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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes, March 20, 2017

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FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 20, 2017 3:00 P.M.

Champ Hall Conference Room

Present: President Noelle Cockett (Ex-Officio), Interim Provost Larry Smith (Ex-Officio), Vince Wickwar (Chair), Ronda Callister (Past President), Kimberly Lott (President-Elect), Michele Hillard (Exec. Sec.), Pamela Martin, David Brown, Leslie Brott, Jeanette Norton, Scott Henrie, Lisa Gabbert, Mark McLellan, Juan Villalba

Absent: Dennis Garner, Rick Heflebower, Chris Winstead

Guests: Michael Lyons, Jerry Goodspeed, Vijay Kannan

Call to Order

Vince Wickwar called the meeting to order at 3:08 pm

Motion to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2017 meeting made by Kimberly Lott. Seconded by Lisa Gabbert. Minutes approved.

University Business – President Noelle Cockett, Interim Provost Larry Smith

President Cockett informed the FSEC that the legislative session was over. It appears that the salary increase for the university will be two-percent. The President needs to meet with the Budget and Faculty Welfare committee, chaired by Diane Calloway-Graham, and inform them of the legislative decisions. Compensation provided 8% increase in the amount the state provides for insurance premiums and that amount goes to the university. The university has a directive that the employees must pay at least 10% of the total cost of their health insurance premiums. USU has always been able to stick with the 90-10 rule regarding health care premiums. If USU had not received this money they wouldn't have been able to provide this benefit and the employees would be paying more. As it stands, the state is not required to provide funding for the employees's increase. Contributing 16% on the employer side to help mitigate the amount the employees will have to pay. An agreement with the students was reached so that funds from the Tier 2 tuition can be used to help with the premium increase. There will also be a \$180 contribution for each employee per year to help with the insurance payment shortage. USU has the best (diamond) health care coverage. USU is paying \$11K per person, per year for healthcare benefits.

Growth dollars went to some Utah institutions, however, USU did not get any of those funds. Performance measurements was funded dependent upon retention, time to graduation and the number of graduates.

Central committee completed 70 reviews for promotion and tenure. Recommendations have gone to the president for consideration and action at the Board of Trustees.

Provost search – The goal is to do public launch this week and by the end of week it should be posted in the Chronicle. Interim Provost Larry Smith will be reaching out to the university community looking for help in building the candidate pool.

Information Items

Election Schedule | Procedures - Leslie Brott

Working on elections and the shift regarding the committee code change. Awaiting responses from two units but should be completed by the end of the week. Once elections are done, an interest survey will be sent out so that committee vacancies can be filled. It will also be necessary to have FSEC elections. Need to put forward nominations for President elect and a new member for Committee on Committees. Discussed contacting the committees and standing committees to make sure they have a meeting before the Spring semester and make sure they are staffed and ready for the upcoming year. New Senators will be invited to the late April meeting.

Motion to add election items to the Faculty Senate Agenda made by Leslie Brott. Seconded by Jeanette Norton. Information item added to FS agenda.

Reports

Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee - Michael Lyons

No business to consider this year. This committee meets only when there are grievances. Had one minor problem brought to the committee when faculty members supervise the academic work for their children. This is exceedingly rare and being handled in reasonable ways at lower levels. This usually occurs only when there is one course and the parent is the only one who teaches it. Nothing inappropriate so no further business.

Motion to move the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee report to the FS agenda made by Lisa Gabbert. Seconded by Leslie Brott.

Professional Responsibilities and Procedures Committee – Jerry Goodspeed

Slow year only had two rewrites. Currently working on 405.6.2 and 405.8.2.

Motion to move the Professional Responsibilities and Procedures Committee report to the FS agenda made by Pam Martin. Seconded by Jeanette Norton.

EPC March Report – Vijay Kannan

94 Course actions 93 approved – 1 tabled until next month's meeting. Looking at policy for 0 credit courses. Three R401 proposals approved.

General Education – approved 4 requests for designations. SB196 relates to math literacy and going forward students who have at least at 25 on SAT will be awarded 3 credits for having met certain standards.

AS – Course work on degree not eligible to be renewed.

Transfer credits. How to handle?

Working academic policy

Motion to move the EPC March report to the FS agenda made by Leslie Brott. Seconded by Ronda Callister.

SB238 Passed - (200 pages long)

1. Changes the name of ACTs
2. Dictates how Regent Boards members are selected
3. How the Regent's deal with R401s? For the last number of years R401s goes through the institutional committees and then goes to the Board of Trustees and Board of Regents. With this change proposals will now go to the Faculty Senate and Board of Regents before going to the institutional Board of Trustees. This senate bill becomes effective for the 2017-2018 academic year. Short template proposals no longer have to go to the Board of Regents.

Adjourn: 4:00 pm

Minutes Submitted by: Michele Hillard, Faculty Senate Executive Secretary, 797-0121