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## USU Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes, December 11, 2006

Utah State University

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**USU FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**December 11, 2006, 3:00 p.m.  
Champ Hall Conference Room**

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**Present:** President Stan Albrecht, Provost Raymond Coward, John Kras, Doug Ramsey, Brian Atwater, Janet Alm, Daren Cornforth, Robert Schmidt (for Steven Burr), Ed Heath, Pat Lambert, Gary Merkley, Byron Burnham (for Brent Miller), Adrie Roberts, Will Popendorf, and Andi McCabe

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John Kras called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes of November 20, 2006**

Will Popendorf motioned to approve the November 20, 2006 minutes. Pat Lambert seconded the motion; motion was carried unanimously.

**Announcements**

1. John Kras received an e-mail from Jennifer MacAdam requesting to step down from chairing the PRPC committee. Britt Fagerheim will be taking her place on both this committee and the Faculty Senate committee. John thanked Jennifer for her commitment while she served on the committee and for a job well done.

**President Albrecht – University Business**

1. Senator Bennett continues his work in Washington D.C. on our new building project.
2. Senator Hatch is working on the federal side on our second building – the Utah Basin Energy project.
3. Some significant gifts include dollars used for student retention for students who are facing financial challenges. Another gift of scholarship money goes to the Uintah Basin campus.
4. Budget Report: President Albrecht's first priority is salaries and retention funds.

**Provost Coward – Provost Office Business**

1. The airport interviews for the dean of science were conducted this last week in Salt Lake City. The search committee has identified a short list of candidates to invite here to campus at the end of January.
2. The Regents budget this year includes \$3 million for need-based scholarships and we will get a percentage of that.

**Information Items**

**1. Council on Teacher Education Report**

Francine Johnson presented the annual report summary which included program and policy changes along with several information items, which include testing in majors and minors requirements and the implementation of Live Scan Fingerprinting in January 2007. The complete report can be viewed on the Faculty Senate webpage.

Pat Lambert motioned to place the full report on the Consent Agenda of the January 8, 2006 Faculty Senate meeting. Byron Burnham seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

**2. Campus Retention Report**

Noelle Call, director of the newly formed Office of Retention and First-Year Experience, presented the overview of specific enrollment and retention data. Also include in her report was the 2007 Common Literature Experience Short List and list of questions she would like answered by anyone who has read any of the books. The final selection will be determined January 16, 2007.

Janet Alm motioned to place the report on the Consent Agenda of the January 8, 2006 Faculty Senate meeting. Pat Lambert seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

3. **Research Council Report**

Lorraine Walker presented the annual Research Council Report for Vice President Brent Miller. The report covers the major activities of the research office from July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006. It includes: Service Units; Strategic Units; Research Council Membership and Functions; Use of F&A Funds; and selected Research Issues. Robert Schmidt wondered if the section of the VPR's report discussing the Laboratory Animal Research Center should be augmented to provide additional information about Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee activities. Lorraine requested clarification of the type of information to be provided and said she would augment the VPR's report based upon feedback from the IACUC committee.

Adrie Roberts motioned to place the report on the Consent Agenda of the January 8, 2007 Faculty Senate meeting. Byron Burnham seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

4. **Scholarship Advisory Report**

Steve Sharp presented the scholarship figures for 2005-2006, which totaled almost \$20 million. USU distributes an additional \$50 million in state and federal financial aid. Ed Heath motioned to place the report on the Consent Agenda of the January 8, 2007 Faculty Senate meeting. Robert Schmidt seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

5. **EPC Business**

Steven Hanks presented the recommendations brought forward by EPC. Gary Merkley motioned to place the EPC Report items on the Consent Agenda of the January 8, 2007 Faculty Senate meeting. Pat Lambert seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

**Key Issues and Action Items**

There were none.

**New Business**

1. **Committee on Equity and Diversity**

At the request of Christine Hult, ADVANCE team, Will Pependorf generated discussion on whether or not a new committee should be formed to monitor Equity and Diversity issues. The committee could possibly whose charge would be to review the data provided by AA/EQ each year, with regard to the AAUP gender indicators and other diversity indicators as appropriate. ADVANCE is a limited project that covers only some of the colleges and that will end in two years.

Bob Schmidt motioned that the President appoint an ad hoc committee to review whether a new committee is needed to monitor the current process of diversity and equity. Pat Lambert seconded the motion; the motion received only two affirmative votes and did not carry. After further discussion, Daren Cornforth motioned to place this topic as an Information item on the January 8, 2007 Faculty Senate meeting and to invite Ann Austin (ADVANCE) to explain what she is currently doing on this topic. President Albrecht and Provost Coward will also be asked to provide the senators with more information on the future plans of this subject. Ed Heath seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

2. **Dean's Tenure and Advisory Committees**

This item was removed from the PRPC Report of the December 4, 2006 Faculty Senate meeting. Ed Heath motioned to bring back this item to the Key Issues and Action Items of the January 8, 2007 Faculty Senate meeting for further discussion before charging PRPC with updating code 405.7 Procedures Specific to the Tenure Process. Will Pependorf seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Gary Merkley motioned to adjourn the meeting; Doug Ramsey seconded the motion and it was carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.