

ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS
Minutes of the Free Expression Committee
August 7, 2018

A meeting of the Free Expression Committee was held on August 7, 2018 at the board office in Phoenix, Arizona.

Present: John Arnold
 Derrick Anderson (via phone)
 Stefanie Lindquist (via phone)
 Joanne Vogel (via phone)
 Erin Grisham (via phone)
 Michelle Parker
 Eric Yordy (via phone)
 Kimberly Ott (via phone)
 Natalynn Masters (via phone)
 Kathy Adams Riestler (via phone)
 David Schmitz (via phone)
 Robert "Bob" Sommerfeld (via phone)

Absent: José Cárdenas, Michael Bergstrom and Dylan Graham.

Also present were Regent Taylor Robson (via phone), Nancy Tribbensee, Jennifer Pollock, Julie Newberg, Lia Foy, Monica Simental, Kate Linder and Suzanne Templin from the board office; and Cynthia Jewitt (via phone) and Christine Wilkinson (via phone) -1867 (Item 1) Nancy Tribbensee presented the statute that requires the Board of Regents to establish a committee on Free Expression. The statute includes requirements for the content and distribution of a report on free expression.

Discussion and Action Regarding Statutory Report (Item 2)

Nancy Tribbensee stated that the statutory report was originally scheduled for action to review and approve at this meeting

the legislature and the regents what the universities have been doing to protect and promote free speech.

The statute also requires the universities to provide an allocation of student activities fees that are used to support and facilitate “the expression and activities of students or student organizations”. There are not very many (if any) student fees that are directly allocated to speech and because the statute has just gone into effect, these records have not been previously maintained.

The report will be

particularly offensive speech. The legislature is encouraging the universities to always remain neutral and not have an official position. It is a challenge for universities that are very conscious of the effect of words on members of their communities, so I believe this is an ongoing conversation and an important one.

The report is anticipated to be distributed to the committee by August 8 or August 9. Nancy reminded the committee that they are subject to the open meeting law. The report will be sent in a way that members can respond to her only and not to other members of the committee. Nancy cautioned that we cannot have a quorum of the committee emailing about committee business.

Chair Arnold asked that the committee send comments or questions to Nancy Tribbensee. Nancy is the key staff contact for this committee.

Next Steps – Meetings and Potential Topics (2) (e) 2 (F) 19-004 Tc .002 I002 I002 be hou