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## Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes, March 8, 2010

Utah State University

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## **FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES**

**MARCH 8, 2010**

**Champ Hall Conference Room**

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**Present:** Ed Heath (Chair), Byron Burnham, Steve Burr, Renee Galliher, Jerry Goodspeed (excused), Kelly Kopp, Glen McEvoy, Mike Parent, Flora Shrode, Darwin Sorensen, Nathan Straight, Dave Wallace, Vincent Wickwar, President Stan Albrecht (Ex-Officio) (excused), Provost Ray Coward (Ex-Officio), Joan Kleinke (Exec. Sec.), Marilyn Bloxham (Assistant)  
**Guests:** John Engler, Doug Jackson-Smith, Sydney Peterson, Ed Reeve, Betty Rozum, Michael Torrens

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Ed Heath called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mike Parent moved to approve the minutes of February 16, 2010. Motion was seconded by Darwin Sorensen and the motion passed unanimously.

### **University Business – Provost Coward.**

President Albrecht is not in attendance today. Provost Coward invited Michael Torrens, the Director of Analysis, Assessment and Accreditation to join him. Mr. Torrens has done some analysis on faculty and tenure position trends nationally vs. USU. Nationally tenure-track positions are down 24%. Contingent faculty, instructors, and grad students teaching courses comprise the majority of instructors at 75% and administrative positions are up 41%. At USU over the last 10 years, tenure and tenure-track positions are down about 5%, contingent faculty comprises about 21% of instructional faculty, and administrative positions are down 34%. There was discussion about the positive impact this could have as a marketing tool both nationally for recruitment and politically for the State Legislature.

Steve Burr moved to place the report under Information Items in the Senate agenda. A second was received and the motion passed unanimously.

The State Budget is set and is completing the political process.

### **Announcements – Ed Heath**

The next Brown Bag lunch will be Thursday March 25 at noon in Champ Hall.

Mike Parent moved to include section 401 as a second reading as an action item for the Senate. Vince Wickwar seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mike Parent moved to place the Senate President elections on the agenda as an action item. A second was received and the motion passed unanimously.

The Executive Committee discussed the issues raised by the AFT committee; not enough people on the committee, the possibility of some administrative help, too much time is required of committee members, and so on. Ed Heath will talk with Tony Peacock and ask him to prioritize the issues and then the Executive Committee will consider them. There may be things that could be done independently of senate action. When asked for data about how many cases have been filed historically, the Provost said that there were approximately 15 cases in the last five years and none of them were successful.

### **Information Items**

**Honorary Degrees and Awards Report – Sydney Peterson.** Sydney Peterson presented the report to the Executive Committee and asked that the contents of the report remain confidential until a formal press release is issued.

Mike Parent moved to place the report on the Senate agenda as an information item. Nathan Straight seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Committee on Committees Election Results – Betty Rozum.** Election results are in from all the colleges except Natural Resources. A replacement alternate needs to be elected from Science. Currently the code does not allow for an RCDE representative to be on the Graduate Council. Mike Parent clarified that it is up to each college how many alternates they have and they can be designated rather than elected. There are no alternates for administrative appointments. There was some discussion about how the CEU merger will affect the senate apportionment and how to make the changes to bring them onboard.

Mike Parent moved to include the report as an Information Item on the Senate agenda, Flora Shrode seconded and the motion carried.

**PRPC Annual Report – John Engler.** PRPC has held four meetings this year. They have worked on section 401 and removed any references between resident and non-resident faculty. They have eliminated the definition of “Extension Agents” as it is no longer recognized by HR. The request to form an Ad Hoc Committee to review Term Faculty appointments across campus was discussed and Mike Parent moved to refer the formation of an Ad Hoc committee to BFW. The motion was seconded by Glenn McEvoy and passed unanimously.

Glenn McEvoy moved to include the report in the Consent Agenda, second by Mike Parent, motion carried.

Mike Parent requested the issue of forming an ad hoc committee be placed on the Senate agenda and have the BFW chair report on their discussion.

**Ad Hoc Committee Report on Pre-Tenure Mentoring & Evaluation – Mike Parent.** During the NWCCU accreditation visit, the issue of pre-tenure mentoring and evaluation was raised by faculty as a perceived conflict of interest. This became one of the eight recommendations from NWCCU. A committee was formed to look at the process. Two recommendations have come out of the committee. First, that training should come out of the Provost Office to the chairs of Promotion & Tenure committees. Second, that code language be changed focusing on the role and responsibility of the advisory committee to provide an annual evaluation.

Glenn McEvoy moved to place the report on the agenda as an Information Item, Renee Galliher seconded. Motion carried.

## **New Business**

**EPC Items – Larry Smith.** Ed Reeve presented the report in Larry Smith’s absence. He highlighted a few items from the report. There were about 50 new requests for course changes, fifty-seven were approved at the last meeting. Two course prefix changes were approved, “NFS” to “NDFS” and some courses from “BIE” to “CEE”. A request to implement a Graduate Route to Licensure in TEAL was approved. A request from CS to offer a BS degree in CS in China with an emphasis in Information Technology was approved.

Mike Parent moved to place the report on the Consent agenda, Vince Wickwar seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**PRPC Code Changes Section 402 – John Engler.** The committee changed a reference to Director referring to Extension and RCDE to VP. Language was revised regarding the way a Senator can be removed from their position. If a senator misses two meetings without having an alternate replace them or if they have alternate representation but miss 4 meetings, they would vacate their seat. In past years, letters have been sent to Senators who have not been attending. The Executive committee discussed whether to handle section 402 changes in pieces or as a whole unit. It was decided to proceed in pieces.

Vince Wickwar moved to place this item on the agenda as an action item, Byron Burnham seconded. Motion passed.

## **Adjournment**

Ed Heath asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.