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**USU FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 6, 2012
Merrill-Cazier Library, Room 154**

Glenn McEvoy called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of January 9, 2012 was made by Robert Schmidt and seconded by Jeff Smitten. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements – Glenn McEvoy

Roll Call. Members are reminded to sign the roll sheet at each meeting.

Faculty Forum Issues Update. Glenn updated the senate on the progress made on the five key issues raised during the November Faculty Forum.

- **Extra-service Compensation.** Provost Coward made an in-depth presentation at the last Faculty Senate meeting explaining there has been no change in policy, only more careful implementation.
- **Post-tenure Review Process.** A post-tenure review task force is up and running. They will be conducting three town-hall type meetings next week where faculty members will be invited to share their perspectives on the post-tenure review process and suggestions for improvement.
- **USU-Eastern Integration.** Vince Wickwar, Renee Galliher, and Glenn McEvoy will be traveling to Price on February 24 to meet with faculty at that campus.
- **External Review Letters.** This policy is being discussed by the Deans Council and the PRPC committee. A revision of policy will be presented to faculty in the near future.
- **Faculty Involvement in Campus Planning.** Vice President Dave Cowley is in the process of putting a mechanism in place to provide broader involvement in campus planning by the end of the academic year.

University Business – President Stan Albrecht, Raymond Coward

President Albrecht is in Salt Lake for the third week of the legislative session. Provost Coward extended an invitation to all faculty to attend the March 2nd Founders Day Dinner. The keynote speaker is Kentucky State University President Mary Evans Sias, Ph.D. Tickets are \$35 and available through the Advancement Office. He also informed the senators that the bill to eliminate tenure currently being discussed in this legislative session exempts Utah State University as well as the University of Utah.

The Provost also discussed the new IDEA Faculty Evaluation results and some of the national comparisons. 69% of USU courses fall above the IDEA data base mean for excellent teacher evaluations, 74% on excellent course evaluation and 74% of the weighted summary. After adjustment for students' self-reported motivation, self-reported work habits, and class size, these percentages drop somewhat, but results are still very positive in a comparative sense. A list of institutions included in the database is available on the IDEA website.

Consent Agenda Items –Glenn McEvoy

Bookstore Report – Alan Blackstock, David Parkinson

EPC Items – Larry Smith

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Mike Parent and seconded by Shannon Peterson. The motion passed unanimously.

Information Items

Graduate Program Review – Janis Boettinger. Information on the Graduate Program Review was sent to Department Heads on December 15. In January all faculty received an email from Mark McClellan explaining the review process. Every graduate degree program should now be in the process of conducting a self study as well as a department overview. This review is intended to be a faculty driven process. Each program should submit a self study form; the length should be a minimum of 5 pages or a maximum of 14 pages. If you have questions on filling out the form, contact Janis. There will also be a streamlined R-401 process to add, delete or rename degree programs that come out of this process. All information is due to Mark McClellan on March 1, 2012. A Best Practices Open House will be held in April. Each department's five-year plan for self improvement is due May 31.

Implementation of Common Hour – John Mortensen. The Common Hour will begin in Fall Semester on Wednesdays, 11:30 – 12:45. Typically the schedule is rolled over from the year before. This year, any classes MWF that began at 12:30 or later were moved back one-half hour. MWF 11:30 classes were changed to MF 11:30-12:45. These changes were sent to departments on January 19th and first draft revisions are due to the Registrar's office today (Feb. 6). The expectation is that, with few exceptions, no classes will be taught during that Wednesday Common Hour period so that both students and faculty will be available to participate in campus-wide events. Craig Petersen asked if there had been any criteria established to determine if the Common Hour is successful. John said that was beyond the scope of the Registrar's office, but there will likely be a review committee of some sort formed to evaluate the new program and schedule.

Robbins Award for Faculty Contribution to Shared University Governance – Glenn McEvoy. There are many awards campus wide to recognize excellence in several areas; however there is no recognition to those who devote significant amounts of time to university service and contributions to shared governance. The Faculty Senate leadership has been working on establishing a Robbins Award for Faculty Contribution to Shared University Governance. Some FSEC members are working on the criteria for the award. The award may or may not be presented this year, but will certainly be in place for next year. Please contact Glenn McEvoy, Mike Parent, Robert Schmidt or another member of FSEC with any comments or input.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made at 3:38 p.m. by Mike Parent and seconded by a slew of senators.