

Utah State University

DigitalCommons@USU

Faculty Senate & Faculty Senate Executive
Committee

Faculty Senate

1-22-2018

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes, January 22, 2018

Utah State University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/fs_fsexec

Recommended Citation

Utah State University, "Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes, January 22, 2018" (2018). *Faculty Senate & Faculty Senate Executive Committee*. Paper 263.

https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/fs_fsexec/263

This Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at DigitalCommons@USU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate & Faculty Senate Executive Committee by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@USU. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@usu.edu.





FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 22, 2018

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Old Main-Champ Hall

Present: Kimberly Lott (President), Vince Wickwar (Past President), Rebecca Lawver (President-Elect), President Noelle Cockett (Ex-Officio), Interim Provost Larry Smith (Ex-Officio), Michele Hillard (Exec. Sec.), Arthur Caplan, Nancy Hills for Matt Omasta, Zsolt Ugray, Donna Gilbertson, Lisa Gabbert, Juan Villalba, David Brown, Pamela Martin, Dennis Garner, Scott Henrie, Rick Heflebower, Robert Wagner,

Absent: Chris Winstead

Guests: Michael Torrens, Edward Reeve, Ed Heath, Alison Cook

Call to Order - Kimberly Lott

Approval of December 11, 2017 [Minutes](#)

Minutes approved as distributed.

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

Today was the first day of the start of the 2018 legislative session. The State of Utah has a 45-day legislative session. There are already 1300 bills that have been opened, but not all will result in filed bills. The bills that are being closely watched are the ones that have been developed by Kim Coleman. Kim has focused on freedom of speech at universities. She belongs to a group named FIRE and their philosophy is that universities are full of liberal minded faculty that are indoctrinating students. Kim wants to insure that both the liberal and conservative views are shared across university campuses. She is also looking at harassment and would like to raise the issued above Title IX definition. This, however, would put universities at greater risk. The state's tax revenue situation is good. The estimates are at \$100M one-time and \$310M ongoing. Looking at putting \$100K or more in the rainy day fund to build it back up. The governor did an interesting thing - he proposed that higher education salaries should be fully funded through the state. Whatever USU's compensation is, it must obtain 25% through tuition, and it is necessary to do a second tier tuition increase to pay for promotion and tenure salary adjustments. President Cockett met with the BFW committee to share the USHE budget request. Soon after the legislative session, the President will meet with BFW to discuss compensation.

If the government shutdown stays in effect, the Air Force men and women's basketball meetings will be cancelled. The President has asked the faculty senate to help obtain feedback on what the university wants the graduate school to look like at USU. Currently working with a task group to obtain this information. Two letters went out last week 1) requesting that the government reinstate DACA and 2) focusing on mental health and well-being.

In the January Board of Trustees meeting, the process for R401 program proposal reviews used the new Academic Approval Committee. Trustees seemed to be happy with the new approval process. Last Thursday at the CAO meeting, there was a discussion on the issue of faculty workload across institutions. USHE flagged any institution where the faculty workload was not meeting the State Board of Regents requirements. USU was the only institution, in the state, that was not flagged at this time.

Information

Faculty Senate Membership Update - Rebecca Blais

Currently working on membership for the 2018-2019 AY. Chris Winstead is no longer able to serve on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee nor the Faculty Senate. His replacement for both will be Timothy Taylor.

Accreditation Update - Michael Torrens

USU has reached the end of its accreditation cycle and will be hosting a panel of peers, approximately 8 or 9 individuals, who will visit campus. It is not known whether they will want to talk with the Faculty Senate. USU does have to have regional accreditation in order to accept federal financial money. A 175-page report has been prepared for the committee to review. USU will respond to any requests/questions that may arise. This review occurs March 26-28.

Reports

EPC January Report - Edward Reeve

The EPC meeting was held on January 4

Approved 77 courses

Approved two R401 Proposal proposals.

Academic Standards worked on the English proficiency policy for international studies.

General Education had no report.

Motion to move the EPC report to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Arthur Caplan. Seconded by Lisa Gabbert. Moved to agenda.

Budget and Faculty Welfare Annual Report - Lisa Gabbert | Alison Cook

This committee was not overly functional last year but the committee is now interested in aligning responsibilities for the committee. The committee is pushing for more shared governance on key items. Adhering to the code and fighting for the faculty, as well as looking for additional transparency are some of their goals. Currently they are dealing with issues of per diem, questionable R401 items, etc. Per Diem, calculations do not take into account that faculty take some of those funds out of their research grants. The question was asked if a faculty member could take the full per diem rate if they are using research grant dollars. These discussions will continue. BFW will be participating in the budget process once the legislative session is over.

Motion to move the Budget and Faculty Welfare report to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Vince Wickwar. Seconded by Donna Gilbertson. Moved to agenda.

Athletic Council Annual Report - Ed Heath

The graduation rate for USU athletes is at 89% and this puts USU in the lead for our conference. The question was asked if anyone does the reporting for the USU Eastern athletes or teams. The answer is no - USU Eastern is not included in the USU numbers here at campus because they are in two different divisions.

Motion to move the Athletic Council Report to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Pamela Martin. Seconded by Juan Villalba. Moved to agenda.

New Business

Code 401.4.2 – Faculty with term appointments talks about faculty who are under corporate agreements with the federal government but does not talk about faculty under state government. There needs to be a code clarification to include state.

Move to move to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Donna Gilbertson. Seconded by Vince Wickwar. Moved to agenda.

More faculty conversations regarding the Koch Foundation funding. This item would need to be put on the Faculty Senate agenda. A few Faculty Senate Executive committee members would like to create a task force, appointed by the Faculty Senate President, to write a resolution regarding the Koch funding. The resolution is a statement that a stance is made on an issue. What is the purpose of this resolution? It states, on record, how the

faculty feel about this issue. The recommendation was made that individuals who have a concern about this gift get a written copy of the agreement read it and become fully informed and educated regarding what the agreement does or does not say. This would also help cut through the myths, etc. The task force would need to be comprised of individuals who are both for and against the donation/gift. It is important to find individuals on the task force who can be objective.

Motion to put on Faculty Senate agenda made by secret vote 8 move forward to agenda 4 not on agenda.

Motion to include New Business on the Faculty Senate Agenda made by Becki Lawver. Seconded by Arthur Caplan. Moved to agenda.

Old Business

405.6.2 (2) Promotion Advisory Committee (PAC) (third reading) - Ronda Callister

This policy has been with PRPC since April 2016. December was the second reading. The Faculty Senate will take that action this spring/summer to remove all references to Regional Campus Deans in policy 405.

Motion to move 405.6.2(2) to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Pamela Martin.

Seconded by Donna Gilbertson. Moved to agenda.

Adjourn 4:33