Faculty Senate & Faculty Senate Executive Committee

3-15-2021

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Agenda, March 15, 2021

Utah State University

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FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
March 15, 2021  
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.  
Zoom Meeting

Agenda

3:30  Call to Order ................................................................................................................... Timothy Taylor  
Approval of Minutes – February 16, 2021

3:35  University Business .................................................. Noelle Cockett, President | Frank Galey, Provost

3:50  Information  
EPC Monthly Report – March 4, 2021 ................................................................. Paul Barr

3:55  Reports  
Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee Annual Report ................................. Molly Cannon  
Honorary Degrees and Awards Annual Report .............................................. Sydney Peterson

4:10  Old Business  
New Faculty Startup Policies ................................................................................. Lisa Berreau

4:30  New Business  
Faculty Senate Calendar AY 2021-2022 ................................................................. Timothy Taylor  
Faculty Senate Elections ................................................................................ Timothy Taylor

Adjourn: 4:45 pm
Call to Order - Timothy Taylor

Approval of Minutes – January 19, 2021
Approved as distributed.

University Business - Noelle Cockett, President | Frank Galey, Provost
The provost’s office has been conducting virtual airport interviews for the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services and the College of Science dean searches. There was a very robust pool of candidates. Dean Brad Cole will retire effective June 30. USU will be looking for interim leadership for the library until a search can be conducted. A working group has been established to help rewrite the Faculty Code and Nick Morrison will take the lead.

The university has done very well in handling the COVID pandemic. The positive trends seem to be flattening and its proof that individuals doing what they are being asked. Vaccination- Bear River Health Department is letting USU know if there are excess doses and they will be sending the link to individuals who qualify for the shot. The age requirement has been dropped to 65+ and they are allowing USU faculty and staff, to sign up as well as spouses of the employees. The vaccinations will be transitioning to IHC on March 1. The state feels that the medical centers are better equipped to distribute the vaccine in a more efficient manner. Bear River Health has done a great job but the group that is lagging in getting vaccinated are the elderly and they are not as comfortable scheduling on the internet. The legislature is in full session and all the appropriation committees have ranked their requests. It is unknown now if all these requests will be funded. The money is solid for onetime distribution and is approximately at $1B. The state is being cautious with ongoing tax revenue and they are not going to say that they have a lot of ongoing dollars right now. What they have will likely go back into the rainy-day fund. The state approved a 3% compensation increase in the first week and this is already a done deal. President Cockett will be meeting with groups/committees to discuss how the compensation money will be split and distributed. It had been decided that if the state would provide 100% of the compensation and promotion and tenure dollars that the university would not need to raise
tuition, however, the state pulled back on the full 100%. USU will need to initiate a tuition increase to cover the 25% that the state won’t be providing. The institution is looking at a maximum tuition increase of 2.9%. President Cockett has been working on student fees and those will remain flat. We will be getting the performance funding and it is anticipated that it will be $6M. The president will conduct budget hearings as she has in the past. There are about three more weeks of this legislative session. President Cockett will be presenting, on behalf of USU, in the near future. Hopefully we will be celebrating a new building and some other things. Looking for capital facilities requests. The president is encouraging faculty to take this to their deans and others.

Information

EPC Monthly Report – February 4, 2021 - Nicholas Morrison
General Education Subcommittee approved two new designations
Discussed the artifacts and assessment data that will be collected as part of the Gen Ed rubrics for the Fall semester. There was also discussions regarding the impact of moving 3000 level courses to the junior year.
Academic Standards Subcommittee – nothing to report.
Curriculum Subcommittee approved 209 course requests. Also approved 14 R401 program changes. Registrar’s Office has identified courses that do not have course descriptions. Most of these courses are graduate programs. Curriculum Committee asked for a boiler plate description for the courses. These will be reviewed and an electronic vote will be taken. Fran Hopkin and Adam Gleed brought forth recommendations to establish policies to handle Institutional Certificates of Proficiencies. The committee discussed the various issues and made recommendations to be brought to the Provost for approval.

Motion to move the EPC Monthly Report to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Boyd Edwards. Seconded by John Ferguson. Moved to Faculty Senate agenda.

HR Policy 311: Setting Expectations and Managing Performance - Doug Bullock
Retitle policy from corrective action to setting expectations and managing performance. Added reference to updated Policy 321: Respectful Workplace. Clarified information supervisory tools to set and manage expectations. Clarified language on performance improvement measures. Also clarified progressive disciplinary action language. Added language around paid administrative leave, what it is, and when it may be used. Clarified language of employee’s response to disciplinary action.

