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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes 15 August 2005

Present: Stan Albrecht, Paul Barr (for Gary Merkley), Stephen Bialkowski, Lynn Dudley, John Kras, Pat Lambert, Derek Mason, Brent Miller, Rob Morrison, Shawn Olsen, David Paper (for David Luthy)

Excused: Noelle Cockett, Bruce Miller, Doug Ramsey

Presenters: Shelley Lindauer, Scott Meitchen, Renee Payne, Linda Wolcott

Guests: Terry Hodges

Derek Mason called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm.

Stephen Bialkowski moved to accept the 17 April 2005 minutes as written. The motion seconded by John Kras, passed unanimously.

Announcements

Review of FSEC: FSEC prepares the agenda for the Senate meeting, proposes standing and special committees to the Senate, examines work of Senate committees, works as a steering committee and liaison, and puts together faculty senate handbook. Executive members are caucus leaders, and hold caucus with all senators once per semester.

Brown Bag Lunches with President Albrecht are scheduled September 14, October 21, November 10, and December 5.

University Business

Stan Albrecht presented University Business.

Legislative Agenda: Compensation was key. Last year 2.5% from state funds and 1.5% from tier two and we would like to see this again. State revenue looks good and USU will hopefully get around 3% (estimate) increase this year with the main focus on salary increases and less attention on health benefits side of compensation package.

Retention: USU was given \$2.25 million from the legislator for faculty and staff retention. Provost has gone through a comprehensive process to review with the deans and department heads the allocation model. The \$360 thousand will be allocated January 1st and \$60 thousand will be held back for special cases over the course of the next academic year. USU is using funds to position itself with strong faculty who are comfortable and will stay off the job market, thus working from the front end.

Non-Resident Tuition Waiver: Impacts of House Bill 331 drastically affected USU. USU's primary out-of-state markets are Eastern Idaho and Southwestern Wyoming. Examples: Preston area had 50 students before House Bill 331, this fall 9 students; Pocatello area who had 128 freshmen, this fall 20; Southwestern Wyoming had 20 freshmen, this year 5. Estimating this year USU will be down 500 students in these areas prior to House Bill 331. Thus it has a budgetary implication in the area of \$5 or \$6 million. Last year, USU worked very hard on a bill addressed specifically for Utah State. It made it through the House, but not through the Senate

due to the lack of time. Jeff Alexander was the primary author of House Bill 331; he recognizes what it did to USU. He is working with Stan to get this bill, specifically for Utah State, through early. It will allow USU an additional set of out-of-state tuition waivers to give to students, who will still be paying in-state tuition and will still be a source of revenue. USU is anticipating 400-500 hundred additional tuition waivers. Enrollment numbers are critical; it is affecting the University's budget.

Ag Relocation: Need to get second half of funding for the \$9.5 million project to move North Campus to South Farm. Last year USU received \$5 million. This relocation will allow USU to expand Innovation Campus from 30 acres to 150 acres. This is a major challenge. The recent legislator visit allowed USU to find out that the legislators did not realize this was a \$10 million project, but a \$5 million project and was finished last year. However, by the end of the two day session, legislators were saying "we had no idea how good you are" and "you really are a great research institution, we had no clue". In this sense the legislature visit was a success. Now we can go back and ask them to help us take the next step.

USTAR: Mentioned the USTAR Initiative and have received some initial funding.

Fuel and Power: On the agenda again. This legislature will not address two major problems which USU and other institutions in the state of Utah have. These are unfunded student growth and existing deficits on the fuel and power side. What USU will get is some funding to cover the increase in cost for utility expenses. The existing deficit will be something we will just have to deal with.

Series of System Requirements: USU is involved in a series of System Requests including the Engineering Initiative (in its 5th year). The new initiatives are a Student Success Initiative will focus on Access, advising, retention, and diversity. Diversity is critically important. The increase in high school graduates will come primarily from the Latino population. And college attendance rate is much, much lower than it is for other groups. The second part of this is Financial Aid. The state of Utah is 49 out of 50 states. Must find a way to get this legislature to step up and help with financial aid. Last major part of this is Mission Based Funding priorities. USU will look at basic needs.

Capital Development Project: Will continue to be the classroom replacement building that will replace the Merrill Library. The Merrill Library will go down next spring. This will be a multi-purpose high tech classroom building and replace some of the functions of the Peterson Ag Building and will also respond to some needs from the College of Business and the College of Science.

Campus Building Projects

Recital Hall Grand Opening in January.

Library-Coming along

Living Learning Center-little behind schedule

Romney Stadium South Entrance and Restrooms and Concessions

Overall Most Difficult Challenge: Stabilize enrollment and revenue.

Information Items for Consent Agenda

EPC Business & Annual Report

Prepared by Joyce Kinhead. Shawn Olsen moved that the EPC Business be placed on the consent agenda. The motion seconded by Stephen Bialkowski, passed unanimously.

School of Graduate Studies

Shelley Lindauer presented the School of Graduate Studies report. She mentioned some highlights of the past year and some exciting events in the future.

Shawn Olsen moved that the School of Graduate Studies report to be placed on the consent agenda. The motion seconded by Stephen Bialkowski, passed unanimously.

Key Issues and Action Items

Library Update

Presented by Linda Wolcott. The new name of the Library is Merrill-Cazier Library. The move of the library started August 1, 2005. The entire collection should be moved to the new library by the end of September. A formal dedication will be held in the spring, but a ribbon cutting ceremony will be in October during Inauguration Week. A faculty reading room will be on the second floor, a new feature in the library.

Capital Development Campaign

Scott Meitchen presented the development plan. This is the first comprehensive campaign. The campaign will be based on "transformation". The public announcement of the campaign is scheduled for Fall 2007. Working goal is between \$200 and \$300 million, but this is not official yet. Started counting money July 1, 2003 and normal campaigns are seven years. 2003 to 2007 are the quiet years of the campaign, and will have earned more than 50% of the goal. December 31, 2010 is the campaign conclusion.

Human Resources

Renee Payne presented the Benefits Plan Model with a Benefits Advisory Board that will meet year round. She requested support of the Benefits Advisory Board and requested faculty representation on the Benefits Advisory Board. Stephen Bialkowski noted that this kind of action on benefits has been lacking in the past and would suggest 2 members from BFW (i.e. the chair and vice-chair) as faculty representatives. Derek Mason had previously asked Stephen Bialkowski and Jeanette Norton to attend the Advisory Board meetings during the summer. John Kras moved to have Human Resources as a Key Issue on the agenda. The motion seconded by Robert Morrison, passed unanimously.

Academic Rights & Responsibilities Committee

Lynn Dudley presented the ARRC update. Stephen Bialkowski moved to have Academic Rights & Responsibilities as a Key Issue on the agenda. The motion seconded by John Kras, passed unanimously.

New Business

Representation to the Benefits Advisory Board

Lynn Dudley moved to place support for Representation to the Employee Benefits Advisory Board to be presented by Stephen Bialkowski and Jeanette Norton to be placed as an Action Item on the agenda. The motion seconded by John Kras, passed unanimously.

Caucus with College Representatives

John Kras moved to place a Caucus with College Representatives as New Business on the Agenda. The motion seconded by Stephen Bialkowski, passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35pm.