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## Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes, March 19, 2018

Utah State University

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## **FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

March 19, 2018

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Old Main-Champ Hall

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**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, Zsolt Ugray, Donna Gilbertson, Lisa Gabbert, Juan Villalba, Pamela Martin, Dennis Garner, Scott Henrie, Robert Wagner, Timothy Taylor, David Brown,

**Absent:** Nancy Hills for Matt Omasta, Rick Heflebower,

**Guests:** Edward Reeve, Interim Vice Provost, Marla Boyer, Sr. Associate Director, Ronda Callister, Professor

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### **Call to Order - Kimberly Lott**

Approval of March 19, 2018 [Minutes](#)

*Minutes approved as distributed.*

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

The president spent the morning with justices from the Utah Supreme Court. This was the first time that they have ever been at USU as they usually only go to law schools at the University of Utah and Brigham Young University. Two cases were presented and the president stated that she now has a greater appreciation for the judicial side of government and is pleased that USU helps students outside of the classroom with events such as this. The legislative session has ended and the president will start setting up budget hearings where the deans and vice presidents will bring forward requests at the units as well as the university levels. It is important to achieve transparency in funding across the university. The president and provost will be meeting with Budget and Faculty Welfare committee on March 20 to discuss the budget. President Cockett is looking for recommendations on how the 2.5% merit based increase will be distributed and she has been visiting with students about second tier tuition increases for the coming year to recover 25% of the 2.5%. First tier tuition will increase 1.5% statewide contingent upon the Regents approval. Worked with student government truth in hearing and discussed various initiatives that they may be willing to support. Promotion increases of 15% for faculty requires about 1% tuition increase. The increase will also help with compliance offices across the campus, including disability resources, mental health and well-being and more for sexual assault to CAPS, SAAVI, and the Title IX office. Included in the increase will be classroom upgrades. Anytime we raise tuition, we have learned that we must also have a source of money to raise the scholarship pot.

The Central committee deliberated on 64 T&P packages. Currently preparing decisions to pass along to the trustees. This week and next week there will be three interviews for the Dean of College of Engineering.

### **Information**

#### **Policy #355 Relocation - Marla Boyer**

Any payment that is made to an individual in regards to relocation now becomes a taxable expense and anything that the university pays is considered taxable.

## Reports

### **EPC March Report - Edward Reeve**

General Education – No report.

Academic Standards covered two important items: 1) they revised final language for fall and spring semesters, 2) no-test day policy for fall and spring semesters. Also approved some student code revisions. The student code revision committee has been working for two years. The student academic integrity code falls under the Academic Standards committee for review and approval. President Cockett has pulled together a working group to look at all university policies. One idea is to have more combined policies, however, one of the nagging worries is how approvals are obtained by all the different levels and how can we move forward policies that affect both faculty and students? The university could potentially come up with a 700 section that deals with employee rights. Many questions and processes remain but the committee will work on them.

154 - Course requests reviewed and approved.

One R401 – Minor in Film Studies in the Department of Art and Design in the Caine College of the Arts.

Adding a section to Curriculog for course objectives. Working on Syllabus tracking in CANVAS.

The request from the Jon M. Huntsman School to establish a Department of Marketing and Strategy was brought forward to the Curriculum and EPC committees. It was also sent to the Budget and Faculty Welfare committee and they expressed their concerns. The concerns were shared with the Curriculum committee. The proposal was approved at the Curriculum committee; however, the EPC committee had some concerns. EPC wanted to know if faculty that were being impacted by this change actually supported this new department. The dean of the college announced the department split at 8:00 am the next morning with no faculty input or prior information and no one has been able to find out if shared governance was included during the R401 process. The BFW will work with EPC committee so that R401 forms can be created that will ask the relevant questions. Provost Smith feels good about the way that the committees have looked at and shared opinions and results.

*Motion to move the EPC report to Faculty Senate Agenda made by Pamela Martin. Seconded by Arthur Caplan. Moved to Faculty Senate.*

### **Faculty Diversity, Development and Equity (FDDE) Annual Report - Ronda Callister**

The committee looks at the composition of faculty within colleges compared to the graduation rate of women and minorities. The Title IX office collects the data and then FDDE pulls the information together. It is important to take this information back to the colleges so that they can be aware of the numbers/deviations. It would be a good idea to provide a mini-report for each college.

*Motion to move the FDDE report to Faculty Senate Agenda made by Vince Wickwar. Seconded by Juan Villalba. Moved to Faculty Senate.*

### **Professional Responsibilities and Procedures (PRPC) Annual Report - John Gilbert**

See report for the couple of code changes that went through this academic year.

*Motion to move the PRPC report to Faculty Senate Agenda made by Arthur Caplan. Seconded by Donna Gilbertson. Moved to Faculty Senate.*

### **Honorary Degrees and Awards - Sydney Peterson**

A subcommittee of trustees and faculty go through nominations and then make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees. Once the decision is made, the president will then reaches out to the recipients. A full report of recipients will come forward at the April 2 Faculty Senate meeting. The committee is looking at doing things differently moving forward. In the past, it has been tricky to get high-profile individuals to come and speak and the committee is already talking about next year's nominations. Also looking outside the box in how to get speakers as a high impact speaker is a gift to the graduates. It is nice to get speakers that feel it is an honor to be a USU.

*Motion to move the Honorary Degrees and Awards report to the Faculty Senate Agenda made by Pamela Martin. Seconded by Vince Wickwar. Moved to Faculty Senate.*

#### **Old Business**

##### **401.4.2 (7) State Cooperator (SC) Ranks (first reading) - John Gilbert**

Adding the State Cooperator rank into the policy so that both state and federal employees are separated. For clarity, have headers that state term appointments.

*Motion to move code change to Faculty Senate Agenda made by Vince Wickwar. Seconded by Donna Gilbertson. Moved to Faculty Senate.*

#### **New Business**

##### **Differential Tuition - Becki Lawver**

There was a request by a Faculty Senate member about a month ago who had some concerns about differential tuition. Would like to have President Cockett provide an update. President Cockett will give this body an overview.

Differential tuition falls under the Board of Regents policy. They approve universities bringing forward differential tuition requests and approve them at the Regents meetings. They do not require any reviews and/or updates once the request has been approved. In order for these request to make it to the Board of Regents they must go through the USU Board of Trustees. USU Trustees have concerns that there are no regular reviews once the differential tuition has been granted. Earlier this year, in January, it was decided that USU would like to have an internal audit done on all differential tuition programs on a 5-year reoccurring basis. USU's internal audit group will conduct both fiscal and operational audits. Some institutions such as Southern Utah University, Utah Valley University and Salt Lake Community College do not have differential tuition. It is believed that the Board of Regents will change their policy requiring universities conduct some sort of review. At this point USU is one-step ahead in the process. USU has had differential tuition for many years now; however, they are often referred to as program fees. The Colleges of Art, Business, Education and Engineering all have approved differential tuition. The College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences requested to move forward this year, but after a review they were told no, they were not ready.

There needs to be a systematic way to request and review this process. It would help if the administration within these colleges and programs could inform their students about what they receive through differential tuition. The President is also passionate about getting funding to students that are in need. In order to do this the colleges need to be more transparent and get the students more involved in the process. Empower the students to figure out what the best policy would be. Students need to be active and vocal about this, especially those on the regional campuses. The internal audit information will be shared on Faculty Senate agenda and will be part of university business.

**Adjourn 4:45**