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## Faculty Senate Agenda, September 8, 2020

Utah State University

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## **FACULTY SENATE AGENDA**

September 8, 2020

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

[Zoom Meeting](#)

### **Agenda**

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- 3:00 Call to Order** ..... Timothy Taylor  
Approval of Minutes – [April 27, 2020](#)
- 3:05 University Business** ..... Noelle Cockett, President | Frank Galey, Provost
- 3:20 Information**  
EPC Monthly Report – [July 30, 2020](#) ..... Paul Barr
- 3:25 Reports**  
[Empowering Teaching Excellence Annual Report](#) ..... Neal Legler | Travis Thurston
- 3:35 Old Business**  
Update on AY2019-2020 Code Changes ..... Patrick Belmont
- 3:40 New Business**  
Code Updates for the 2020-2021 AY ..... Timothy Taylor | Frank Galey

**Adjourn: 4:00 pm**



## **FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**

April 27, 2020

3:00 – 4:30 pm

Merrill-Cazier Library, Room 154

**Call to Order** - Patrick Belmont

[Approval of Minutes](#) – March 9, 2020

*Minutes approved as distributed.*

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

President Cockett stated that the university has had an amazing year....one that we will never ever forget. She thanked the faculty because they were at the very core of navigating this unusual experience. There have been a lot of disappointments to get through, the biggest one being the loss of commencement. The summer will be much quieter than normal because we are doing all on-line classes for the first seven week and the fourteen-week sessions. For the second seven-week session we hope to be able to do some synchronous classes with the students. Looking at forward to the fall semester and how courses will be delivered. The departments will decide on how they would like to have their courses taught. At that time, the university will still need to implement social distancing even if students attend in person. Dorms will be open and that brings up a whole different set of questions and concerns. The most challenging situations in how to keep students safe and care for each other. A lot of work needs to be done and that is the part that worries the President the most. More decisions need to be made in the future. The Governor has hired Leavitt Partners to advise and assist the eight public institutions develop a plan for fall. USU also has an internal committee working on the same plan. Primary information regarding reopening will come from both Academic Instructional Services and the Provost's office.

The decision was made to administer IDEA surveys to students for the spring semester, but in consultation with faculty senate, it was also decided that this information would not be included in the database. Faculty members will be the only ones to view them. A survey has gone out to faculty and administration is urging faculty members to complete it. Student feedback has already been received. Currently working on graduate student applications. Most are in but still receiving a few. The standards are being relaxed for written transcripts. Departments can waive tests if they would like. Each department needs to review their situation and decide on how they want to move forward. The graduate students' current health insurance provider costs jumped up 25%. Most of the problem with the increase was from dependent coverage. Next year USU will likely drop the dependent coverage. Most universities do not provide the dependent coverage. Departments will be hearing from CIDI to start discussing what the classes might need to look like in the fall semester. Taking an initial survey of classrooms. John Mortensen will be reaching out to each department to begin the discussions.

### **Information**

[EPC Monthly Report](#) – April 2, 2020 - Paul Barr

General Education approved 11 course designations.

Academic Standards had no meeting.

Curriculum Committee approved 113 semester course approval forms as well as seven R401 requests.

## Reports

**Committee on Committees** Annual Report – Rachel Walton for Jan Thornton

*Motion to approve the Committee on Committees Annual Report made by Rachel Walton. Seconded by Benjamin George. Report approved.*

Senate elections are in the process and almost complete. Faculty senators need to be prepared to fill a three-year term. Faculty Senate Executive vacancies will be decided upon during the April 27 meeting.

**Calendar Committee** Annual Report - Renee Galliher

*Motion to approve the Calendar Committee Annual Report made by Scott Hunsaker. Seconded by Becky Blais. Report approved.*

The committee made a recommendation for the 2022-2023 academic calendar. The committee also recommended a proposal for employee holidays in the 2023 calendar year.

