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**USU FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES
March 14, 2016
Merrill-Cazier Library, Room 154**

Call to Order

Ronda Callister called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. The minutes of February 1, 2016 were adopted.

University Business – President Stan Albrecht, Noelle Cockett

The legislative session has just recently ended. The President will not be visiting each college individually, but will instead send out an email to all faculty and staff detailing the outcomes of the session. The final budget allocations impacting USU include:

- 2% merit based compensation increase (additional 1% health benefits)
- \$38 million for the new USU Science building
- \$1.2 million for market demand programs and the graduate initiative at USU
- \$5 million (one-time) for performance funding, system-wide
- \$950,000 to support USU Extension water conservation research initiative
- \$100,000 for expansion of the USU Assistive Technology Lab (to Roosevelt)
- \$250,000 for continued air quality research at the USU Bingham Research Center (Vernal)

The Presidential Search is underway. The search committee is being formed, the Chair will be from the Board of Regents and Co-Chaired by someone from the Board of Trustees. Candidates should be coming to campus during Fall Semester.

Provost Cockett updated the Senate on the CHaSS Dean's Search. The search committee has met and identified 6 applicants to pursue. They will be holding airport interviews in the near future with successful applicants coming to campus in mid-April.

Information Items

FEC Recommendations on IDEA – Tom Lachmar. The FEC recommends staying with the current electronic format, and wants to make faculty and departments aware of a few features that can be customized to better suit individual needs. They acknowledge that IDEA is not ideal for all courses; it does not work well in small classes and supports the suggestion of AAA Director Michael Torrens of a lower threshold of 5 respondents.

Athletics Council Membership 105.2.1(2) – Ronda Callister/Paul Barr. It is the opinion of the Athletics Council that the faculty representation on the Council remain as it is currently constituted. This will allow faculty representation on all three of the sub committees of the Athletics Council.

Open Access Policy 586.1 – Mark McLellan. Changes to this policy bring USU into compliance with federal requirements established in 2013.

Sexual Harassment Code Revisions 339/305 – Stacy Sturgeon & Krystin Deschamps. Changes to this policy are for the interim while work is done on bringing the policy into complete compliance with federal regulations. The affected parts of the student code involving alleged violations are also being updated. The main changes deal with adding language to include students, not just faculty and staff. The policy also gives notice informing participants that sexual

harassment and sexual misconduct are part of the same policy. Certain definitions are being added as well as clarification of the right for both parties to appeal decisions.

Stacy and Krystin asked for a non-binding vote of support, which was unanimous.

Reports

EPC Report – Larry Smith. Ed Reeve very briefly presented the report in Larry's absence. Only one R-401 request was presented; a request from Management to transfer the administration of the Management minor from the Deans office to the department.

Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee – Diane Calloway-Graham. Diane was not in attendance, no summary of the report was given.

Faculty Diversity, Development and Equity Committee – Cinthya Saavedra. Cinthya highlighted information provided in the report on female faculty by rank/tenure.

Doug Jackson-Smith made a motion to accept all of the reports. The motion was seconded by Vince Wickwar and passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

405.12.3 CFAC Policy (Second Reading) – Ronda Callister.

Jeffrey Dew made a motion to approve the policy and Charles Waugh seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

PTR Edits – Ronda Callister/Doug Jackson-Smith. During the PTR process last year, some questions were raised about some ambiguities in the language as it passed through the Presidents Council. Ronda and Doug have worked with Larry Smith to develop clarifications. Doug presented and explained each of the changes, most being simple grammatical corrections and minor rewording to make the code more clear and concise. Changes that concern deadlines were discussed at length. Doug clarified that a vote today would be to send the proposed changes to PRPC to draft the code language and then it would come back to the senate for further discussion before being passed as part of the code.

A motion was made to send all of the proposed edits to PRPC by Mark McLellan. A second was received and the motion passed unanimously.

405.6.2(2) and 405.8.2 CFAC Policy (Second Reading) – Ronda Callister. Time did not allow for discussion of this agenda item.

402.10.1 Reapportionment fix for missed section (First Reading) – Ronda Callister. This change is simply correcting an omission to this line in the code when the change was made and approved earlier.

Vince Wickwar made a motion to approve the first reading and Bob Mueller seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Prior to adjournment, Ronda asked if there were any volunteers willing to serve on a task force to help the student government review a new "no test week" policy. They would like to have faculty input before they push it forward through the approval process. Please contact her if interested.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.