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FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

AUGUST 30, 2010 3:00 P.M.

Champ Hall Conference Room

Present: Vincent Wickwar (Chair), Steve Burr, Byron Burnham, Renee Galliher, Jerry Goodspeed, Ed Heath (Past President), Scott Henrie, Lyle Holmgren, Doug Jackson-Smith, Glenn McEvoy (President Elect), Nick Morrison, Mike Parent, Flora Shrode, Nathan Straight, Blake Tullis, Dave Wallace, President Stan Albrecht (Ex-Officio), Provost Ray Coward (Ex-Officio), , Joan Kleinke (Exec. Sec.), Marilyn Bloxham (Assistant)

Vincent Wickwar called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motioned to approve the minutes of April 12, 2010 was made and seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

University Business - President Albrecht, Provost Coward. The USU-CEU merger is moving along rapidly. A January 1 deadline has been set regarding role statements for the 80 faculty members at USU-CEU. A workshop has been conducted to help them meet this deadline. There are still numerous details to work through such as course numbering but progress is being made.

Some critical USU milestones have been reached such as a 29% increase in research funding. The campaign has reached the \$300 million mark. US News and World Report classified USU as a Tier One school this year. Over the next four weeks there will be ribbon cuttings for four new buildings throughout the state.

Final enrollment numbers will not be available until the third week, but USU is on track to reach an all time high enrollment both in RCDE and Logan. Minority populations continue to rise; a total of 40.2% increase since Fall 2005. There are more graduate students enrolled outside of Logan than on campus. Female enrollment also continues to grow both on campus and in RCDE. General Education seats available have increased from 20,500 to 21,000 and enrollment is 18,154.

The Regents met last week. The University Presidents and Regents were in unanimous support of focusing on compensation this year. The economy still presents many challenges but this is a priority, even if only symbolic, to focus on this year.

The President will be sending bi-weekly emails to faculty and the campus community to communicate some of the issues and other events happening across campus.

Announcements

Calendar. The calendar for the upcoming academic year is attached to the committee's agenda packet.

Faculty Senate Member Roster. The most recent version of the Member Roster will be posted on the Faculty Senate web site. Check there for updates.

Brown Bag Lunch. The next Brown Bag Lunch is scheduled for 12:00 noon September 9, 2010 in Champ Hall.

Parliamentarian Needed. The Faculty Senate is in need of a parliamentarian. If you know of someone who would be willing and able to serve in this capacity please notify Vice or Joan. They do not have to be current senators.

Broadcasting all FSEC and FS meetings. We will be broadcasting our meetings this year to our colleagues at distant locations. Please be mindful that there are microphones and video equipment turned on so please keep whispering and paper shuffling to a minimum. When you do speak and address the entire committee, please speak loudly and clearly so that the transmission is audible.

Executive Committee Orientation. The function of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee is to establish the Faculty Senate agendas, propose committees, examine committee work and serve as the central steering committee for the senate.

There are still elections ongoing in the college of Agriculture, Humanities and Social Sciences and Caine College of the Arts. Vince Wickwar has appointed Nick Morrison to serve on the FSEC because he is the only one who fulfills the requirements for serving on the committee from his college.

Information Items

Blackboard Vista License Renewal – Vince Wickwar. The statewide license for Blackboard Vista is up for renewal in July 2012. UEN is conducting a six week trial of several other options. They could ask Blackboard for a good pricing to stay with the company, but they are also evaluating two other products, one of which is open source. Robert Wagner is the contact person for this issue and he is willing to come to Faculty Senate to answer faculty questions.

Mike Parent moved to place this on the Faculty Senate agenda as an information item and requests that Robert be invited to the meeting. Byron Burnham seconded, motion carried.

Graduate Council Report – Byron Burnham. Byron highlighted a few items from the Council Report. The Graduate School is facing several budget related issues. Processing time of new applications had been down to only a day or two but may now increase due to lack of funding for an adequate number of processors. This is the third year of offering graduate health insurance. There has been no cost increase over the three years and 72% of eligible students participate in the program. The research symposium conducted by the Graduate Student Senate was successful and over 600 students from various universities were involved. The number of graduate students has increased but scholarship numbers have been decreasing. This is due to budgets not increasing and the cost of tuition increasing. Under some conditions faculty might be asked to include tuition awards in grant proposals.

Mike Parent moved to place this report on the Consent Agenda, Renee Galliher seconded and the motion carried.

Section 402.4-402.13 and 405.11.4 to PRPC – Vince Wickwar.

Mike Parent moved to refer these sections to PRPC for their review, Glenn McEvoy seconded and the motion carried.

Other Items – Vince Wickwar. In last year's Faculty Senate session, a proposal was approved to bring in three members of USU-CEU to the Faculty Senate and one member to FSEC. An ad hoc committee was being organized to review and recommend code changes to integrate USU-CEU. The committee will be reporting back to FSEC later in the year.

Mike Parent moved to add this as an information item on the Faculty Senate agenda and Nathan Straight seconded. Motion carried.

The ad hoc Code Compliance Committee, which came about because of concerns raised in last year's Faculty Forum, met and did business last year. The committee is not dissolved, but must be renewed each year. Their report will be presented at the December meeting. At that time it will be determined if the committee should be renewed for another year.

Doug Jackson-Smith moved to place this on the agenda as an information item and Mike Parent seconded. Motion carried.

New Business

Research Council Member approval by Faculty Senate – Vince Wickwar. Bob Pack has been nominated to represent the Faculty Senate on the Research Council. The full senate must vote on this nomination.

Byron Burnham moved to place this on the agenda as an action item. Doug Jackson-Smith seconded and the motion carried.

Adjournment

Vincent Wickwar asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

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