

Utah State University

DigitalCommons@USU

---

Faculty Senate & Faculty Senate Executive  
Committee

Faculty Senate

---

11-17-2003

## Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for November 17th, 2003

Utah State University

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/fs\\_fsexec](https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/fs_fsexec)

---

### Recommended Citation

Utah State University, "Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for November 17th, 2003" (2003). *Faculty Senate & Faculty Senate Executive Committee*. Paper 24.  
[https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/fs\\_fsexec/24](https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/fs_fsexec/24)

This Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at DigitalCommons@USU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate & Faculty Senate Executive Committee by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@USU. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@usu.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@usu.edu).



## Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for November 17<sup>nd</sup>, 2003

### Attendance:

Senators:	Kevin Kesler (0930)	Janis Boettinger (4026)	Chris Coray (2861)
	Kevin Doyle (4025)	Ed Heath (3306)	Bruce Miller (2232)
	Carol Kochan (2676)	Dean Miner (801-370-8469)	Marv Halling (3179)
Presenters:	Scott Hunsaker (0386)	Melissa Miller Kincart (881-6693)	Rory Weaver (1962)
	David Lancy (1322)	Joyce Kinkead (1706)	Lisa Leishman (3475)
	Bruce Saperston (3036)	Beth York (3009)	
Visitors:	Steve Mecham (1967)		
Excused:	Vance Grange (2702)	Tom Kent (1189)	Dale Blahna (2544)

### Call to Order

Kevin Kesler called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

### Minutes:

Bruce Miller moved to accept the minutes of October 20th. The motion, seconded by Kevin Doyle, was passed.

### Announcements:

The next FSEC Lunch with President Hall will be held on Tuesday, December 2nd, at noon in Champ Hall.

### Committee Reports:

#### EPC Business

Scott Hunsaker presented the most recent EPC Business, which included minor name changes, new emphases, and several emphasis deletions, activations, and removals in the College of Agriculture. Janis Boettinger moved to place the latest EPC Business to the Consent Agenda. The motion, seconded by Carol Kochan, passed.

#### Enrollment Management/Retention Survey

Melissa Kincart presented the results of the recently conducted retention survey. The returning freshman rate is currently 69%, which is an average over the last 5 years. Approximately 400 students serve LDS missions after their freshman year. New ways to re-recruit them back to USU after their missions are being developed. Several factors are taken into consideration for explaining why non returning students choose not to continue their schooling at USU. Some of these students fall into special categories, such as leave of absence students, or have requested a scholarship hold. It is assumed that students that achieved below a 2.3 GPA have not returned because of academic difficulties. A new leave of absence policy has been created which is allowing students who would normally withdraw, to stay on as students until they are ready to return to classes. Other obstacles to recruitment are currently being dealt with, one of the biggest is time. Chris Coray moved to place the new withdrawal form, the 2004 enrollment form, and the freshman enrollment intent as Information Items, and to place the rest of the Retention Report on the Consent Agenda. The motion, seconded by Kevin Doyle, was passed.

#### Banner Progress Report

Rory Weaver gave informational status report on the implementation of the Banner System. They are progressing as planned on replacing the current data management system, with the new Banner System, which is a more completely integrated data management system. Currently there are several separate database systems where students, faculty, and staff are all maintained on separate databases on the SIS Plus system. Banner will integrate all the database systems into one consolidated system, which will make it far easier to maintain and work with. Banner will be in full operation on June 2006. Janis Boettinger moved to place the Banner Progress report on the agenda as an Information Item. The motion, seconded by Bruce Miller, passed.

#### Honors Program

David Lancy presented the annual Honors Program report. The changes occurring in Honors are in response to enrollment. In the past student felt Honors courses were beyond their abilities to do well, and would not apply. Enrolling students in Honors was difficult and they had to recruit students to enter the program. Now Honors is seen as a way of packaging a variety of prerequisites, and provide them to students. Carol Kochan moved to place the Honors Report on the Consent Agenda. The motion seconded by Chris Coray, passed.

#### Parking Committee Report

Lisa Leishman gave a brief overview of the Parking Committee report. They are working on creating a new Parking Committee

business plan and mission statement. A new shuttle route has been added to the south part of campus. A \$150,000 grant was awarded which has been used to purchase busses that run on compressed natural gas. Other minor developments are contributing to the success of the program. Plans for the future include: building a 600 stall parking structure for the new Living Learning Center, and switching the student and staff parking lots by the Center for Persons with Disabilities. Chris Coray moved to place the Parking Committee report on the Consent Agenda. The motion, seconded by Carol Kochan, passed.

#### Cultural Activities Council

Bruce Saperston explained the Cultural Activities Council's efforts to integrate music/dance/theater productions into the community as well as on campus. They are utilizing new calendaring software to aid in better organization, and advertising. Discussions are underway to bring artists from the community to perform on campus, and to schedule student productions to perform at local facilities. It is important to inform the faculty of upcoming productions, but finances are making publishing advertising materials more difficult, but what efforts can be made are now being used. Carol Kochan moved to place the Cultural Activities Committee report on the Consent Agenda. The motion, seconded by Janis Boettinger, passed.

#### **Key Issues and Action Items:**

##### Debriefing of the Faculty Forum

The proceedings of the recent Faculty Forum was then discussed, particularly how little the attending faculty responded to the presentations. It was brought up that the President and Provost suggested administration's absence in next years Forum, believing that their presence kept many questions from being asked and thoughts to be expressed. It was even suggested to not hold next years Faculty Forum, (except that it's required by the University Code) because they are not highly attended, which gives the appearance that most faculty don't care about it. Kevin Kesler felt some change needs to take place. Dean Miner moved to accept the suggestion for next years Faculty Forum which is to make at least a portion of the Forum administration free. The motion, seconded by Kevin Doyle, passed.

Another issue brought up in the Forum was Course Evaluations on the Web. Correspondences have been made regarding this, and discussion will continue to progress, but the issue will be postponed to the Faculty Senate until more information is acquired. Kevin will personally follow up on this issue, and present any new options to Faculty Senate in the next meeting.

The last issue brought up was a letter that was read regarding the creating of an Allied Program, or "Safe" places for Gay and Lesbian students to go to for counseling and support. These safe places would be personal offices of volunteer faculty. Beth York presented the information she has gathered from similar programs in other institutions, and expressed the need for such a support program at USU. The other related issue is that of benefits for domestic partners of faculty and staff. It was decided to keep these issues separate. Janis Boettinger moved to place a Faculty Allied Program on the agenda as a Key Issue. The motion, seconded by Kevin Doyle, passed. Ed Heath moved to make the issue of Benefits for Domestic Partners an announcement on the agenda, but to move the discussion of the issue to a future meeting. The motion, seconded by Janis Boettinger, passed.

##### UCFSL Letter

Kevin Kesler announced that the budget support letter which the USU Faculty Senate drafted to the Governor and the State Legislature has been accepted by all state institutions of higher education. This is a positive move towards statewide support of the requested budget changes, most of all, faculty salary compensation. Bruce Miller moved to make this an Information Item. The motion, seconded by Ed Heath, passed.

#### **Adjourn:**

Kevin Kesler called for adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 5:02 pm.