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Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes for December 6, 2004

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Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes for December 6, 2004

Call to Order

Janis Boettinger called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm.

Minutes

Doug Ramsey moved to approve the minutes of October 4, 2004. The motion, seconded by Shawn Olsen, passed.

Announcements

Janis Boettinger announced that the Academic History Committee is looking for a faculty volunteer to serve on the committee. If interested, contact Janis Boettinger or Christina Palmer.

University Business

Provost Stan Albrecht talked briefly about the various committee chairs/members from the Utah legislature. These are key appointments for higher education and Utah State. Peter Knudsen, Senate Majority Leader; Lyle Hillyard, Senator, Chair of Executive Appropriations Committee; Greg Bell, Senate, Co-Chair of Higher Ed Appropriations Subcommittee; Bill Hickman, Senate, Chair of the Capital Facilities Committee, Fred Hunsaker, House, member of the Capital Facilities Committee.

Provost Albrecht talked about the message bill from Howard Stevenson, which would allow students to opt out of paying student fees. Our student leaders will take an active role in lobbying against this bill. The other message bill that is forthcoming is a bill requiring legislative approval for building student housing.

The Governor's proposed budget request for USU was very low. All support was eliminated from basic operating issues (i.e., fuel and power). We went from our \$53 million request to a \$20 million request proposed by the Governor. There have been various meetings with various legislators. They are aware and alert of the fuel and power issue.

The College of Natural Resources review has been completed. The committee report will be available to NR administration and faculty.

Economic Development. Utah State and the University of Utah are collaborating on promoting the economic benefits that research provides to the state of Utah. The goal is to change the dialog between the legislators that research universities are assets not liabilities.

Introductions and Short Presentations

Scott Mietchen, Vice President for University Advancement, is a native Utahn, he was the former Executive Development Director at the University of Utah. His office is located down in Salt Lake City in the Wells Fargo Building. Vice President Mietchen's one directive is to take Utah State into a "comprehensive campaign". Meitchen suggested that faculty can help by informing him about excellence in the university. If faculty have development ideas and leads, they should work through the development officer and dean of their respective college/unit.

Randy Spetman, Athletic Director, was the former Athletic Director at Air Force Academy for 8.5 years. He chose Utah State because Utah State cares about academics. Last year 81% of student athletes graduated. This year 62% of student athletes graduated. His main goal is to get the student athletes an education so that after their athletic career they can be successful. The football coach search is underway. One of the biggest challenges faced is with athletic facilities.

Information Items

Social Security Numbers Memo. If you have any questions about the policy regarding social security numbers, go to the December 6, Faculty Senate agenda.

December Commencement. The first December commencement will be held on Saturday December 18, 2004. Line up will be at 9:30 in the Field House. If you have any questions, contact Sydney Peterson or go to the commencement website at www.usu.edu/commencement.html.

Consent Agenda

Janis Hall moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion, seconded by Dallas Holmes, passed.

Key Issues and Action Items

Resolutions

Stephen Bialkowski moved that Faculty Senate support the proposed tuition increase resolution as written. The motion, seconded by Pat Lambert, passed unanimously.

Shawn Olsen moved that the Faculty Senate support the proposed faculty involvement in distribution of merit resolution (in terms of general policy) with consideration of the most recent 3-years of performance. The motion, seconded by Derek Mason, passed.

Stephen Bialkowski moved that the Faculty Senate support faculty and student collaboration resolution as written. The motion, seconded by Lynn Dudley, passed unanimously.

Committees

John Kras moved that the Faculty Senate approve the following appointments Kim Openshaw, Honorary Awards and Degrees; Janice Hall, Handbook Committee; Tom Schroeder, Department Teaching Excellence Award. The motion, seconded by Kathy Peirce, passed.

New Business

Jan Anderson volunteered to serve as chair of the Bookstore committee. Stephen Bialkowski moved that Jan Anderson be nominated to serve on this committee. The motion, seconded by Tom Schroeder, passed.

Adjournment

John Kras called for adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:28 pm.