**Recruitment & Retention** Annual Report - Heidi Kesler

*Motion to approve the Recruitment and Retention Annual Report made by Becky Blais. Seconded by Vonda Jump Norman. Report approved.*

This year recruitment numbers, and information has been added to the retention report. Last fall was working on a Strategic Enrollment Management plan and USU is on track. In the last six weeks approximately 200 recruiting events have been canceled. Recruitment and retention are adjusting during this difficult time. One of the changes is that all events were moved to a virtual platform. Currently providing two to three events every Wednesday for students and parents. Also been working on initiatives to help students that have been coming back from leave. The scholarship deadline has been extended to June 1. Just started a jump-start for the summer semester. Fall 2020 numbers look healthy but still being cautiously optimistic. President Cockett submitted metrics to USHE and we were able to meet those goals. Tracking students and providing additional information regarding the support that is available. Currently in the process of hiring students that will call their peers who are not yet registered for fall and urge them to register. A lot of the recruitment efforts are statewide, but a new collaborative has been set up for statewide campuses. The best retention method is faculty members who support the students.

## Old Business

**404** – Student Involvement in Faculty Searches (second reading) - David Farrelly

*Motion to move Faculty Code 404 to the President's Executive Council made by Timothy Taylor.*

*Seconded by Scott Hunsaker. Moved to President's Executive Council.*

Involve students in recruiting and hiring of faculty members on campus.

## New Business

Faculty Senate President Elect - Patrick Belmont

By an overwhelming majority Boyd Edwards was nominated and elected as the 2020-2021 Faculty Senate President-Elect. Looking forward to a great year.

## Concluding Remarks, Passing of the Gavel - Patrick Belmont

Faculty has so many important roles to perform at this institution. USU's shared governance is supported by all levels at the institution. It has been a great pleasure to work this year with the faculty. Thank all the faculty for all their contributions. David Farrelly and PRPC has done a phenomenal job moving code changes forward. Michael Lyons also had a challenging year and we owe gratitude for his leadership of AFT. EPC/Gen Ed/Curriculum has provided much needed support and information.

**College Caucus to Elect FSEC members** – Two-year terms are standard. Senators must have served one year in the Senate to be eligible. Colleges needing an FSEC member are:

Caine College of the Arts  
College of Agriculture and Applied Science  
College of Science  
Extension  
Jon M. Huntsman School of Business

Libraries  
S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources  
Statewide Campuses

**Adjourn: 4:00 pm**

## **Report from the Educational Policies Committee July 30, 2020**

The Educational Policies Committee (EPC) met on July 30, 2020. The agenda and minutes of the meeting are posted on the Educational Policies Committee web page ([www.usu.edu/epc](http://www.usu.edu/epc)).

During the July 30, 2020 meeting of the EPC, the following actions were taken:

### **1. Curriculum Subcommittee**

#### *Program Proposals*

Request from the Department of Computer Science in the College of Science to create five online certificate programs.



# EMPOWERING TEACHING EXCELLENCE

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The Empowering Teaching Excellence (ETE) program elevates and promotes USU's culture of teaching excellence through cross-disciplinary events and programs. The following data provides a snapshot of ETE participation as of Fall 2020.

## 2020 ETE Conference

- **Attendees:** 2019 → 400 2020 → 570
- **Faculty/Staff Presenters:** 55

## 2020 Foundations of USU Teaching

- **Attendees:** 45 virtual

## 2019-2020 Seminars & eLearnX

- **Seminar offerings:** 6 → avg 35 attendees
- **eLearnX offerings:** May & August → 120 attendees

## 2019-2020 Workshops

- **Offered:** 2019 → 64 2020 → 120+

## Journal on Empowering Teaching Excellence (ISSN: 2644-2132)

- **Issues to date:** 7
- **Downloads:** 2019 → 13,768 2020 → 23,399
- **Countries:** 158
- **Institutions:** 2019 → 1,771 2020 → 2,424

## ETE 10:

- **Total Badges Earned (All Time):** 2019 → 1555 (over 3 years) 2020 → 2560
- **Participants:** 2019 → 364 2020 → 556 (100 this summer)

## People

- **Unique Presenters at ETE Events (Mostly USU faculty and staff):** 150
- **Faculty, staff, and students to serve on committees:** 55