**Highlights from September 19, 2017 Faculty Senate Meeting**

**Beth Howard**: Title IX Office Coordinator: 205.348.5496 and gbhoward@ua.edu

* Title IX deals with issues of Prohibited Conduct related to Sexual Misconduct and Gender Discrimination (including Pregnancy). As Responsible Reporting Officials, Faculty must report the who, what, when, and where of an incident to the Title IX Office
* Will send PowerPoint and Quick Reference Guide to Donna for distribution

**President’s Report**:

* Registrar’s Office providing 12 gowns/tams for Senate’s Regalia Loan Program
* Board of Trustees Meeting 9.15.17
	+ Karen Brooks served 3 terms (term limit)
	+ New President Pro-Tem: Ron Gray
* Conversations with SGA re:
	+ Potential joint projects (Jared Hunter).
	+ Expand UA Recycling Pogram? Unfreeze Environmental Stewardship Committee?
* Faculty Senate Website revised by Sarah Miesse, Darrin Griffin, and Robert Riter

**Vice President’s Report**:

* Senate Bylaws limit Senate standing committees to 14 members for the two largest committees (Academic Affairs and Research and Service) and 7 for all others.
	+ Great interest in new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee
	+ Could not accommodate all requests, due to committee size limitation.
* Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee should convene after meeting adjourns to elect co-chairs
	+ DE&I Co-chairs: Osiris Molina and Mirit Eyal-Cohen

**Student Life Report:**

* New SAFE Program (DCH, UA, DA’s Office) – currently choosing between 2 locations for a 24/7 facility in which an Advocate and a Nurse will meet with a client within 30-45 minutes.
	+ Dr. Kathleen Cramer to be the Director
* Meeting with SGA to establish relationship going forward
* Working on Bicycle Safety on Campus

**Faculty and Senate Governance Report**:

* Proposed Bylaws charge for the Committee for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – to be voted onby senate in October meeting
* Commencement Marshal Nomination Call will be sent to Faculty

**Research and Service Report**:

* Working on an update on the hiring mandated by the Strategic Plan
* Doing further analysis on the 2015 Climate Survey data and will take further action based on their findings

**Faculty Life Report**:

* Working on Daycare
	+ Surveying local Daycares to establish capacity / offerings / wait list times, etc.
* Inter-Campus visits to promote faculty collaboration / cohesion (UA / UAB / UAH)
	+ Steve Katsinas: If a degree program doesn’t exist on the UA campus, would like to see the tuition benefit extended for use at other system universities

**Academic Affairs Report**:

* Have determined that the SGA Grade Exclusion Policy is not viable in its current form.
* Have discussed letters of recommendation for disabled students: disability cannot be mentioned / faculty cannot refuse to write letters of recommendation based on disability.
	+ Faculty Senate Member: Suggested a faculty member doesn’t have necessary information to make the determination that a person cannot do the job
* Faculty Handbook: in progress
	+ Grievance and Mediation Policy (Appendix B) to be discussed /voted on this semester

**Community Affairs Report**:

* Faculty interest in documenting campus history
* Pursuing Higher Ed Day / AL Legislative Reception (R.B. Walker)

**Financial Affairs Report**:

* Job search
	+ VP for Finance
* Meeting with VP for Research
* Researching efficacy of Concur – please send any concerns / questions to Bob Findlay/ Peter Johnson
* Researching costs to STEM programs re: hiring according to Strategic Plan

**IT & Strategic Communications Report**:

* Meeting with VP Bonnin next Friday re: the new web rollout
* Meeting with John McGowan re: DUO / Lack of wireless connectivity across campus / Planned (but not announced) outages