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Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Monday, 9 January 2006

Derek Mason called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

Minutes

Kim Openshaw moved to accept the 5 December 2005 minutes as written. The motion seconded by Darwin Sorensen, passed unanimously.

University Business

President Albrecht presented University Business.

Higher Education Budget

The top priority for higher education budget is compensation. UHES is requesting an employee compensation package of about 4.5%. The request also addresses faculty retention. Assistance for utility rate increases for the fuel and power costs only takes into account current increases in costs, and does not address the deficit remaining from over the past several years. A request is being made for the state to cover IT security and software licensing costs, as well as Academic Library Support. Student financial aid- an area where Utah lags behind other states- is a major part of the UHES budget. The budget includes dollars for access, advising, retention, and graduation rates.

USU's mission-based requests total \$7.5 million. These requests are to expand science, engineering, education, and business programs to meet Utah's workforce needs; provide additional offerings in courses related to biotechnology, bio-nanotechnology, electrical engineering, including an expanded collaborative program at Hill Air Force Base, certified sign language interpreters, in-service training of elementary and secondary education teachers, math, science, engineering and international business; establish an articulation agreement with SLCC to allow transfer degrees in biotechnology, bio-nanotechnology, geographical information systems; and maintain accreditation by the national associations by meeting prescribed faculty and student ratios, particularly in hands-on labs, studios, and internships. The engineering initiative is in its fifth year of funding. A significant increase in funding for the USTAR program will be voted on in this year's legislature. One-time funds are being asked for academic equipment, \$2 million, infrastructure equipment, \$1 million, and funds for the engineering initiative and the library.

Welcome New Administrators

The President welcomed Ray Coward as the new Executive Vice President and Provost. Ray will be a great addition. He also extended a welcome Nat Frazer, the new Dean of the College of Natural Resources.

Accreditation Visit

The accreditation visit is coming up.

Continuation of the Roads Scholar Tour

The Roads Scholar Tour will be visiting high schools in Davis, Salt Lake, and Utah Counties

over the next two to three weeks. The Idaho tour was very successful. Application numbers have improved.

Announcement

Over the last several months we have been doing an extensive review of the Continuing Education. Part of this involves examining how to most effectively create a Utah State University system model. Utah State University has growing branch campuses at Uintah Basin, Tooele, and Brigham City. Driving this change, in part, is a desire by the governor and other legislative leaders to explore how the College of Eastern Utah can be included in this system. The Blue Ribbon Committee on Continuing Education has been consulting with Deans, advisory committees, legislative leaders, and higher education leaders around the state. The goal is to have one university with multiple campuses. Utah State University-Logan would offer upper division undergraduate and graduate education once lower division numbers stabilize and enrollment numbers increase. Other branch campuses will become “feeder” institutions. This does not mean a de-emphasis in lower division education, but more emphasis on upper division and graduate education.

Jack Payne, Vice-President for Continuing Education and Cooperative Extension, has taken a position at Iowa State University. Continuing Education will become part of the Provost’s office. It is important to keep Extension because it is part of our land-grant mission. Instead of maintaining the position of Vice-President of Extension as a separate position, a new position has been created- Vice-President for Extension and Agriculture and Dean of the College of Agriculture. This allows for the integration of all three dimensions of the traditional land-grant model: teaching, the Ag Experiment Station, and Cooperative Extension. Dean Noelle Cockett is going to assume the role as Vice President for Extension and Agriculture.

Consent Agenda

Lynn Dudley moved to accept the consent agenda, seconded by John Kras, passed unanimously.

Note EPC Business for December has nine action items: 1) approval of the Master of Accounting Specialization in Personal Financial Planning; 2) a name change of the Financial/Audit Specialization in the Master of Accounting to Professional Accountancy; 3) a name change of the Management Accounting Specialization in the Master of Accounting to Finance; 4) a request to remove the Bachelor of Arts degree from the Bio-veterinary Science major in the Department of Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences; 5) a request to remove the Bachelor of Arts degree from the Dairy Science major in the Department of Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences; 6) a request to remove the Bachelor of Arts degree from the Animal Science major in the Department of Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences; 7) a request to change the name of the “Management” undergraduate major to “Entrepreneurship” in the Department of Management and Human Resources; 8) a request to change the name of the Department of Forest, Range and Wildlife Sciences to the Department of Wildland Resources; and 9) a request to change the name of the Department of Aquatic, Watershed and Earth Resources to the Department of Watershed Sciences.

