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## Faculty Senate Minutes, September 9, 2019

Utah State University

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## **FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**

September 9, 2019

3:00 – 4:30 pm

Merrill-Cazier Library, Room 154

### **3:00 Call to Order** - Patrick Belmont

[Approval of Minutes](#) – April 29, 2019

*Minutes approved as distributed.*

### **3:05 University Business** - Noelle Cockett, President | Frank Galey, Provost

Provost Galey – A taskforce was put in place that looked at programs related to women and gender studies. This taskforce led by Christy Glass and Susan Grayzel. As a result of their input and others on campus, the decision was made to redirect that program into two different directions. First is to move student activities to the Inclusion Center, and second all other operations needed to be moved into an academic unit, which will be the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Christy Glass will be the interim director. Center of Intersectional Gender Studies and Research. This center is part of a larger program that the President announced last week which is a one and a half year celebration for the Year of the Woman. Goal for that time period is to honor those women past, present and future who have had an impact on USU. Rolling out an assessment program due to last year's accreditation problems with general education. Will begin using an electronic system that relates to the rubric for the designations to help with this problem.

President Cockett – Year of the Woman – colors are purple gold and white. Those were the colors of the suffrage movement. Purple ethics and integrity, yellow brightness, white for purity. Enrollment numbers may disappoint because we are down 200 across the campus. Down 300 in FTE. This is not a bad thing. These enrollment numbers show a positive trend in completion. USU raised graduation rate by 8% from what happened in Spring 2018 to Spring 2019. That means more students are completing their degree and leaving USU. Freshman enrollment is up 2% but that is not offsetting the decrease. It appears that we will be plateauing in the next little while. Will see an increase of students that graduate in 4 and 6 years. USHE is already working on FY21 budget that doesn't go into effect until July 1, 2020. Last year legislators really pushed giving money on performance and completion is one of the key performance indicators. We received 100% of \$\$ because of our improvements in completion last year. We only needed 1% to get all the money. Two universities didn't meet performance measurements but are being rewarded for more students. USHE guaranteed that performance will not take out completion. We are not getting counted for the Veterinary graduates since they finish the 3-4 year at Washington State. Graduate students are increasing over last year. That is one group that is increasing. We are down 8.5M tuition by doing the plateau. The plateau tuition schedule allows students to get 'free credits' if they move from 12 to 15 credits in a semester.

### **3:20 Information**

Welcome 2019-2020 Faculty Senators - Patrick Belmont

President Belmont thanked the faculty members for being willing to serve on the Faculty Senate. USU's administration is committed to shared governance and listening to the faculty. This academic year the senate will receive a large number of reports which are very important and informative. The senate considers faculty interest and faculty welfare in the meetings. Senate also spends a significant amount of time on faculty code. David Farrelly will chair the PRPC

committee and will work on code changes this academic year. There are still two vacancies on the PRPC committee if anyone is willing to invest some time and serve please contact David. Another important part of the senate is communicating with all other faculty members.

#### College Level Faculty Forums - Patrick Belmont

The university faculty forum and has waned in the last couple of years and it is felt that it has become less effective. One suggestion that was given was to have college level faculty forums before the university one. College of Education is the only college not currently scheduled. By code, no minutes are taken at the faculty forum. Some things that have come out of the Faculty Forum is the Koch taskforce the greenhouse gas emissions resolution. There are minor code changes that may not seem like a big grandiose thing but they allow issues and concerns to be discussed. No administrators or press are allowed at these meetings. The most important outcome is that faculty is being heard and they know that people are working on their behalf. This year's university forum is scheduled for November 11.

#### Human Resource Policy Changes - Doug Bullock

Doug Bullock was unable to attend so this item will be moved to the October 7 Faculty Senate meeting.

### 3:45 Reports

#### Empowering Teaching Excellence - Neal Legler | Travis Thurston

ETE Conference was held on August 14 and had approximately 400 attendees with 71 faculty/staff presenters. At the Foundations of USU Teaching there were 49 attendees. ETE 10 program awarded 1155 badges. 364 faculty members have earned badges with 36 culminating certificates earned. They are also publishing the Journal on Empowering Teaching Excellence and just put out the fifth issue, currently working on the sixth. Offering workshops on a mostly weekly basis. ETE faculty committee rotates each year and there are subcommittees that require other staff across the state.

*Motion to approve the Empowering Teaching Excellence annual report made by Becky Blais. Seconded by Boyd Edwards. Report approved.*

### 3:55 Old Business - Patrick Belmont

403.3.1 – Standards of Conduct – Faculty Responsibilities to Student

403.3.2 – Standards of Conduct – Professional Obligations

405.8.2 – Faculty with Tenure below Rank of Professor

405.11.4 – External Peer Reviews

405.12.2 – Post-Tenure Review of Tenured Faculty

407.1.1 – Non-punitive Measures

407.8.5(3) – Temporary Suspension with Full Pay Pending Final Disposition

407.11.2(2) – Notification of Faculty Member

407.11.3 – Protection of Complainant and Others

Will be working with PRPC to bring the code changes forward.

### 3:45 Adjourn