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**USU FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES
DECEMBER 3, 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 October 1, 2012 was made by Mark McLellan and seconded by Vince Wickwar. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements – Renee Galliher

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

University Business – President Stan Albrecht, Raymond Coward

President Albrecht gave brief updates to the senate on the positive signs in the economy and that he feels more optimism going into the next legislative session.

The morning after the announcement of the LDS Church in the change of ages for missionaries, a university committee was formed to look at the potential impact this would have on our enrollment numbers. James Morales chaired the committee and gave a brief summary of the committees' work. The numbers at this point are still very fluid. They have looked at the early registrations and the leave of absence filings as well as the number of students submitting their intent to vacate their apartments in university housing. The LDS church has also been surveying the local congregations to try and determine how many are now planning to serve missions. The task force will be looking at strategies on how to mitigate this impact in terms of recruiting additional transfer and out of state students.

The President told senators that two national searches are being initiated; one is for a new Vice President of University Advancement, and the second is to fill the position of Vice President for Extension and Dean of the College of Agriculture when Noelle Cockett moves into the Provost position in July.

Consent Agenda Items – Renee Galliher

Honors Program Annual Report – Michelle Larson
Faculty Evaluation Committee Annual Report – Karen Mock
Athletic Council Report – Ken White
ASUSU Report – Christian Thrapp
Retention and Student Success Report – John Mortensen
EPC Items for October and November – Larry Smith

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Doug Jackson-Smith. A second was received and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Code Change 402.12 Senate Standing Committees (first reading) – Terry Peak. The code was changed to clarify that there is one representative from RCDE as a unit on each of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees.

A motion to accept the changes was made by Glenn McEvoy and seconded by Scott Bates. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner's 66% Initiative – Raymond Coward. By the year 2020 the goal of this initiative is to have 66% of Utahans, age 25-35, have a postsecondary degree or certificate. Provost Coward presented USU's plan to achieve our part of that goal. USU must increase the number of degrees conferred by 4% annually (compounded) for seven consecutive years. The first year there will be a focus on STEM degrees and health professions. USU must match the State investment to the university of \$3.83 million per year, totaling \$26.81 million dollars. USU will implement three strategies to achieve the increase in degrees awarded; Improve completion rates, grow enrollments, and increase scholarships.

There was a discussion with the senators about specifics in the initiative, including clarification of how the 66% will be calculated and how the 4% increase in USU degrees will be counted. Additional discussion related specifically to planned allocation of funds if the legislature does provide the requested resources. The provost mentioned that everything on the list of proposed strategies is something that we are doing or have tried to do but the issue holding us back is lack of funding.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:12 pm.