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**USU FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES
JANUARY 6, 2014
Merrill-Cazier Library, Room 154**

Call to Order

Yanghee Kim called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. The minutes of December 2, 2013 were approved.

Announcements – Yanghee Kim

Roll Call. Members are reminded to sign the role sheet at each meeting.

University Business – President Stan Albrecht, Noelle Cockett

President Albrecht asked Vice President of Student Services James Morales to update the senate on Spring Semester enrollment. Currently enrollment is down just 180 students, which is much better than expected. Final enrollment numbers will be made available after the third week of the semester. Enrollment applications are up for the upcoming Fall 2014 semester, due in large part to the out-of-state recruitment efforts.

Founders Day is March 7. USU Alumni and Nobel Prize winner Lars Hansen has been invited to speak at the Founders Day event. The activities will largely be a celebration of USU students and faculty.

The faculty luncheons with the President and visits to departments are going well.

Provost Cockett updated the senate on the Student Completion Initiative. They have been looking at bottleneck courses, wait-listing and other issues that impact student completion. One result of this is that the tuition plateau is being lowered from a 13-18 credit block to a 12–18 credit block thus giving students an incentive to take more credits each semester. As well, we are moving online courses to the plateau table rather than having them on a separate table. Provost Cockett will be visiting with the FSEC about these and other issues.

Consent Agenda Items – Yanghee Kim

Council on Teacher Education Annual Report – Francine Johnson. Francine briefly highlighted some of the items from the report. They have adopted a new Literacy Teaching Minor because of requests from school districts to help deal with low ability readers. They have discontinued the Psychology and Sociology teaching majors, but maintained the minors in both areas. They enacted policy changes to clarify that student teachers cannot be paid during their student teaching time. Overall, ACT scores for their programs are higher than the general freshman population, there has been a 7.6% increase in graduates recommended for licensing, and their overall placement rate is 89%.

EPC December Report – Larry Smith. EPC reviewed 8 R401 requests, all short form, one of which was a proposal to eliminate the requirement that all students complete two USU courses for graduation. Larry clarified that the proposal is not to eliminate USU courses or any General Education courses, only the USU requirement. EPC participated in an exhaustive discussion on the issue, and it passed with unanimous support. This change came about due to the emphasis on student completion. As well, due to scheduling issues, the requirement is often waived for

graduates; in one graduating class 37% of students had the requirement waived. They expect no dramatic shift in USU course enrollments due to the change.

Doug Jackson-Smith made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Vince Wickwar seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Information Items

Code Revision Process, Policy Manual 202 – Yanghee Kim. Yanghee included the code revision process section of the code for the senator's information.

Updates of Code Revision to 405.12 Post Tenure Review Process – Yanghee Kim. The most recent proposal from the Post-Tenure Review Task Force is included in the agenda packet. It is the same proposal that was shared at the Faculty Forum in November. The FSEC voted at their last meeting to send the proposal to FEC and AFT for review. They expect feedback from these committees by the end of January.

Old Business

PRPC Section 402.4.3 Changes in Wording in FS Meeting Order of Business (Second Reading) – Stephen Bialkowski. No discussion.

A motion to approve was made by Renee Galliher and seconded by Doug Jackson-Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

PRPC Section 405.6.1 Changes to Wording in Role Statement and Role Assignment (Second Reading) – Stephen Bialkowski. A brief discussion about possible unintended consequences and how it would affect extension faculty occurred. Doug Jackson-Smith stated that the intended interpretation is for faculty to have control over approving their role statement.

A motion to approve was made by Terry Peak and seconded by Sheri Haderlie. The motion passed with one vote to the contrary.

PRPC Updating ASUSU to USUSA in all 400 Sections of Code (Second Reading) – Stephen Bialkowski.

A motion to approve was made by Andy Walker and seconded by Robert Schmidt. The motion passed unanimously.

PRPC Section 402.12.5(1) Addition of Sentence Referring to Policies in Section 202 (First Reading) – Stephen Bialkowski. No vote taken, informational only.

New Business

Yanghee opened the floor to the senators. A senator inquired if any consideration had been given to making USU a smoke-free campus. Noelle responded that this issue has come forward to the President and gone to the Executive Council. No decision has yet been made, but there is concern that a completely smoke-free campus would not be inviting to international students. There are currently several designated smoking areas. It was suggested to the senator that the issue is outside of faculty code 400 sections, thus not under the purview of FS.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:53 pm.