

Meeting Minutes  
Executive Committee of the AFSE  
February 5, 2021  
12 NOON via Zoom

Present: Samantha Brunhaver, Christopher Buneo, Marcus Herrmann (chair), Dianne Hansford (secretary), Rosa Krajmalnik-Brown, Anthony Lamanna, Doug Montgomery, Jitendran Muthuswamy, George Pan, Rod Roscoe, Andreas Spanias, Yalin Wang  
Absent: Sefaattin Tongay  
Guest: Dean Kyle Squires

1. **Approval of the January 8, 2021 EC Minutes.** Minutes were unanimously approved.
2. **Impact of COVID 19.** Dean Squires updated the committee on the latest information regarding teaching accommodations. He said that plans for next fall 2021 might be revealed after the presidents meet with the board of regents next week.  
The EC asked Dean Squires: What will classes look like in fall 2021? Will classes be offered in hybrid mode? Will Zoom be available? Tony commented that students might avoid the costs and hassles of coming to campus if hybrid classes are still offered.  
The university wants to avoid an empty campus, but how do we implement social distancing if still needed.

Rod Roscoe also shared a link via the meeting chat regarding an on-line chat between the three Arizona University System's presidents and the GPCC CEO during a recent "Valley Voices" event on February 4:

<https://news.asu.edu/20210204-arizona-impact-whats-next-education-arizona>

Dean Squires asked the committed about exceptional experiences around COVID vaccinations. Could everyone eventually find an appointment? He has heard that some have been turned away when they arrived for their vaccine. The county delivering the vaccine, but state is receiving the vaccine, sometimes resulting in miscommunication in these information streams. Some have said that scheduling the second shot was difficult. (These were for off campus appointments.) George received his shot at ASU; he mentioned that he was having difficulty getting his wife an appointment. Dean Squires said they are looking into having family vaccinated at ASU too.

Rosa: some of testing sites at ASU are closing; for example, Sun Devil Hall closes after February 15. Rod said that he believes this is because now they are distributing kits now instead of having full time sights. You can drop off kit. Rosa: getting kids tested required scheduling on AHDS and going to separate place. It would be convenient to test kids on campus.

3. **Consulting disclosures.** Dean Squires brought to the committee's attention the need for faculty to disclose consulting to avoid conflict of interest issues. One example recently in the news was

the arrest of a professor at MIT engineering by the FBI for not putting an association with China on a grant application. ASU is trying to keep faculty from running afoul with government.

The committee discussed the parameters of what needed disclosed. Speaking fees/honoraria? Payment for reviewing books? Editorships? All these things need to be disclosed. In the sponsored projects system under research admin, there is a place to find a form for disclosing. This provides a cover for faculty. Dean Squires: one problem is that we ask faculty to complete form when consulting. However, we are also asking to submit a disclosure. Increasingly with international engagements, this is an issue. ABOR has exceptions as to what must be disclosed.

Yalin: if we co-author with people from China, does that create a conflict of interest? That activity should be disclosed. (Particularly if it is with other countries of interest.) There are a small number of places/companies/universities that have connections to problematic entities. Most likely, there will not be feedback from sponsored projects. There could be issues regarding data transfer. Yalin: in CIDSE, faculty have been asked to do this disclosure.

George: invitation from someone in Iran to evaluation of tenure with consulting fee. Do I have to report this? Dean Squires: yes since Iran is country of interest.

Dean Squires: how granular do we need to be on the disclosures? We are trying to create clarity on this topic. We want to protect faculty and keep granting agencies happy.

Rosa: I have to report to NIH if review work is related to research projects funded there.

Marcus: can't this information be taken out of Interfolio (faculty information management system)? Dean Squires: no this does not indicate if it is paid. Also, sponsored projects group can determine if there are conflicts of interest.

4. **Open access journal page charges.** Dean Squires said that the thought is that more publishers are moving to open access. Page charge costs could increase sharply. The university is working on a protocol for paying for these charges. ASU wants to be sure faculty can publish work.
5. **Invited Speakers in Zoom Environment – Progress Report.** Spring Berman is following up on an invitation she sent to Sangeeta Bhatia to serve as our 2021 Dean's Lecture speaker this spring. Dates offered were March 22 and March 29.

Next Meeting: March 5, 2021  
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