Motion to move HR Policy 311 to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Boyd Edwards. Seconded by John Ferguson. Moved to Faculty Senate agenda.

HR Policy 321: Respectful Workplace - Doug Bullock
These updates are due to the passage of HB12. Added required abusive conduct language, and language related to annual training requirement. Added investigatory and administrative review language.

Motion to move HR Policy 321 to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Boyd Edwards. Seconded by John Ferguson. Moved to Faculty Senate agenda.

Reports

Parking Committee Annual Report - James Nye
There will be an increase in all parking rates due to a significant deficit. The increase will be $10 across the board. It is probable that another one or two increases will be needed to help with other parking issues. Student parking expenses are down due to the COVID pandemic. The Gateway Terrace bond payment will start this year. Parking and transportation hoping for normal parking numbers in the fall. This is the first time that parking has ever had a loss in revenue. This is due to COVID and not having faculty, staff and students on campus. Three primary construction areas on campus will be going on for the next year and they will take up a significant number of parking stalls. Still working towards the Green House gas reduction and sustainability efforts. LED lighting has been installed in the Big Blue and Aggie Terraces and USU now has 14 electric vehicle charging stations. There is an Increased number of carpooling spots and these stalls will be promoted more heavily this fall.

Motion to move the Parking Committee Annual Report to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Benjamin George. Seconded by Don Busenbark. Moved to the Faculty Senate agenda.
Sustainability Council Annual Report - Alexi Lamm

USU received a grant to put solar panels on the Moab facility as part of that build. In 2020 USU Facilities took over the greenhouse gas inventory, completing the FY19 inventory in August 2020 and the FY20 inventory in January 2021. Renewable energy – USU’s most recent renewable energy installation is a 158 KW solar array on the new parking terrace with others slated for Logan and Moab. USU is also exploring a power purchase agreement. Efficient improvements – USU energy teams have replaced 69% of lights on the Logan campus with LEDs. Installations continue in Logan and statewide. Lab ventilation and real-time monitoring projects are underway. Air Travel Carbon Fee – The USU Controller’s Office has implemented the $10 per round trip carbon fee. In the first year, the President’s Office will reimburse A#s at the end of the fiscal year.

Sustainability Assessment – The COVID-19 pandemic and funding paused the Planetary Thinking Workshops. COVID provided an opportunity to evaluate the outcomes of sustainability courses for students.

Motion to move the Sustainability Council Annual Report made by Denise Stewardson. Seconded by John Ferguson. Moved to Faculty Senate agenda.

Old Business

Faculty Promotion and Tenure Survey - Boyd Edwards | John Stevens | Rebecca Walton

John Stevens and Rebecca Walton provided analysis and numbers from the faculty promotion and tenure survey. See report.

Motion to move the Faculty Promotion and Tenure Survey on the Faculty Senate agenda is contingent on completion of the information made by Patrick Belmont. Seconded by John Ferguson. Moved to Faculty Senate agenda.

New Business

Faculty Concerns Regarding New Faculty Startup Funding Rules - Patrick Belmont

Broad concerns that will be articulated on the report that Patrick Belmont is working on. Important faculty issue coming down to how we are supporting faculty and retention. Received concerns about not feeling support by Office of Research. Timing is problematic due to not making commitments until an offer letter is signed. Would like to have a conversation with Vice President Lisa Berreau. Bring it to Faculty Senate and make sure that they are aware and would like to take further actions.

Motion to move the Faculty Concerns Regarding New Faculty Startup Funding Rules made by Boyd Edwards. Seconded by John Ferguson. Moved to Faculty Senate agenda.

Adjourn: 5:00 pm
The Educational Policies Committee (EPC) met on March 4, 2021. The agenda and minutes of the meeting are posted on the Educational Policies Committee web page (www.usu.edu/epc).

During the March 4, 2021 meeting of the EPC, the following actions were taken:

1. **General Education Subcommittee**
   - One General Education course designation proposal was returned for clarification.
   - A proposal for the new communications sequence rubrics were presented, discussed and approved. The goal is a commitment to teach oral and written communication throughout the sequence, and that each sequence intentionally builds on each other. The committee also wanted to emphasize that teaching writing doesn’t stop at CL2 but continues throughout the sequence including CI courses.

2. **Academic Standards Subcommittee**
   - No meeting to report.

