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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes, September 22, 2008

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**FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 22, 2008 3:00 P.M.
Champ Hall Conference Room**

Present: Mike Parent (Chair), Byron Burnham, Steve Burr, Maria Cordero, Daren Cornforth, Renee Galligher, Jerry Goodspeed, Jake Gunther (excused), Ed Heath, Kelly Kopp, John Kras, Glen McEvoy, Vincent Wickwar, President Stan Albrecht (Ex-Officio), Provost Ray Coward (Ex-Officio), Joan Kleinke (Exec. Sec.), Marilyn Bloxham (Assistant)

Guests: Ronda Callister, Scott Cannon, Christie Fox, Fred Hunsaker, Lisa Leishman, Will Pependorf, Betty Rozum, Larry Smith

Mike Parent called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

University Business

1. President Albrecht requested an executive session for the purpose of discussing possible budget consequences for USU given the forthcoming special session of the State Legislature. All guests were excused.
2. Provost Coward asked for some direction on the recruitment presentation he made at the department heads retreat when there is time to address this. Guests were invited back into the conference room and the meeting proceeded.

Approval of Minutes

John Kras moved to approve the minutes of August 25, 2008. Motion was seconded by Byron Burnham and the motion passed unanimously with the correction of the spelling of the name DeBerard.

Announcements

1. A special small group meeting with Dr. Rauol A. Arreola, on course and faculty evaluations, will be held Wednesday Sept. 24th at 10:30 am in the Graduate School Conference room. This will be a working meeting for the Faculty Evaluation Committee but if others want to attend, seating is limited to 12 on a first come first serve basis. RSVP to Joan Kleinke.
2. Faculty Forum Planning Meeting will be after the Faculty Senate Executive Meeting October 20, 2008. Topics have been forthcoming and members are encouraged to gather information and topic ideas for the meeting agenda. Collect and hold your items and they will be placed on the table after we finish the executive meeting on the 20th.
3. Report to Steve Burr on the 7th North safety issues. The risk management official for Logan City is opposed to painting crosswalks in this area because in their view it increases risk to the city if the crosswalk is in the interior of a block. This is a town and gown issue that will be passed on to the administration through the Vice President Hunsaker's office.

Information Items

1. EPC Annual Report. Larry Smith is the new chair of EPC. John Kras moved to include this report in the Faculty Senate Consent Agenda and seconded by Jerry Goodspeed, motion passed. The EPC committee met September 4, 2008. Three items were discussed. First, the EPC and the Curriculum sub-Committee approved the request from the John M. Huntsman School of Business to restructure their departments. Secondly, EPC held a discussion on the new procedure for classroom scheduling. Roland Squire has agreed to create a report on the classroom usage to be shared by all departments to determine ahead of time if there are classroom conflicts. Finally they addressed revisions of the academic integrity policy. Currently

Bob Barclay is reviewing the revisions and then it will be passed through academic standards and brought to the Executive Committee. John Kras moved to include these items as an addendum to the Annual Report and included in the Consent Agenda. Second was made by Vincent Wickwar. Motion passed.

2. Honors Program Report. Christie Fox summarized the Honors Program Annual Report for the last academic year. For Fall '07 11.5% of freshman participated in the Honors Program and 3.47% of the undergraduate population overall. Incoming students had a high school GPA of 3.99 and ACT score of 29 which is higher than the average freshman class. A thesis writing class was added and taught by librarians. An Honors Student Council was started which will organize activities and service projects. Last year they created year long relationship with the Special Olympics program. Four students were nominated for the Goldwater Foundation Awards and all were recognized; two winning and two received honorable mention. There has been more faculty interaction with the Honors program this year, 193 faculty participated in some way with the program. According to the HERI Survey 20% of our faculty taught an honors courses. Mike Parent raised a question about the Karen and Joe Morse Scholarship. Karen was a former Dean of the College of Science and Provost of Utah State and recently retired as President of Western Washington University. Joe was the head of the Honors Program at USU. He suggested that a congratulatory note be sent from the Honors Program to them. Chrisite Fox indicated that had already been done. Motion was made to include the report as part of the Consent Agenda by John Kras and seconded. Motion carried.
3. Libraries Advisory Council Report. Betty Rozum presented the Library Advisory Council report. The committee meets three or four times a year. The council is active in identifying resources that are beneficial to the entire campus community and developing ideas for implementing the NIH policy. In general they continually talk about scholarly publication issues. John Kras moved to place the report on the consent agenda; motion seconded by Vince Wickwar and passed.
4. Parking. Lisa Leishman presented the report for Parking and Transportation Department. During the last year parking implemented the color coded parking system to make it easier to identify various lots. A question was asked about the parking situation near the new performance hall during peak music lesson times and during evening performances. The layout of the parking seems awkward to people who are unfamiliar with the area. Several groups will need to be involved to resolve this issue. Maria Cordero raised the issue of CVTD bus schedules on and around campus. Students are often stranded if they work late or the busses are not on schedule. Lisa and Maria will get together to discuss the specifics of this issue. Kelly Kopp inquired about the rate of parking fee increases in relation to salary increases. The increase has been spread across all parking patrons to pay for a bond that funded the new Aggie Parking Terrace. Because of the new structure the bond went from \$35,000 to \$300,000. In 2005 approval was given to increase the cost of parking permits by 4% each year until 2012. Some universities do a cost of living increase and that is what faculty were expecting. Motion was made by Byron Burnham and seconded to place the report in the consent agenda, motion carried.

