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**USU FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES
February 1, 2016
Merrill-Cazier Library, Room 154**

Call to Order

Ronda Callister called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. The minutes of January 11, 2016 were adopted.

University Business – President Stan Albrecht, Noelle Cockett

President Albrecht was not in attendance at this meeting. Provost Cockett gave a brief overview of the upcoming legislative session. The priorities for funding in this session are the Biological Science building project, compensation, graduate funding and water outreach and research. There have been more bills filed prior to the start of the session this year than ever before, making for a very busy upcoming legislative session. The tuition for summer will be discounted again this year, based on the idea of "Take More Save More". The effort is to get students to take 30 credits over the entire academic year.

Information Items

403.3.1(112) Relatives in classes – Ronda Callister. This proposal is presented with the intent to send to PRPC for code language drafting. Senators commented that perhaps this addition and wording is redundant and unnecessary. It also implies that faculty members are not trustworthy and it is unenforceable. Questions of legality of the policy were also raised. There are also other relationships that could present the perception of unfair treatment.

No motion was made to move the item forward.

402.12 FS Committees proposed changes in committee size – Ronda Callister. This proposal reduces the size of Faculty Senate committees. Discussion among the senate resulted in the recommendation that FDDE retain 12 members and EPC be reduced to 12 members.

A motion to send the proposal to PRPC as amended was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports

EPC Report – Larry Smith. The Curriculum Subcommittee examined five short form R401 requests. Among them, a request from Psychology to restructure their PhD program to include two separate specializations; Counseling Psychology and School Psychology. Environment and Society presented a proposal to discontinue the BS degree in Geology Teaching and to also rename the MS and PhD degrees in Human Dimensions Ecosystems and Science Management to Environment & Society. ENVIS will no longer participate in the MS Bioregional Planning Program and LAEP will now administer the program completely.

Doug Jackson-Smith moved to accept the EPC report and John Seiter seconded. The motion passed.

Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee Annual Report – John Stevens. The committee has created a guidelines document to help grievant's and potential grievant's better understand

the process and the timeline. They also have voted to require the use of a short form to file a faculty grievance, not to make the process more difficult but to help clarify the process. They have also discussed the nature of the Tenure Advisory Committee and determined that, consistent with the faculty code, the role of the T&P Advisory Committee is to mentor the Department Head, not the faculty in the process.

A motion to accept the report was made and seconded. The motion passed.

Unfinished Business

405.12.1 Annual Review of Faculty (Second Reading) – Ronda Callister. No discussion.

A motion to accept the code change was made by Charlie Huenemann and seconded by Charles Waugh. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

405.12.3 CFAC Policy (First Reading) – Ronda Callister. This has been returned from PRPC for voting on by the senate. Clarification was made on committee makeup with a membership of 5 and 3 of those members serving on the appeals panel, with binding decisions coming from a majority of the 3 appeals panel members.

Doug Jackson-Smith moved to approve as edited and clarified. The motion was seconded by Britt Fagerheim and passed unanimously.

New Business from the Floor

Campus Diversity Council – Doug Jackson-Smith. Doug Jackson-Smith informed the senate of a grant program available to promote campus diversity and make USU a more inclusive place to live, work and receive and education. Please make people in your department aware of this grant. Information can be found on the Diversity Council website.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:52 pm.