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## USU Faculty Senate Minutes, September 8, 2014

Utah State University

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**USU FACULTY SENATE  
MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2014  
Merrill-Cazier Library, Room 154**

**Call to Order**

Doug Jackson-Smith called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. The minutes of April 28, 2014 were adopted, with a correction on page 2.

**Announcements – Doug Jackson-Smith**

**Calendar.** The Faculty Senate Calendar is on the website. Please check it often.

<http://www.usu.edu/fsenate/calendar/FSCalendar2014-2015.pdf>

**Roll Call.** Members are reminded to sign the role sheet at each meeting, and alternates are to sign for the person they are representing. Please copy Joan in all communications regarding substitutes.

**Faculty Senate Committee Assignments.** There are several committees with vacancies that need to be filled. Thanks to all those who have volunteered over the last 2 weeks. If you can, please consider serving on a committee.

**Broadcasting to Distance Sites.** Senate meetings are broadcast to many distance sites. Please remember that there are many microphones in the room and noise and side conversations will be picked up.

**University Business – President Stan Albrecht, Noelle Cockett**

Provost Cockett addressed the Senate in President Albrecht's absence. She gave an update on the upcoming legislative issues. Currently they are developing capital building requests, especially the USU Biological Sciences Building. The request was submitted to the legislature at a total cost of \$65 million, \$10 million of which would be provided from private funds. Renovation of the BNR Building is included in the funding request. Projects outside of higher education that are competing for state funding are the relocation of the state prison and a testing lab. In conjunction with the U of U, the President is also working on extending the funding for Graduate Education awarded last year. This year some funding will be available for faculty who work with the graduate school as well. They are hoping for an increase of \$4 million to the ongoing graduate school budget. The number one priority will be continuing to address faculty compensation, both salary and benefits. Enrollment is up from last year, and only 200 under the 2012 enrollment which was the largest ever. The growth is primarily due to out of state students. Beginning in January, we should see an increase in enrollment in returning missionaries.

**Senate Orientation – Doug Jackson Smith, Joan Kleinke**

**Role of Faculty Senators – Doug Jackson-Smith.** Doug reviewed the code that outlines the role of faculty and the senate. The specific sections referred to were included in the agenda packet.

**Overview of Faculty Senate Webpage – Joan Kleinke.** Joan gave an overview of the Faculty Senate Website. The most current information will always be posted here. Please check it often.

<http://www.usu.edu/fsenate/>

**Reports**

**Research and Graduate Councils Report – Jeff Broadbent.** Since the merger of the Research and Graduate School offices, they will be combining their information into one report. Since their report was quite lengthy and detailed, Jeff highlighted only a few of their achievements. They have had an outstanding year. One high point was the new Microscopy Center, a restructuring of personnel appointments in the Sponsored Programs Office, and a total of \$220 million in sponsored programs, which is higher than ever before, despite the unfavorable climate in funded research. Jeff indicated that an important take away from the report is the information contained in Appendix 1.

A senator asked if the code had been rewritten to allow for the combining of the offices and the report. Provost Cockett reviewed the process that governs the 100 section of code that these changes fall into. In her view, the proper procedures were followed, and the merger was ratified by the President, the Executive Committee, and the Board of Trustees. Doug Jackson-Smith noted that a quick reading of the code suggests that changes related to faculty governance (including appointment of administrators) should normally be sent to faculty senate for input. Will look into this and report back.

### **New Business**

**Election of new Faculty Athletic Representative – Doug Jackson-Smith.** Doug asked for a motion to formally appoint Ed Heath as the faculty athletic representative to the NCAA.

A motion was made by Jake Gunther and seconded by Vince Wickwar. The motion passed unanimously.

**Election of new Committee on Committee Member and confirmation of other appointments – Doug Jackson-Smith.** Sheri Haderlie is chair of Committee on Committees and has nominated Leslie Brott to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> person on the committee.

A motion was made to appoint Leslie Brott to the Committee on Committee and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Doug made a motion to suspend the rules and allow a new item on the agenda, which is to confirm the rest of the faculty senate committee appointments that require faculty senate approval. The motion was seconded by Scott Bates and passed unanimously.

Other appointments requiring faculty senate approval:

Athletic Council – Paul Barr, Scott Bernhardt, and Caroline Lavoie

Research Council – Ryan Moeller

University Assessment Coordinating Council – Dennis Garner and Ziaojun Qi

Honorary Degrees – Vijay Kannan, Daniel Murphy, and Ron Patterson. The faculty senate forwards three nominees to the Presidents' office, who then selects the committee member.

All nominees were unanimously approved.

For information purposes, Sheri Haderlie presented a list of additional faculty senate committee appointments that do not require faculty senate approval.

**Proposed Code Change to Lengthen Term for Committee on Committees Members – Doug Jackson-Smith.** Currently members of the CoC serve a 2 year term.

Doug made a motion to send the issue to PRPC to draft code language changing this to a 3 year staggered term. The motion included only three of the four items that were included in the agenda: (1). Fix reference to 402.7.4 (accidentally says 7.3); (2). Establish 3 year staggered terms; and (4) Clarify that election is considered to automatically extend that individuals term in the senate for the # of years necessary to fulfill term on CoC (perhaps using the supernumerary

clause from the Senate Presidency section). The designation of the chair of the committee will be left as written in current code. The motion was seconded by Yanghee Kim and passed unanimously.

**Priority Issues for Faculty Senate Action in 2014/15 – Doug Jackson-Smith.** The faculty senate presidency has discussed with committee chairs what issues should be made a priority for senate discussion and action this year. Items discussed include revisiting the section 406 revisions, graduate status of faculty, and the role of lecturers and non-tenured faculty in the faculty code.

### **Old Business**

**Overview of Post Tenure Review Process – Doug Jackson-Smith.** Doug reviewed for the senates' information only, the history and process of the Post Tenure Review Process in recent years. It was revealed in the 2007 accreditation process that the PTR process was not consistently applied across campus. To address this, the faculty senate formed a task force which studied the issue, developed guidelines for policy, and drafted code changes. After much discussion, the senate did not approved the draft presented by the task force, but felt the issue deserved more attention and gave advisory votes on several decision points. There was discussion from the floor but Doug reminded the senate that this issue will be brought back to the senate again for more discussion and voting on decision points and code language at upcoming meetings throughout the year. The intent today was to only give a brief historical overview of what has happened on this issue in the past few of years.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:38 pm.