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**USU FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 10, 2012
Merrill-Cazier Library, Room 154**

Renee Galliher called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of April 30, 2012 was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements – Renee Galliher

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

Open Microphones. Senate members who attend the meeting on the Logan Campus are reminded that the microphones in the room are open and pick up whispers and paper shuffling that can be heard and is very distracting to the members at the distance sites.

FS Website. The most current and up to date Senate information and the following reference items can be found on the Faculty Senate website at <http://www.usu.edu/fsenate/>

- **FS Calendar** (on [FS website](#))
- **Faculty Senate Members Roster, Alpha Sort and by College** (on [FS website](#))
- **Faculty Senate Committee Assignments** (on [FS website](#))
- **Faculty Senate Handbook** (on [FS website](#))

University Business – President Stan Albrecht, Raymond Coward

President Albrecht gave a brief welcome and update of several issues concerning Utah State University. The Comprehensive Campaign is coming to a close with a celebration on October 12. The final number for the campaign will be announced that evening. On September 26 there will be a formal announcement and naming of the College of Natural Resources. The commercialization efforts are moving forward in a very positive way and President Albrecht expects that in the near future this will be a significant revenue stream for the University.

The President also highlighted the move to the Mountain West Conference which puts USU in an athletic conference with a set of institutions that are truly our peers. He believes the impact of the move to the Mountain West Conference will extend into academic areas as well.

USU has received some outstanding media coverage in recent weeks in a wide range of areas; from West Nile virus research to the photographs taken by the W.I.S.E. telescope. It is wonderful to have so much positive press about our student researchers and faculty.

On the budget front, the Utah economy has improved, but we will still be facing budget challenges in the upcoming legislative session.

Consent Agenda Items – Renee Galliher

Graduate Council Report - Mark McLellan. Mark McLellan highlighted some points from the report (which can be found on the [FS website in the agenda packet](#)); among them, the merger of the School of Graduate Studies and the Research Office into one unit and the positive outcomes of combining the offices. He also discussed the graduate program self study that has been conducted by each college and department across campus and changes to the tuition awards process that are being implemented.

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Doug Jackson-Smith and seconded by Jennifer Duncan. The motion passed unanimously.

Information Items

Honorary Degree Nominations – Larry Smith. Larry Smith issued a call for nominations for candidates for honorary degrees for the year 2013, as well as nominations for a commencement speaker for graduation 2014. For reference, the Honorary Degree section of the Provost's Office website lists recipients dating back to 1899. The nomination deadline is September 28, 2012. Turn in any nominations to Sydney Petersen in the Presidents' Office.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and the meeting adjourned at 3:29 p.m.