3. **Curriculum Subcommittee**
   - Approval of 24 course requests.
   - Request from the Department of Aviation and Technical Education in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences requests approval to offer a Nail Technician Certificate of Proficiency.
   - Request from the Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences requests approval to change the name of the Institute for Social Science Research on Natural Resources to Community and Natural Resources Institute.
   - Other: course descriptions for dissertation and continuing grad advisement have been updated in the catalog. There are now course descriptions for all courses. All descriptions were approved by the Curriculum Subcommittee. Electronic vote passed unanimously.

4. **Other Business**
   - Curriculog has been shut down and will reopen the first week of July. Any R401 proposal changes should be started in July or August so they can be approved for the following fall semester.
   - A small working group has been put together to look at updating the Curriculum/EPC handbook. Will bring these update/changes to the April meetings of the Curriculum and EPC committees.
Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee Spring 2021 Summary Report

Agriculture and Applied Sciences – Ralph Meyer
Arts – Lydia Semler
Business – Vance Grange
Education and Human Services – Brian Phillips
Engineering – Timothy Taylor
Humanities and Social Sciences - Molly Cannon (Chair)
Natural Resources – Patrick Belmont
Science – Douglas Harris
Libraries – TBD
Extension – Michel Caron
Statewide Campuses – Vonda Jump
USU Eastern – Jan Thornton
Senate – Timothy Taylor
Senate – Patrick Belmont
Senate – Ralph Meyer

The duties of the Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee are to (1) participate in the budget preparation process, (2) periodically evaluate and report to the Senate on matters relating to faculty salaries, insurance programs, retirement benefits, sabbatical leaves, consulting policies, and other faculty benefits; (3) review the financial and budgetary implications of proposals for changes in academic degrees and programs, and report to the Senate prior to Senate action relating to such proposals; and (4) report to the Senate significant fiscal and budgetary trends which may affect the academic programs of the University. (Policy 402.12.4)

Meetings and Discussions of the BFW Committee

This report covers activities of the BFW committee for the Fall of 2020 and winter 2021
The committee convened on November 18, 2020 via Zoom.

- Patrick Belmont provided an accounting on the history of discussions in faculty senate on the need for transparency in faculty evaluations and the awarding of merit raises. A number of issues have been identified that relate including:
  - An evaluation process that requires by code that faculty vote and approve annually
  - Transparency in merit raises that align with values
  - Addressing the delayed (if at all) notification of raises
  - Following a review with an accounting of why a raises were or were not awarded based on performance standards

- We discussed two additional items from the spring agenda. First, childcare resources on campus for faculty and second paid maternity/paternity leave. Both of these issues were determined to be of interest to the committee to address this year as well. Ralph Meyer and Lydia Semler have agreed to lead the efforts. The committee continues to work on these issues and have discussed possible actions for the coming year:
  - Coordinating a discussion with the Faculty Diversity Development and Equity committee
  - Gather data about child care options (or lack thereof) – faculty survey, state statistics, Cache county statistics

- Molly Cannon met with Boyd Edwards and Scott Hammond to provide input for the development of the Faculty Promotion and Tenure Process survey on December 11, 2021.

- Molly Cannon met with Scott Bate on January 13th to discuss issues regarding mental health parity. Faculty would like to see the committee and the Faculty Senate encourage and support a decision where USU would not request the Mental Health Parity Exemption. The committee will continue to work on advocating for mental health parity for the coming year.

- Ralph Meyer served as a representative for the BFW committee during a discussion of the evaluation of Faculty Promotion and Tenure Process survey organized by Faculty Senate held on February 16, 2021. He will report to the committee at our next meeting scheduled later in March (after the due date of this report).
The BFW Committee will next meet with President Cockett at a time to be determined in March or April for a legislative update (after the due date of this report) and to discuss the proportion of the salary increase provided by the legislature that should be used for across-the-board raises versus flex pool (distributed based on merit, or to rectify gender inequity, salary compression, etc.). We have requested to also discuss with President Cockett the following items during that meeting:

- What percentage of the 3% raise offered by the legislature should be allocated across-the-board vs the flex pool?
- Information on how Deans and Department Heads have improved transparency in how flex raises (merit, compression, equity) are determined
- Historical information on how raises have been split between flex versus across-the-board raises over the past 5 or 10 years (with numbers corrected relative to inflation)
REPORT OF THE
HONORARY DEGREE AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
to the
Faculty Senate
March 9, 2020

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Jody Burnett, Chair (Board of Trustees)
Laurel Cannon Alder (Board of Trustees)
Kent Alder (Board of Trustees)
Nick Flann (Faculty)
Shelley Lindauer (Faculty)
Alexa Sand (Faculty)
Erika Norton (Alumni Council)
Sami Ahmed (USUSA President)
Frank Galey (Provost’s Office)
Sydney Peterson (President’s Office/Trustees)

PURPOSE
The Honorary Degrees and Awards Screening Committee’s major responsibilities are to implement procedures to solicit and encourage an adequate number of qualified nominations; to review all nominations for Honorary Degrees and Commencement Speaker Awards; and to forward nominations and recommendations to the Board of Trustees for their final selection and approval.

