

**ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS**  
Minutes of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee  
September 27, 2017

A meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee was held on Wednesday, September 27, 2017, at Northern Arizona University.

Present: Regent Penley (Vice Chair), Regent Ridenour, Regent Manson, Regent Taylor Robson, Regent Careaga, Regent Shoopman, Regent Penley, Regent Heiler  
Absent: Regent Krishna

Also present were Provost Mark Searle, Provost Dan Kain, Provost Andrew Comrie, Gail Burd, Christine Wilkinson, Jon Dudas, Christy Farley, Lynn Nadel

Present from ABOR: President Klein, Nancy Tribbensee, Shelley McGrath, Mark Denke, Chad Sampson, Sarah Harper, Tom Merriam, Jennifer Pollock, Kris Okazaki, John Arnold, Lorenzo Martinez, Julie Newberg, Monica Simental, Jan Oestreich, Ryan Tucker

Regent Penley called the meeting to order at 10:00a.m.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Upon motion by Regent Penley and seconded by Regent Careaga, the Committee approved the minutes of the June 7, 2017 Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting.

#### **General Education Quality Assurance Review Series**

Shelley McGrath introduced the General Education Quality Assurance Series and Regent Penley gave a brief history of how the perceptions and definitions of what a quality education is has changed since the 1800's. As research universities and land grant institutions rose, there began to be differing opinions about what it means to be an educated person.

Regent Penley would like to learn about the topic of what general education represents to each of our three universities.

Each Provost gave a summary of what their university strives to accomplish in the area of general education.

Provost Comrie described the key elements of general education, which provides broad general components for students who go on to complete majors and minors. Together this forms their entire education resulting in a bachelor's degree. Also, it functions as a sorting mechanism where students can discover new majors and options.

UA general education emphasizes areas such as critical thinking, communicating effectively, understanding difference in cultures, using information ethically and effectively, and being able to write.

UA has three broad general education topics: Traditions and cultures, Natural Sciences, Individuals and Societies.

Provost Searle agrees that the elements that Provost Comrie presented is also applicable to ASU's General Education. He also gave some facts pertaining to how new knowledge has been increasing in shorter amounts of time, and the rate of changes in knowledge is also increasing. So, the focus is to produce graduates who are master learners. Learning how to learn, and find the resources and different approaches is critical. General Education provides this element.

Provost Kain also agreed with the other provost's points and on general education. He spoke of the day before when Governor Ducey unveiled the Arizona Teachers Academy. It was commented that 70 per cent of the jobs that today's elementary school students will have in the future do not exist today. The notion of education is to be able to learn how to learn and to adjust. He believes that general education facilitates students to see the world from a different lens.

Dr. McGrath let the committee know that Assessment is the topic for unit in the Quality Series.

This item was for discussion, and no board action was required.

### **Reporting on College Going, College Completion, and Wages of Graduates**

Ryan Tucker presented information from the College Going, College Completion Report. This is designed to provide a snapshot of the proportion of high school students who continue on to higher education after high school graduation.

A few highlights of the report are::

2016 the percentage of Arizona high school graduates who enrolled in a post secondary institution immediately following high school graduation was 52.5%

The percentage of Arizona high school graduates who graduate from a 2 or 4 year institution after 3 or 6 years is 6.6% and 20.5% respectively.

# of Arizona high schools which sent 0 graduates to post secondary education in 2016 was 7% which is up from 6.4% from the previous year.

Average rate of public high schools sent students to post secondary education was 41.2%

58 out of 501 Arizona high schools produced half of our total graduates going on to post secondary education.

Notable changes in 2016 from the previous year is the overall college going rate decreased by .6% and the graduation rate decreased by .7%.

Even though the rate decreased in 2016, the college going and college completion has increased over the past 6 years.

Dan Anderson reported on Wages of Graduates, which provides data on wages of graduates who are employed in Arizona.

We have over 280,000 graduates who are currently employed in Arizona and their gross earning wages in 2016 was \$17.25.

Employment of students is up 50% from 10 years ago and earnings is up almost 90%.

He presented the table on page 5 of the report, that shows median earnings of our graduates by major, and compares it to earnings of individual in Arizona with a high school diploma. Median earnings of our graduates in 2016 was \$53,041 as compared to a high school graduate who earns a median of \$27,700.

Graduates are placed on a trajectory of higher earnings in the future.

80% of our graduates are employed upon graduation, but after 25 years we have retained only 40%.

This item was for discussion, and no board action was required.

#### **Proposed Revision to ABOR Policy 2-223 "Academic Strategic Plan Policy" (First Reading and Immediate Implementation)**

This was taken off of the agenda in order to further clarify language. It will be presented as an agenda item at the next committee meeting in November.

#### **Request for New Academic Unit for Northern Arizona University (NAU)**

Provost Kain presented the item and asked for committee approval to split the Department of Sociology & Social Work into two separate academic units.

Upon motion by Regent Penley and seconded by Regent Careaga, the committee approved forwarding to the board for approval to split the Department of Sociology & Social Work into two separate academic units.

#### **Request for New Academic Unit for The University of Arizona (UA)**

Provost Comrie explained that the amendment was a change in the name of the title of the department. This request includes one new academic unit, Political Economy and Moral Science, that will be housed in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Upon motion by Regent Penley and seconded by Regent Careaga, the committee approved forwarding to the board for approval the new academic unit Political Economy and Moral Science.

**Proposed Revision to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Charter, 2017- 2018 Calendar of Work, and Areas of Oversight**

President Klein commented that all committees will review their charter, calendar of work and areas of oversight in an effort to reserve more time to discuss and engage in strategic discussions at the committee level.

Upon motion by Regent Penley and seconded by Regent Careaga, the committee approved forwarding to the board for approval of the Revised Academic and Student Affairs Charter, the 2017-2018 Calendar of Work, and Areas of Oversight.

Regent Penley adjourned the meeting at 11:12a.m.

Submitted by: Debbie Sale  
Committee Secretary