr).
      Judith Smith - Carillon Society
      Jere Humphreys - Habitat for Humanity at ASU
      Jeff Wilson - ICA Board
   B. University Provost’s Report (Milton Glick)
      Gail Hackett, Vice Provost and Dean of University College
      Mernoy Harrison, Provost, Capitol Campus
   C. Senate President-Elect’s Report (Susan Mattson).
   D. USG President’s Report (Sophie O'Keefe-Zelman).
   E. GPSA President's Report (Deirdre Hahn).
   F. Past Senate President’s Report (Tony Garcia).
   G. ASU West Senate Report (Bill Simmons).
   H. ASU East Senate Report (Paul Patterson).

4. ADOPTION OF ALL CONSENT ACTION ITEMS AND ACCEPTANCE OF ALL
   CONSENT REPORT AND INFORMATION ITEMS

   All items on the agenda that are marked with an asterisk (*) are consent matters and will be
   considered by a single motion of the Academic Senate with no discussion. All other items will be
   considered individually.

* A. Curriculum and Academic Programs Committee (Mike Mayer).

* Action Item.

* Senate Motion #8 (2004-2005) (Second Reading):

   Title of Motion: Request from the Barrett Honors College for the Establishment of an
   Undergraduate Certificate in Philosophy, Politics, & Law

The Curriculum and Academic Programs Committee recommends Academic Senate approval of
a proposal submitted by the Barrett Honors College for the establishment of an Undergraduate
Certificate in Philosophy, Politics, and Law
Rationale:
As a distinctive interdisciplinary program that draws on ASU’s exceptional faculty resources in the areas of political, legal, and moral philosophy, PPL would attract to ASU highly talented students who have strong interests in questions of law, justice, and morality. Establishing a certificate granting program in Philosophy, Politics, and Law would also enable the faculty who work in this area scattered among various departments and colleges to coordinate their course offerings and provide direction to students who enter the program. In these ways, a certificate program in PPL would contribute to both the Barrett Honors College’s recruiting efforts and its ability to organize ASU’s resources for the benefit of the students it recruits.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Personnel Committee (Doug Johnson).

Senate Resolution #9 (2004-2005)(second reading):

Title of Resolution: Proposal to delay the decision for making a retirement plan choice

Whereas, optional retirement plan eligible employees (e.g. faculty, academic professionals, administrative professionals…) do not have sufficient information to select a retirement plan at the date of hire (first 30 days of employment), as required by current policy; and.

Whereas, this group is currently required to make an irrevocable choice with the potential for significant suboptimal life long financial consequences; and

Whereas, the uncertainty of receiving tenure and the opportunity for long-term university employment unduly constrains this retirement plan choice;

Be it therefore resolved,

That retirement policies and enabling legislation should be revised to allow a one time opportunity to change the retirement plan selection after the employee’s opportunity for continued employment has been determined (i.e. after the tenure decision for tenure track faculty, or after five consecutive years service for other eligible groups); and

That in transition to this proposed policy; all optional retirement plan eligible employees should have a one time opportunity (a 30 day window) to change their retirement plan selection.

Rationale:

This change should benefit eligible employees.
Eligible university faculty, academic professionals, and administrators are fortunate to have a choice between the outstanding Arizona State Retirement System Plan and optional plans offered by several highly regarded retirement plan providers (i.e. TIAA-CREF, VALIC, etc.…). [Note: they may also choose to participate in supplemental tax advantaged retirement plans (i.e. 403(b) and 457c plans).]

• However, due to short run employment uncertainty, they may not select the plan which would be in their long term best interests.
• After long term employment becomes a possibility, a better determination of which plan design features will become advantageous after retirement should be possible (e.g. ASRS allows purchase of prior year service credits for military and other government service, and provides a limited health insurance benefit. These benefits are not currently available for optional plan participants).