COMMITTEE ACTIONS
Commencement Speaker and Honorary Degree Recipient 2020
The Honorary Degree and Awards Screening Committee recommended two candidates for commencement speaker and honorary degree to be presented at Spring Commencement 2020. The Board of Trustees has selected and approved the following candidate:

Julie A. Robinson

Julie A. Robinson, chief scientist of the International Space Station Division at NASA, and Utah State University alum, will serve as USU’s commencement speaker for its 133rd graduation ceremony as the university celebrates the accomplishments of Aggie women during the Year of the Woman.

In 2004, Robinson joined NASA as a civil servant and within two years was named deputy ISS program scientist. In 2007, she became the International Space Station Program chief scientist and is now moved to NASA Headquarters as the chief scientist of the International Space Station Division. In this role, she provides science advice at the highest levels of the agency, promoting exploration research and demonstration strategies onboard the ISS and other human spaceflight platforms. She founded the ISS Program Science Forum, made up of her counterparts from each ISS partner agency, increasing international collaboration and effective use of ISS by scientists from more than 100 countries.

Robinson attended USU after receiving the Presidential Scholarship, was active in the Honors Program, and earned degrees in chemistry and biology in 1989. As an undergraduate, she participated in research before undergraduate research was formalized and as common as it is today, which provided a critical foundation for her career path and professional success. She went on to receive a doctorate in ecology, evolution and conservation biology from the University of Nevada Reno.

Following postdoctoral research at the University of Houston, Robinson began her career with Lockheed
Martin in the Image Science Laboratory at Johnson Space Center. She led major NASA-sponsored scientific projects to facilitate a distribution network for global maps of coral reefs in the developing world.

Her career professional experience has been highly interdisciplinary, including virology, analytical chemistry, genetics, statistics, animal behavior, field biology, Earth science and remote sensing.

Robinson has served on the boards of several nonprofits and mentors girls in math and science, as well as early career scientists and engineers. She is an amateur singer of jazz and classical music.

**Honorary Degree Recipients 2020**

The Honorary Degree and Awards Screening Committee recommended four candidates for honorary degrees to be presented at Spring Commencement 2020. The Board of Trustees has approved the following two candidates:

**Linda S. Daines**

A native of Logan, Daines received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Utah State, majoring in cello performance. Daines moved to New York City where she began her professional career as a music teacher and Music Department Chair at The Spence School, a leading private girls school in New York. She continued her cello studies with Claus Adam of the Juilliard String Quartet and performed with The New Amsterdam Symphony Orchestra. She then pursued a Master’s Degree in Arts Administration and obtained an MBA from Columbia University.

Daines joined Goldman Sachs in 1984 where she became one of the first women Managing Directors in Private Wealth Management at the firm. Over her 35-year career at Goldman Sachs, she has advised significant families, foundations, endowments, private companies and pensions on their investments. She serves as a Trustee of The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, The School of American Ballet, and The Utah Journalism Foundation. She also serves on the Board of Cache Valley Bank, the National Advisory Council for BYU and on Utah State’s Leonard Arrington Council and Dean’s Advancement Council in the Caine College of the Arts.

Daines is a mother of three and grandmother of nine. She resides in New York City.

**Karen W. Morse**

Karen W. Morse is a former chemistry professor, department head, college dean and provost at USU, and president emerita of Western Washington University. Morse became the 12th president of Western Washington University in 1993 and the second woman in Washington state’s history to lead one of its colleges and universities. She served for 15 years as president.

At USU, Morse began as a faculty member in the chemistry and biochemistry department, later became the department head of chemistry and biochemistry, and afterward was the first woman dean of the College of Science. She was appointed provost at USU in 1989. The Morse Scholarship at USU was established by Karen and her husband, Joseph, who was director of the Honors Program and an associate professor of chemistry. The endowment assists future generations of students in the Honors Program. Both Karen and her husband served as mentors to Julie Robinson as she pursued her undergraduate degrees at USU.