Old Business

1. PRPC Report. Scott Cannon reported on the issues that the committee is bringing before the Faculty Senate.
There are three issues the committee has been charged to look at. Section 403.3 Standards of Conduct-Faculty Members Responsibilities to the University, the addition of the words *sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression*, was added to bring it into line with other University policies. The committee also felt that this language should also appear in Section 407.6.2 for clarification purposes, but not lumped in with violation of statutory or constitutional civil rights in any of the protected categories because it was unclear if sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression is a protected category or a constitutional civil right. They simply wanted to state that it is University policy. After lengthy discussion about the intent of Section 407, the grievance process, and clarification that AAEO's charge is to investigate violations of federal and state law, and that inclusion of this language is university policy not federal or state law language, the consensus was that the statement or *any violation of USU policy regarding sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression...shall be referred to AA/EO* is a problem because it is a violation of USU Policy not federal or state law. A motion was made by

Maria Cordero to include Section 403.3 as amended by the PRPC to the Key Issues and Action Items of the Faculty Senate agenda. Motion was seconded and passed.

Discussion continued on 407.6.2 and what would/could be included in a grievance and that Section 403.3 as amended allows grievances to go forward on GLBT issues. Scott Cannon stated that the committee's attempt to clarify these issues in Section 407.6.2 just seemed to have muddied the water. It was clear to the executive committee that the amended statement should not be a part of 407.6.2, so discussion then commenced on how to procedurally handle the issue. John Kras said that if he moved the acceptance of 407.6.2 and it is not seconded, it moves by the way side. He thus moved that we accept the language in 407, under those assumptions. This motion did not proceed for lack of a second.

Section 407.1.2 Definition of Days. PRPC was charged with revising language so that due process, hearings and sanctions are held on a twelve month calendar as opposed to an academic calendar. PRPC recommends changing the scheduling timeline for reprimand, sanction, non-renewal and medical incapacity to a twelve month calendar and leaves the timeline for grievances on an academic or school day calendar because grievances already have the option of extending to a twelve month calendar if both parties agree. In discussion, it was clarified that the Faculty Senate, in requesting the changes, wanted to coordinate the timeline for grievances that is defined by a calendar day and not the suspension of these meetings over the holidays or over the summer. The logic being, given the number of faculty who are here, if procedures were suspended all parties would have to become reacquainted with where that process was, which could require them to start over. This made for difficulties in the timeline, it is expensive, and hard psychologically on those involved. It was clarified that what was proposed was that both grievances and sanctions be put on a calendar year. Ed Heath moved to send the issue back to the PRPC committee to review the minutes of the April Faculty Senate meeting and the presentation to make the calendars consistent. Seconded by John Kras and motion carried.

Section 405.7.2 and 405.8.3 is a recommendation to add language to allow candidates to submit names of potential reviewers that faculty do not want contacted in the review process. The issue went to PRPC as it was referred to the Senate as an information item. The Senate acted on it as an information item and referred it to PRPC because it included conflicting language and raised several issues of concern. There was a fairly lengthy discussion and debate. The committee concluded that this item really did need to go to the Senate as a first reading for full debate by the Senate. John Kras moved that this go to the Faculty Senate Agenda as a Key Issue and Action Item for a first reading. Seconded by Maria Cordero and motion passed.

New Business

1. Faculty Senate Calendar revision. As the Faculty Senate Executive Calendar was being compiled last year the newly established Faculty Diversity, Development and Equity Committee was overlooked when scheduling reporting times. Mike Parent suggested scheduling their report for either the January or February meeting of the Senate. Motion was made by John Kras that it be reported to the Faculty Senate in February. Second was received, motion carried unanimously.
2. Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee.
 - a. Vance Grange summarized the latest committee meeting. Provost Coward reported on faculty salary compression and inversion. A motion was presented that the BFW committee support and further encourage the current efforts of the administration through Provost Raymond T. Coward to quickly address salary compression, inversion, and equity problems of faculty members of Utah State University.
 - b. Dave Cowley and BrandE Faupell reported to the committee regarding optional post retirement Medi-care supplement or Medi-care Advantage coverage for retirees of the University. Motion was made for the BFW committee support and further encourage current efforts of the administration through Dave Cowley and BrandE Faupell to provide optional post retirement Medi-care supplement or Medi-care Advantage insurance coverage for retirees of the University.
 - c. A motion was made that the BFW Committee commend the efforts of the administration through Dave Cowley and BrandE Faupell to provide improved optional long term care

insurance and additional retirement plan investment options to the employees of Utah State University.

- d. The committee review of the John M. Huntsman School of Business departmental restructuring request was limited to reviewing budgetary issues. There were no budgetary changes. It was moved that the BFW Committee has no objection to the budgetary impact of the departmental restructuring request of the John M. Huntsman School of Business.

Ed Heath moved to include resolutions a, b and c as information items on the Faculty Senate Agenda. Second was received and motion carried.

3. EPC Items. Covered under information items.
4. Committee on Committee. David Olsen and Alison Cook were elected by the Senate to serve on the Athletic Council. The President of the Senate makes certain appointments after receiving input from the Committee on Committees. Mike Parent requested approval of the Executive Committee for his appointments to the Calendar Committee, Cultural Activities Committee, Facilities Naming Committee, and Parking & Transportation Advisory Committee. These appointments were accepted. It was moved and seconded that page one of the COC report be placed on the Consent Agenda. Motion passed. John Kras moved to include the election of candidates for the Honorary Degrees and Screening Committee as a Key Issues and Action Item at the next Faculty Senate Meeting. Motion was seconded and passed.

Adjournment

Mike Parent adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by: Joan Kleinke, Faculty Senate Executive Secretary, 797-1776