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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

November 6, 2017

3:00 – 5:00 pm

Merrill-Cazier Library, Room 154

Call to Order - Kimberly Lott

Approval of the October 2, 2017 Minutes

Minutes approved as distributed.

University Business - Noelle Cockett, President & Larry Smith, Interim Provost

Provost Smith stated that the two searches were moving along. For the Provost's search, all three candidates have come and gone for the campus interviews and the information has been turned over to the president. Today we have the first of two candidates for the Vice President of Advancement on campus and that search is moving along.

Two weeks ago there was a national recruitment event for Hispanic and Native American students in Salt Lake City. USU faculty was at the event helping to staff the recruitment table. Provost Smith was grateful for the faculty that attended and participated in this event. At the annual state general education conference a number of USU faculty were engaged and providing support. Many thanks to all who are supporting these events. Courtney Flint has been reappointed to the Scientific Advisory Committee of the EPA. These appointments promote a very positive image of USU.

President Cockett discussed the results from campus climate on sexual assault survey. The survey was sent to 23,000 students in spring 2017. USU received a 45% response rate which was equal to 10,000 students responding. This survey was very informative. 93% of the students surveyed felt safe at USU. What was disappointing is that only 45% knew where they could get resources if they experience nonconsensual sexual contact. Since the survey, the university has started several different initiatives. The consent initiative has been around for a while but USU is starting a bystander and mandatory freshman sexual assault training. In regards to nonconsensual sexual contact 7.2% said that they had experienced something since they have been at USU. 35% of the nonconsensual sexual contact included alcohol consumption and 90% of the individuals knew their assailant. These included friends, partners and casual acquaintances. One in ten female students at USU have experience sexual assault. Of the individuals who experience sexual assault, only 5% have actually reported to the Title IX office. USU has been working on providing more information to students on where they can get help for any kind of sexual harassment of assault. In the coming year, to put us on the same schedule as the other Utah institutions, the spring 2018 survey will be re-administered. Hopefully at that point, students will feel like they are better informed. Code Blue warnings have been sent out notifying students, faculty and staff of any incidents and these warnings are required under the Cleary Act. Anything that is reported to the USU police and occurs on campus must be immediately send out as a Code Blue warning. The university has experienced two in the last 6-8 months which is actually a low number. Overall, the USU campus is safe. Regional campus

were rolled into the main campus numbers. When the next survey is administered, the regional campuses will be broken out individually. The survey is on the website at: <http://www.usu.edu/sexual-assault/files/USU-Survey-on-Sexual-Misconduct-2017.pdf>.

Mental health and well-being is gaining more and more attention across college campuses throughout the United States and it is felt that social media has a lot to do with this. Last spring USU students agreed to an additional student fee of \$13 for full-time student and a 0.5% increase in second tier tuition to help with mental health and well-being. This money will be used for counseling and getting more help for the students. James Morales is preparing a trifold and bookmarker with information on how to reach out for resources for those at-risk students. The university is working with students, faculty and staff to make sure that everyone is aware of the process and what they can do to help.

Information Item

Faculty Forum (November 13, 2017) - Kimberly Lott

Email went out to all faculty with the agenda and flyer. There was a lot of discussion at the FSEC regarding the agenda. One of the biggest issues that came up is the lack of excitement about Faculty Senate. Most members are not really sure of their responsibility or role. Shared governance is a recurring issue and it is not apparent how it works or even if it is working. Some senators don't feel like they can speak freely when administrators are in the room, however, administrators are needed to help affect change.

Funding from outside donations was another question. Should faculty have input or buy-in on donations that are made to the university? What can faculty do and what is the expectation?

Retention of Pre-tenured Faculty – April 2016 FDDE committee report showed very striking results where we lose a lot of faculty members pre-tenure. This trend was alarming to faculty.

Reports

EPC October Report - Ed Reeve

74 requests (approved 66 – rejected 8)

Four R401 program proposals approved

No Academic Standards or General Education reports.

Motion to approve the EPC report made by Ben George. Seconded by Ralph Meyer. Report approved.

Faculty Evaluation Committee Annual Report - Nathan Washburn

There were a number of recommendations for IDEA. The concern was that the committee can provide recommendations but is anyone acting on or following up on them? The FEC and Faculty Senate are looking for actionable recommendations. When IDEA was first administered, there was a lot of training and the culture understood IDEA and could understand the value and rationale. Some find it useful – others do not, but it is good to have a valid national instrument. Need to start a discussion where we look at a more comprehensive way to evaluate teaching. No one's T&P comes down to what has come out of the IDEA evaluations. Numbers do not really reflect all that is done to be or become good teachers.

Motion to approve the FEC report made by Becky Blais. Seconded by Ronda Callister. Report approved.

New Business

In FSEC, it was asked where this information goes once it is provide to the Faculty Senate. It was decided that a process needs to be put in place to get this information disseminated and put into action. It is felt that the senate needs to quit spinning its wheels and make a real difference. If it is informational, it should be passed to all faculty in the easiest way possible, and, if it is actionable, a process needs to be established in order to move it forward and see a resolution. Some of these issues can be alleviated now that there is a Faculty Senate representative on the Department Head Executive Council. Becki Lawver is the new representative.

Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR) - Kimberly Lott
USU is required to have a FAR representative. A person can serve four years and then is eligible for another 4-year term. Ed Heath is eligible for reappointment and has agreed to serve if it is approved. Code 402 says that the President is supposed to gather the six FS representatives on the council and ask them for their recommendation. All six individuals asked that Ed Heath be reappointed. This was brought to the senate for ratification.

Motion to ratify Ed heath as the Faculty Athletic Representative made by Vince Wickwar. Seconded by Briedi Gillespi.

Adjourn 3:50 pm