This change should benefit the university.
• A more flexible retirement plan policy should be more attractive to potential employees and support the university goal of attracting and retaining outstanding faculty and professionals.
• A change in retirement plans may facilitate retirement by senior faculty and create strategic flexibility for the university.

This change should benefit the ASRS and Optional Plan Providers.
• Allowing employees to change their retirement plan selection should enable more optimal decisions; a goal of plan providers whose mission it is to provide the best possible benefits to participants.
• Allowing a flexible choice among plans promotes competition among alternative plans. Those plans offering superior benefits will attract more participants and enjoy the advantages of larger investment portfolios.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Executive Committee (Barb Kerr).
Vice Provost Nancy Gutierrez will introduce a proposal from the Academic Professional Task Force (which included representatives from all ASU campuses) to change the ABOR policy 6-301, Section D; to provide a new hiring appointment option for Academic Professionals adding multiple year contracts. This document is posted on the Academic Senate documents & reports page at:
There will be a Motion entertained on this proposal to Suspend the Rules at this meeting.

B. Committee on Committees (Pauline Komnenich).
The deadline to return Academic Preference Surveys will be December 15th. Please make your choices today and nominate potential candidates for President-elect of the Senate on the web form at:
(faculty form) http://www.asu.edu/provost/asenate/Fall2004CommitteePreferenceSurvey-FacultyForm_004.htm
(academic professionals form)
http://www.asu.edu/provost/asenate/Fall2004CommitteePreferenceSurvey-AcademicProfessionalForm_005.htm

C. Curriculum and Academic Programs Committee (Mike Mayer).
CAPC met on Wednesday, December 1. There were items of information to announce at this Senate meeting including:

Information Items:

Fulton School Of Engineering
Department of Chemical & Materials Engineering
Establishment of a graduate concentration
PhD in Engineering Science
Materials Science and Engineering
Herberger College of Fine Arts
School of Art
Disestablishment of a graduate concentration
MFA in Art
Photographic Studies

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
Department of English
Establishment of an undergraduate concentration
BA in English
Creative Writing

School of Life Sciences
Disestablishment of minors
Microbiology
Plant Biology (including Plant Biochemistry & Molecular Biology option)
Revision of minor in Biology

Action Item:

Herberger College of Fine Arts
School of Music
Implementation of a new degree
Master of Music (MM) in Music Therapy

D. Personnel Committee (Doug Johnson). No new business.

E. Student-Faculty Policy Committee (Steve Happel).

Senate Resolution #10 (2004-2005) (in two parts) (first reading): Affirming Academic Integrity

Resolution 1. Whereas all universities face ongoing issues of academic integrity versus dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, deception), whereas new technologies (cell phones, other electronic devices) make testing ever more difficult, whereas written responses by ASU Main undergraduates confirm that cheating is widespread on campus, whereas ASU strives for the highest standing as a renowned teaching institution, and whereas ASU seeks ethical behavior and individual performance from its students, be it resolved that the institution will step up efforts to enhance a culture of academic integrity, one that is highly valued by students, faculty and university administrators and respected by the community at large.

Resolution 2. In order to enhance a culture of academic integrity, be it resolved: that the brochure on academic integrity is widely distributed and discussed with all incoming freshmen and transfer students, then signed and kept by the students; up-to-moment anti-plagiarism software is readily available for all faculty wishing to use it; a university-wide pool of graduate student proctors is established so that large classes have extensive proctoring for exams; and the degree of assistance for faculty confronting issues of dishonesty by the Office of Student Life and college units be more widely understood and utilized.

F. University Affairs Committee (George Watson).
Report on the Plus Minus Survey that was sent to 2,500 students at East, West and Tempe Campus (both graduate and undergraduate students).
Request from the Task Force on Full-time Contract Faculty, to expand the membership of the Academic Assembly to include Clinical Faculty and Lecturers on one-year renewable contracts. This will require a change in the Academic Constitution and Bylaws.

7. ADJOURNMENT

darby.shaw@asu.edu