Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes, March 20, 2023

Utah State University

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MINUTES

Present:
John Ferguson, Jon M. Huntsman School of Business (President)
Maureen Hearns, Caine College of the Arts
Carol Kochan, University Libraries
Danielle Ross, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Michele Hillard, Executive Secretary
Yoon Lee, Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
Vicki Allan, College of Science
Yu Huang, College of Engineering
Boyd Edwards, College of Science (Past-President)
Doug Ramsey, S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources
Benjamin George, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
Robert Wagner, Executive Vice President
Larry Smith, Provost
Don Busenbark, Statewide Campuses
Doug Miller, USU-Eastern

Absent:
Denise Stewardson, Extension
Noelle Cockett, President

Guests:
Paul Barr, EPC Chair
Abe Rodriguez, USUSA Executive Vice President
Caitlin McLennan, Sustainability Coordinator
Zachary Cook, Utilities Senior Energy Manager
Casey Coombs, Co-Director USU Hunger Solutions Institute
Heidi Wengreen, Department Head & Professor

Call to Order - John Ferguson
Approval of Minutes – February 21, 2023
Minutes approved as distributed.

University Business - Noelle Cockett, President | Larry Smith, Provost
Provost Smith – On Wednesday President Cockett met with Vice Presidents and Deans in terms of how to divide the compensation monies. She will be meeting with Staff Employee Association and the Budget and Faculty and Welfare Committee and then a decision will be made on how to disperse the money. USU Board of Trustees will meet on April 7 to act on and approve the promotion and tenure decisions.
Executive Vice President Wagner – The department funding model has been put on hold this year.

Faculty Senate Presidency Business - John Ferguson | Maureen Hearns | Boyd Edwards
Working with the ad hoc divestment committee. Lots of active discussion and debate. Meeting with the Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee and President Cockett on Thursday afternoon to discuss salary compensation.
Information
Educational Policies Committee – March 2, 2023 - Paul Barr
General Education Subcommittee – Approved five general education designations. Continuing area expertise discussions. Everyone agrees that there needs to be a mechanism to be able to turn down those requests for departments who want to petition Gen Ed designations outside of their area of expertise. Moving the General Education Subcommittee meetings to the first Tuesday of each month. This will help align with the reporting to the Educational Policies Committee and will allow requests to move through at the same time as the curriculum changes.
Academic Standards Subcommittee – Currently working on the academic grievance policy/process. Need to clearly delineate academic vs. non-academic grievances and would prefer a more abbreviated pathway. It is felt that the ultimate arbitration should end with the college dean. Next step is to review policies at other institutions.
Curriculum Subcommittee – Approved 24 course approvals and five R401 proposals. Congratulations to Abe Rodriguez. He is the new 2023-2024 USUSA President. The committee looks forward to working with him this next academic year. His inauguration will happen in April.
Motion to move the EPC Report to the Faculty Senate Agenda made by Doug Ramsey. Seconded by Benjamin George. Moved to agenda.

Reports
Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee Annual Report - Don Busenbark
Meeting with the president on Thursday to discuss salary compensation. The committee has recommendations that will be brought forward to President Cockett. One concern is the compression and equity issues in regards to promotion and tenure. Going forward the committee would like to look at these issues. Only met a couple of times during the year. Most of the faculty would like the largest amount of performance vs. the flex pool.
Motion to move the Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee Report to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Boyd Edwards. Seconded by Doug Ramsey. Moved to agenda.

Sustainability Council Annual Report - Zachary Cook | Caitlin McLennan
Data was collected from November 2022 to January 2023. See report. Is scope 2 broken down to other types of energy? USU produced 88K metric tons of emissions. The increase can be attributed to the return to in-person work and increased commuting. Ninety five percent of lighting on Logan and Statewide campuses have been replaced to LEDs. Completed central energy plant’s decarbonization master plan. Implemented mandatory carbon offset fee of $10 per round-trip for all university-sponsored air travel paid by the department, college, or index funding for the trip. Looking forward we will see increases in emissions as return-to-work and post-COVID travel. Developing sustainable transportation offers and a commuter survey is coming soon. Investigating carbon shadow pricing and campus-wide procurement policy.
Motion to move the Sustainability Council Report to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Boyd Edwards. Seconded by Doug Ramsey. Moved to agenda.

Old Business
Changes to SNAC - Casey Coombs | Heidi Wengreen
SNAC is being moved to the Department of Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Sciences (NDFS). It will still, however, be in the TSC. Building a partnership with the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences will help this program progress. They are currently working on food insecurity issues. They would like to have programs that will allow the students experiential opportunities. SNAC will need $150,000 annually to remain in operation. The College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences the Department of Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Sciences will provide $75,000. They are currently looking for additional monetary support to make up the other $75,000. They are confident in moving forward but will be looking for additional support for the long term. The official transition of SNAC from Student Affairs to NDFS will take place July 1. Fostering partnerships and working on hunger issues and solutions.
Motion to move the SNAC information to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Maureen Hears. Seconded by Carol Kochan. Moved to agenda.
Code 404 current | track changes | final - Scott Hunsaker
Deans approved all the changes in yellow but asked for additional changes. The deans like the language in green. Everything was previously approved.

Motion to move Faculty Code 404 to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Yoon Lee. Seconded by Carol Kochan. Moved to agenda.

**New Business**

Resolution: Amendments to the USU Student Code of Conduct - Abe Rodriguez
Resolution to include the appropriate USUSA bodies to include equal representation. The approval process is outdated, and this will update it.

Motion to move the resolution to the Faculty Senate agenda made by Benjamin George. Seconded by Yu Huang. Moved to agenda.

April meeting will be held in Price and they will host from Logan.

Motion to move the meeting to the Price Campus made by Benjamin George. Seconded by Yoon Lee. Main meeting will be held at the Price Campus.

Faculty Senate President Elect - John Ferguson

Next meeting, we will take nominations from the floor for a new Faculty Senate President-Elect. Need to find faculty in their first term or the first year of their second term. There are some perks for this position, like a buyout. There are a number of meetings that need to be attended but this is a service opportunity that individual will not be able to find anywhere else.

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Membership - John Ferguson

- College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
- Engineering
- S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources

Adjourn: 4:33 pm