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Faculty Senate Committee Minutes November 27, 2023

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November 27, 2023 3:00 – 4:30 pm Merrill Cazier Library – 154

MINUTES

Call to Order - Maureen Hearns

Approval of Minutes – October 30, 2023

Motion to approve the October 30, 2023, minutes made by John Ferguson. Seconded by Kelly Fadel. Minutes approved as distributed.

University Business - Larry Smith, Provost

President Cantwell – USU President's Report to Board of Trustees

President Cantwell was out of the office and not able to attend the senate meeting.

Provost Smith – President Cantwell and the Provost traveled to the statewide campuses in Blanding, Moab, and Price. They met with community leaders, faculty, staff, and students. There is another Presidential listening session scheduled for December 7. Also, it is the start of the season for tenure and promotion. The provost wanted to thank everyone for their work in getting all this ready for the upcoming tenure and promotions. The dossiers are due January 11 and then the central committee will get to work reviewing them. There are approximately 90 dossiers that will need to be reviewed. Last week we finished pulling together the Engineering Dean search committee. There is a lot of COVID and other illnesses going around right now. Larry urged the faculty to be careful and take care of themselves. If you are not feeling well, please stay home and avoid spreading the germs.

Faculty Senate Business - Maureen Hearns | John Ferguson | Grant Cardon

John Ferguson – Title IX office requested more faculty members who are willing to serve as hearing officers for Title IX offenses. We are required to have two faculty members if the report is against another faculty member. One of the problems is the lack of communication. It is not being filtered down to the faculty members. It is the responsibility of the faculty senators to talk with their faculty and get them involved.

Grant Cardon – Voted to establish a joint task force with the Staff Employee Association (SEA). Looking for five senators and five at-large faculty to serve on this task force. Beginning meetings next semester and hope to have monthly meetings.

Maureen Hearns – Pulling together a task force to review 100 codes. Postponed Title IX matter that came forward a few months ago.

Information

Education Policies Committee – November 2, 2023 - Paul Barr

General Education Subcommittee – Approved two CI courses.

Academic Standards Subcommittee – The committee discussed questions regarding student alcohol consumption and sleeping arrangements during university sponsored events. Looking for a Q&A that could help answer some of these questions and provide clarity for faculty.

Curriculum Subcommittee – Approved 124 course proposals and 10 R401 proposals. Changed the CIP Code for the PhD in Economics program. Withdrew the CIP Code change for the master's in accounting. Academic Standards will be looking at the definitions of Center and Institutes and possible review cycles.

Reports

N/A

Old Business

Faculty Code 405 (3rd reading) - John Ferguson

Motion to move Faculty Code 405 to the President's Executive Council made by Doug Ramsay. Seconded by Mikhail Maxfield. Moved to council.

Annual review policy has changed and reads "a performance window of up to five years." Each department will decide what their timeframe will be.

New Business

Faculty Code 406 - Tenure Eligible Appointments (1st reading) - John Ferguson

Motion to move Faculty Code 406 to the Deans Council made by Vicki Allan. Seconded by Kelly Fadel. Moved to Deans Council.

Code 406 now deals with tenure track faculty. Very little has changed on this. Merged the leave policy and extension. If you get two extensions, you still must have your third-year review within the four year period.

USU Student Code Alcohol Amendment/Resolution - Abraham Rodriguez

The proposed changes provide clearer language regarding the use, possession, and distribution of alcohol beverages. The proposed changes allow for exceptions when alcohol consumption is otherwise permitted by the University, offering more flexibility. The amendment recognizes the evolving needs and expectations of the student body regarding alcohol consumption at university-sponsored events. One of the cons is the flexibility in permitting alcohol consumption may raise concerns about potential misuse or abuse of this privilege. The provost believes that anyone who is 21 and over can make the decision to drink or not. There is a gray area regarding university sponsored events. That may need to be clarified.

Motion to approve the USU Student Code Alcohol Amendment/Resolution made by John Ferguson. Seconded by Sarah Null. There was one abstention and six opposed. Amendment passed.

Adjourn: 3:56 pm