Morse is widely published in her field and has three patents to her name. She is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and was awarded the Olin-Garvin Medal, one of the American Chemical Society’s highest honors. The Karen W. Morse Institute for Leadership was created at Western Washington in 2009, and the chemistry building on campus is named in her honor.
March 9, 2020

Contact: Emilie Wheeler, 435-797-0744, emilie.wheeler@usu.edu

Chief Scientist of International Space Station to Speak at USU’s 133rd Commencement

LOGAN — Julie A. Robinson, chief scientist of the International Space Station Division at NASA, and Utah State University alum, will serve as USU’s commencement speaker for its 133rd graduation ceremony as the university celebrates the accomplishments of Aggie women during the Year of the Woman.

Robinson and two other prominent individuals will receive honorary doctorates Thursday, April 30, at the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum in Logan.

“We are honored that Julie has accepted our invitation to address our students this year,” said USU President Noelle Cockett. “She is a renowned scientist and researcher and has dedicated her professional career to solving problems both on Earth and in space. Julie is a prime example for the Class of 2020 of an alumna using her expertise to better our world. She will inspire and engage our graduating students, USU alumni and the Cache Valley community.”

Robinson will receive an honorary doctorate along with: Karen Morse, a former chemistry professor, college dean and provost at USU, and president emerita of Western Washington University; and Linda S. Daines, a USU graduate and one of the first women managing directors at Goldman Sachs.

Cockett said honorary degrees are important ways the university has to recognize people for the commitment and sacrifices they have made to make positive changes in the world.

“We are delighted to honor these outstanding women who have contributed to the Utah State community in a number of ways,” she said. “They are innovative leaders in their fields whose leadership and vision should be commended.”

JULIE ROBINSON (Commencement Speaker and Honorary Doctorate Recipient)

In 2004, Robinson joined NASA as a civil servant and within two years was named deputy ISS program scientist. In 2007, she became the International Space Station Program chief scientist and is now moved to NASA Headquarters as the chief scientist of the International Space Station Division. In this role, she provides science advice at the highest levels of the agency, promoting exploration research and demonstration strategies onboard the ISS and other human spaceflight platforms. She founded the ISS Program Science Forum, made up of her counterparts from each ISS partner agency, increasing international collaboration and effective use of ISS by scientists from more than 100 countries.
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Robinson has served on the boards of several nonprofits and mentors girls in math and science, as well as early career scientists and engineers. She is an amateur singer of jazz and classical music.

LINDA S. DAINES (Honorary Doctorate Recipient)

A native of Logan, Daines received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Utah State, majoring in cello performance. Daines moved to New York City where she began her professional career as a music teacher and Music Department Chair at The Spence School, a leading private girls school in New York. She continued her cello studies with Claus Adam of the Juilliard String Quartet and performed with The New Amsterdam Symphony Orchestra. She then pursued a Master’s Degree in Arts Administration and obtained an MBA from Columbia University.

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Daines is a mother of three and grandmother of nine. She resides in New York City.

KAREN MORSE (Honorary Doctorate Recipient)
Morse became the 12th president of Western Washington University in 1993 and the second woman in Washington state’s history to lead one of its colleges and universities. She served for 15 years as president. Prior to her appointment at Western Washington, she worked as the provost, dean of the College of Science, and a chemistry professor at USU.

At USU, Morse began as a faculty member in the chemistry and biochemistry department, later became the department head of chemistry and biochemistry, and afterward was the first woman dean of the College of Science. She was appointed provost at USU in 1989. The Morse Scholarship at USU was established by Karen and her husband, Joseph, who was director of the Honors Program and an associate professor of chemistry. The endowment assists future generations of students in the Honors Program. Both Karen and her husband served as mentors to Robinson as she pursued her undergraduate degrees at USU.

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For more information on USU’s 133rd Commencement, visit the commencement website (http://www.usu.edu/commencement/).

USU’s Year of the Woman highlights the significant role of women in the institution’s history and celebrates with the nation on the 150th anniversary of suffrage for Utah women (1870), the 100th anniversary of women’s suffrage in the United States (1920) and the 55th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act (1965).

####
# Calendar of Meetings and Committee Reports

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<td>September 7, 2021 (Tuesday)</td>
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<td>Empowering Teaching Excellence – Neal Legler &amp; Travis Thurston</td>
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<td>October 4, 2021</td>
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<td>(Immediately following FSEC Mtg. - Faculty Forum Planning)</td>
<td>November 9, 2020 - FACULTY FORUM Merrill-Cazier Library - 154</td>
<td>3:00 – 4:30 p.m.</td>
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