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**USU FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES
October 5, 2015
Merrill-Cazier Library, Room 154**

Call to Order

Ronda Callister called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. The minutes of September 14, 2015 were adopted.

Announcements – Ronda Callister

Roll Call. Members are reminded to sign the role sheet at each meeting and that absences need to be excused by letting the Executive Secretary know in advance.

University Business – President Stan Albrecht, Noelle Cockett

President Albrecht was not in attendance at this meeting. Provost Cockett informed the Senate that they are working on the requests for funding the building needs of the University. The Regents ranking of our building (Biological Sciences Building) is ranked 6th with the Dixie Fitness Center. They were surprised that the STEM Initiative that had been top priority for the two previous years seemed not to get much priority this round. Administration is still working on gaining more support to keep our request going and bring it forward this or the next legislative session. It is the largest funding request for higher education so far and it might be difficult for people to understand how one single building can have that large of a request.

The ribbon cutting for the new facilities in Price will be during the next Board of Trustees meeting. The Tooele building is getting ready to go and expected to be ready for use by January. The new facility in Brigham City will begin holding classes in January. It is also expected that the new Huntsman Hall on the main campus will be in use by January.

Information Items

Human Participants in Research Policy Code 584 – Mark McLellan. Scott Bates presented the new policy by way of information in Mark McLellan's absence. USU is working on an Institutional Conflict of Interest Policy which we have not had. The policy is to prevent a conflict of interest between the institution and research but only applies to human subject research. The draft policy is presented in your agenda packet. The IRB and Sponsored Programs will both be reviewing projects for funding and for potential institutional level conflicts of interest. So they will be looking at the contracts data bases, the gifts data bases, and the commercialization data bases for any conflicts of interest. Typically remedies can be achieved through a change in the reporting lines for the funding.

Reducing the size of Faculty Senate Committees – Ronda Callister. A discussion about reducing the size of some FS Committees was presented. Currently most senate committees have 15 members, one member from each unit and three additional Faculty Senate representatives. The proposal is to allow the three FS representatives to also represent their individual units. This would result in a reduction of 30 committee members overall. The details of the proposal and committees affected can be found in the material in your agenda packet. Ronda asked the senate for feedback on this issue to simplify the sizes of some of the FS Committees.

Reports

EPC Annual Report & EPC September Report – Larry Smith. Larry gave a brief overview of the Annual Report; all of the items in the report have come before the senate for approval during the last academic year. The September report included a few R401 proposals; there was a request from ASTE Department to offer an Associate's Degree in Ag Science which was not approved at the meeting. The proposal got sent back with feedback for revisions and improvement and it will be coming back again for approval. NDFS proposed to discontinue the Food Technology Management Emphasis and this was approved. FCHD wanted discontinue the Early Childhood Development Associate of Arts degree at Eastern. This proposal went back for some clarification. Psychology wanted to offer a minor in Behavioral Health and that was approved. There was also a request from the Department of Applied Economics to change the name of their Utah Center for Productivity and Quality of Work to The Extension Center for Business and Economic Development and that was approved. The Academic Standards Sub-committee had not yet met, and the Gen Ed Sub-committee had no reportable actions.

Honors Program – Kristine Miller. 2014 marked the 50th anniversary of the Honors Program at USU. The program has created a new admissions process involving more input from faculty in appropriate departments on all applications. They created two new advisory boards, one faculty advisory board and one student advisory board. They created detailed handbooks for the Thesis and Capstone process and for the Contract process for faculty and students. They created two new transcript designations called Global Engagement Scholar and a Pipeline for Service Learning Scholar. The goal for the program this year and going forward is to increase involvement. They are getting alumni involved with mentoring students this year. Kristine solicited suggestions for enrichment activities that would interest the honors students, if you have any suggestions contact her. They graduated 53 students last year and will be working on retention in the program to improve that graduation rate.

Libraries Advisory Council – Britt Fagerheim. The Council met only one time during the year. The other meetings were tabled because of the Library Dean search. One of the main issues was the bankruptcy of one of their major journal providers. This next year they will be identifying new Libraries Advisory Council representation as members are either retiring or rotating off the council. One of the major issues for the council to work on is the need for ongoing support for electronic journals and resources.

Parking Committee – James Nye. Currently two construction projects are taking up 58 stalls of Blue parking. The Maverick Stadium construction has eliminated 117 parking stalls and will likely take up more as construction work continues. Last year a Master Plan was created. They will be looking at increasing the fees to cover shuttle costs which are now being funded by student fees only. 150 faculty and staff currently purchase yellow parking passes and utilize the shuttle to commute to campus. They would like to have a new parking structure built in the next 5 years. They will also need to replace the computer system in the Aggie Terrace at a cost of \$160,000. Current revenues do not meet the ongoing needs and future parking fee increases can be expected.

A motion to accept all reports was made by Yanghee Kim and seconded. The motion passed.

Unfinished Business

402.12.7(1) Add “Faculty University Service Award” to the list of FEC Duties (Second Reading) – Jerry Goodspeed.

A motion to accept the code change was made by Yanghee Kim and seconded by Vince Wickwar. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

405.7.2(1) Allow for Presidential exceptions to external reviewers when teaching is the major role assignment (First Reading) – Jerry Goodspeed. This item had been discussed previously. It was reiterated that this would apply to teaching faculty only when teaching is the major role assignment. Doug Jackson-Smith made a motion to amend the wording with the phrase “Under exceptional circumstances” at the beginning of the PRPC changes. His motion was seconded and the amendment passed.

401.4.2(4) Proposal to change code to include State with Federal Cooperators (First Reading) – Jerry Goodspeed. No additional action or comments this will come back for a second reading at the next meeting.

Faculty Senate Reapportionment Proposal – Doug-Jackson-Smith. Doug presented a proposal to change the way the faculty senate representation is divided among the units and made a motion to send the issue to PRPC to formalize the code language. Trevor Olsen seconded the motion. This proposal would allow term faculty to be counted among the number of faculty for the purpose of apportioning Faculty Senate members. Yanghee Kim made a friendly amendment to delay moving this to PRPC to give senators one more month to think it over. Doug rejected the friendly amendment, saying that after the code is drafted they can discuss the fine details of it. The original motion was voted on and the proposal was sent to PRPC.

New Business from the Floor – Committee on Committees assignments – Sheri Haderlie. Sheri presented several committee assignments as information items, but two items require senate vote for approval.

- Grad Council – Keri Holt. Doug Jackson-Smith moved to elect and Vince Wickwar seconded. The motion passed.
- Honorary Degrees & Awards – Becky Blais, Ben Blau, Scott Henrie, Keri Holt, Don Larsen and Ralph Meyer. Ralph indicated that he saw his name on the BFW list Sheri put up and declined his nomination to the Honorary Degrees and Awards Screening Committee. Vince Wickwar made a motion to send the remaining names on to the provost as nominees for this committee. The motion was seconded and passed.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm.