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## Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes, February 18, 2014

Utah State University

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## **FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 18, 2014 3:00 P.M.**

**Champ Hall Conference Room**

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**Present:** Yanghee Kim (Chair), Dale Barnard, Rhonda Callister, Richard Clement, Jennifer Duncan (excused) Dan Davis (sub), Jake Gunther, Steven Mansfield, Robert Mueller, Jason Olsen, Robert Schmidt, Vincent Wickwar, Doug Jackson-Smith (President Elect), Renee Galliher (Past President), President Stan Albrecht (Ex-Officio) excused, Provost Noelle Cockett (Ex-Officio), Joan Kleinke (Exec. Sec.), Marilyn Atkinson (Assistant) **Guests:** Alan Stephens, Stephen Bialkowski, Larry Smith

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Yanghee Kim called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

### **Approval of Minutes**

There were no corrections to the minutes. The minutes of January 21, 2014 were adopted.

### **University Business - President Albrecht and Provost Cockett.**

President Albrecht was in Salt Lake at the legislature. Provost Cockett updated the FSEC on the legislative outcomes to date. There is discussion of a 1.5% cost of living increase for higher education as well as an increase in the Tier 2 tuition. The legislature will determine what the Tier 1 increase will be, possibly 3%. USU will need an additional \$1.2 million to meet the ongoing increases in pay to newly tenured faculty. This year, a record 70 binders have been turned in for the promotion and tenure process. The Central P&T Committee will begin deliberations next week. The Provost is pursuing moving to electronic portfolios to make it easier for reviewers to access the material electronically.

### **Information Items**

**Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee Report – Alan Stephens.** Alan asked for questions about the report. Doug Jackson-Smith asked if the Benefits Advisory Committee was still meeting. Alan confirmed that they are and had met with the VP of Finance last month on how the new healthcare law will impact the University.

Rhonda Callister moved to place the report on the consent agenda, Renee Galliher seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee Annual Report – Bryce Fifield.** Bryce was not able to attend due to illness.

Steve Mansfield moved to place the report on the consent agenda, a second was received and the motion passed unanimously.

**Honorary Degrees and Awards Report – Sydney Peterson.** A formal press release announcing the Honorary Degree recipients and the commencement speaker will be made by the next Faculty Senate Meeting, March 3, 2014.

A motion to place the item on the agenda as an information item was made by Robert Schmidt and seconded by Rhonda Callister. The motion passes unanimously.

### **Old Business**

**Post Tenure Review Decision Points – Yanghee Kim.** Six faculty members responded to the request for input on decision points. The FS leadership narrowed down the suggestions to 7 decision points. These were distributed to the FSEC with the agenda for the meeting. Jake Gunther asked for a change to number one to say explicitly "comprehensive peer review" to clarify that this is not referring to the annual review. There was discussion of the shared responsibility between the deans and department heads and coordination of this especially in RCDE for the triggered review. It was decided to remove the "by department head" wording.

Renee Galliher moved to put the first item on the list of discussion points for the next senate meeting. Jake Gunther seconded.

Issue two deals with committee structure and if it should be comprised at the college level or at the department level as in the current code. It was suggested to have a secondary question whether it should be a standing committee or an ad hoc committee as described in the current code.

Issue three is dependent on the decision on issue two. After a discussion on issue four, the question was asked if this point is necessary or if the current code handles this adequately.

A collective motion to place decision points two through four on the list for the agenda was made by Steve Mansfield and seconded by Robert Schmidt. The motion passed.

It was suggested that the wording referring to department heads be removed and changed to a multi-year rolling window or leave the wording of the current code if a review is triggered.

Renee Galliher moved to put issue five on the list as a follow up to issue number one. Robert Schmidt seconded and the motion passed.

Rhonda Callister moved to not take the Professional Development Plan section to the next Faculty Senate Meeting. Vince Wickwar seconded. The motion passed.

The FSEC engaged in a discussion to determine if the voting on these issues should be done by secret ballot. A motion was made and seconded to have the votes on discussion points done by secret ballot. More discussion followed, and senators mentioned how they like to see who is voting which way on topics as it might sway their votes. The motion to have secret ballots did not pass.

## **New Business**

**EPC Items - Larry Smith.** The action items included R401 changes for the Math Department.

A motion to place the EPC monthly report on the consent agenda was made by Steve Mansfield and seconded by Rhonda Callister. The motion passed unanimously.

### **PRPC Code Change 405.7.2, Notification Date Unification (First Reading) – Stephen Bialkowski.**

Motion to present this as an information item was made by Renee Galliher and seconded by Rhonda Callister. Motion passed.

### **PRPC Code Change 402.3.2, Add Assigned Teaching to List of Unavoidable Absences for FS Meetings (First Reading) – Stephen Bialkowski.**

Motion to present this as an information item was made by Vince Wickwar and seconded by Robert Schmidt. Motion passed.

**Reviews of Administrators – Yanghee Kim.** A faculty member asked in the Faculty Forum last fall about the frequency and transparency of administrator reviews. In the 100 Section of the code it says that administrators are to be reviewed at least every 5 years. By practice, they have been reviewed about every 3 years. Yanghee asked the FSEC committee to put the issue on the agenda for discussion by the senate. The senate has no authority to change that section of code, but could pass a resolution on the frequency of reviews and the sharing of the results.

A motion to place this item on the agenda was made by Steve Mansfield and seconded by Doug Jackson-Smith. The motion passed.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.