Information Items

Faculty/Staff Annual Fund

Janis Boettinger presented information on the Faculty/Staff Annual Fund. From February 15th to March 31st, invitations will be sent to faculty, staff, and retirees to encouraging them to join the USU community and give back to the University. The letters will be stratified according to whether or not you have given in the past. A small one-time gift can be given or payroll deduction begun. Gifts can be designated. There will be a reception at the close of the campaign inviting to thank those who donate.

USU Tobacco Coalition

Jana Carling presented information on the USU Tobacco Coalition. The Student Wellness Center's primary responsibility is to make sure the University is in compliance with federal law. Part of this law requires that the University have specific policies, enforcement procedures, and sanctions for people who violate these policies in regards to alcohol and other drug use. Tobacco falls under this. An assessment of USU's policy found a lack of compliance with several state and federal laws. This necessitates implementing policies and programs to bring USU into compliance. It would include a specific policy making USU a smoke-free campus. Senators raised questions about such a policy going too far in restricting the rights of individuals who choose to smoke away from campus buildings.

Key Issues and Action Items

Resolution for Ray Coward

Derek Mason presented a resolution for Ray Coward: *Resolved*, that the faculty congratulate Dr. Raymond T. Coward on becoming Utah State University's Executive Vice President and Provost. Doug Ramsey motioned to accept the resolution, seconded by Terry Peak, carries unanimously.

PRPC Business

Jennifer MacAdam presented PRPC Business.

Item # 1—Electronic participation in tenure and promotion meetings: Presenting code for the second time, seconded by Brent Miller, carried unanimously.

Item # 2—Ombudsperson attendance at field-based Extension personnel tenure advisory committee meetings: Presenting code, seconded by Kathryn Fitzgerald, carries unanimously.

Item # 3—Exclusion from external review for lecturers: Presenting code, seconded Lori Roggman, one opposed, carried.

Item # 4—Senate Committee Meeting Policy: Presenting code, seconded by Dallas Holmes, carried unanimously.

Item # 5.1—Dean's tenure advisory committee: Greg Jones motioned to charge PRPC to draft code, seconded by Tom Schroeder, passed.

Item # 5.2— “cessation of extramural funding”: Will Pependorf motioned to charge PRPC to draft code, seconded by Brent Miller, passed unanimously.

Item # 5.3—pre-tenure probationary period when no leave of absence is taken: Motioned to charge PRPC to draft code, seconded by Jan Alm, passed unanimously.

Item # 5.4— date of notification of non-renewal (particularly with regard to third year candidates): Motioned to charge PRPC to draft code, seconded by Lori Roggman, one opposed, passes.

Fall Break

Stacie Gomm, of the Calendar Committee, presented the Fall Break proposal. The students have presented to the Vice Presidents, Stater’s Committee, and the Calendar Committee a proposal for a Fall Break. Two options have been defined of what Fall Break may be. Students are in favor of Option #1, a one-day Fall Break. Option #2 is a two-day fall break, but involves starting school earlier. Shawn Olsen motioned to approve Option #1, second by Jan Alm. Steve Aust moved to table the motion, seconded by Lori Roggman, passed. Motion tabled. Faculty Senators have requested more information: 1) Reasons the other schools in the state that have gone to this program and what made it successful. 2) More information on other Fall Break options, such as a week at Thanksgiving or with a Fall Break then going to class on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. 3) An analysis of how a day off affects the scheduling of classes (i.e. the number of classes per day). 4) How many instruction days there are for M/W/F and T/H classes.

New Business

Derek Mason presented the need for a new President-Elect for this academic year to replace Lynn Dudley who has accepted position at another university. Faculty Senate will need to have an election for a new President-Elect who will serve out the rest of this term and will serve as President in 06-07 year. There will be another election in April for a new President-Elect for 06-07 year. This year we will be accepting email nominations with a second that will be sent to Eden Summers (Eden.Summers@usu.edu). In February, nominations will be accepted from the floor of the senate along with the email nominations being read, and an election in March. The rules for eligibility will need to be distributed to all Faculty Senate Members.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm.