

Utah State University

DigitalCommons@USU

Faculty Senate & Faculty Senate Executive
Committee

Faculty Senate

2-5-2024

Faculty Senate Minutes February 5, 2024

Utah State University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/fs_fsexec

Recommended Citation

Utah State University, "Faculty Senate Minutes February 5, 2024" (2024). *Faculty Senate & Faculty Senate Executive Committee*. Paper 741.

https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/fs_fsexec/741

This Faculty Senate Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at DigitalCommons@USU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate & Faculty Senate Executive Committee by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@USU. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@usu.edu.





February 5, 2024
3:45 – 5:00 pm
Merrill Cazier Library – 154

MINUTES

Call to Order - Maureen Hearn

Approval of Minutes – [January 8, 2024](#)

Minutes accepted as distributed.

University Business - Elizabeth Cantwell, President | Larry Smith, Provost

Meeting with Dr. Irshad Manji and Governor Cox. They both did an incredible job on today's conflict presentation. President Cantwell completed the first briefing to the Utah State legislature. Used a lot of data so that the legislators understand that we know who we are. Next year we may be more geared toward the marketing aspect. Met with multiple legislators on Monday for 10-15 minutes each. The house and senate are not well aligned this year. Will distribute the President's presentation to the Faculty Senators. Higher education is in the cross hair right now and the president is not taking it personally. Her takeaway is that we keep moving forward. After talking of no money for higher ed we heard that we would get a small amount for performance funding and pay increases. Had four RFAs and we may get money for one of them. The president will be back down to Salt Lake City for the next three weeks until the legislative session ends. There is a lot of support on the senate side. Heard talk in the offices, regarding the sixteen Utah institutions and how in a decade the population will begin to decrease. The percentage of out-of-state students has been dropping and this goes for international students as well. What do we do? We will accelerate the discussions so that USU will be ahead of the game and moving forward. The U of U is increasing its enrollment heavily on out-of-state students. The Faculty Senate appreciates the letter and clarification from the President on HB 0261.

Provost Smith – A couple of weeks ago the latest issue of the Provost's Newsletter went out. Last week we held the first ever workshop for term faculty. There were approximately 100 faculty members who attended, and we will continue to do this on a regular basis. This sends the message that we as an institution should be recognizing and rewarding the excellent work of our term faculty colleagues. Couple of weeks ago the President and Provost continued their statewide campus tours and went to Tooele and Brigham. The weather kept them from Salt Lake, Roosevelt and Vernal on the 26, 27 and 28. They will finish these campuses up later.

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

John Ferguson – Policy 100 updates - back in October we had concerns about shared governance and code issues with the College of Engineering. Worked with the Provost's and the Executive Vice President's Office. There were six major claims. Four of the claims dealt with the College of Engineering. Issues that the senate can look at are code 100 and how responsibilities are being divided out and the increasing number of Vice President being named. The only new person brought in from off campus was Jane Irungu. These are all things that happened under a prior administration. President Cantwell is working on a significant realignment and the Executive Vice President issue is now a moot point.

Move that this committee be tabled until the President has time to look at code 100.

Grant Cardon – Have met as a joint [Faculty Senate and Staff Employee Association task force](#). Had a small snippet of what would be addressed. The first order of business was to formulate the charge. Childcare on campus is one of the items that both groups have a concern about. Very reasonable effort to unite on some of these issues/topics.

The term appointment faculty questions/concerns came up in the senate a few years ago. It is great to finally have something done about this.

Committee on Committees is actively filling the vacancies in the Faculty Senate for the 2024-2025 AY.

Information

Education Policies Committee – [December 7, 2023](#) | [January 4, 2024](#) - Paul Barr

No report given. Will be held until next Faculty Senate meeting.

Policy 382: [Time and Attendance](#) - Doug Bullock

Reformatted and retitled the policy. Clarified the standard work week and updated time reporting section. Also clarified discipline related to attendance and broadened break and meal period language. Also revamped travel time section of the policy. Clarified both employee and Human Resources responsibilities.

Policy 326: [Policy](#) | [Draft](#) | [Final](#) - Russ Price

This is a new policy that is required by statute UCA 67-21 Utah Protection of Public Employees Act. It has been drafted to closely follow mandated language from the State of Utah. Introduces broader controls to prohibit retaliation against employees who report or participate in investigations of non-compliance.

Reports

Honorary Degrees and Awards - President Cantwell

Motion to accept the Honorary Degrees and Awards Report made by John Ferguson. Seconded by Sandra Weingart. Report accepted.

The selection committee for the Honorary Degrees and Awards includes 3 members from the Faculty Senate. They along with 7 other people reviewed nominations and made the selection. The 2024 commencement speaker and honorary degree recipient will be Gail Miller, co-founder, and owner of the Larry H. Miller Company. Gail is a renowned philanthropist and strong supporter of education and entrepreneurship throughout the state. Honorary degrees will also be given to Darren Parry, author and elder of the Northwestern Bank of the Shoshone Nation and Bruce Carlson, retired general in the U.S. Air Force and chair of the Space Dynamics Lab Board of Directors.

[Office of Research Annual Report](#) - Lisa Berreau

Motion to accept the Office of Research Annual Report made by John Ferguson. Seconded by Vicki Allan. Report accepted.

Record annual funding – combined USU's campus researchers and the USU Space Dynamics Laboratory and produced \$405.7 million in total awards for FY 23. Revised and updated the research training for faculty. Working collaboratively with the USU Libraries, the Office of Research purchased an ORCID membership for the university. This membership enables USU to leverage tools available with ORCID including integration into Watermark Faculty Success to facilitate faculty populating publications into this faculty activity database.

[PRPC Annual Report](#) - John Ferguson

Motion to accept the PRPC Annual Report made by Yoon Lee. Seconded by Todd Griffith. Report accepted.

Faculty codes will be updated within the next year or sooner. We need to align code so code 405 will be pulled back because we now have a College of Veterinary Medicine and must update the code with clinical positions. Policy 405 has been broken out to 405, 406, 407, 408, 409 and 410. All these codes will have to go to the Board of Trustees as one complete package. Will be getting 407 and 408 at the next meeting. There is going to be a lot coming forward, so we need to be prepared to complete these this year.

[School of Graduate Studies Annual Report | Summary](#) - Richard Cutler

Motion to accept the School of Graduate Studies Annual Report made by Sandra Weingart. Seconded by Vicki Allan. Report accepted.

Over 3,000 graduate students were registered for the fall semester. For the 2022-2023 AY there were 1,067 graduate degrees awarded. Teaching assistants on E&G funding saw a 7.6% increase last year. One of the issues that we need to tackle is to increase graduate assistantship amounts, particularly teaching assistantships. Look at ways to make graduate student health insurance more affordable. Increase in-state tuition waiver pool.

Old Business

HB 0438 deals with certain definitions relating to shared governance. Might want Faculty Senators to look at it. Please remember that individuals cannot represent USU as a faculty member. No USU letterhead, email addresses, etc. You can respond as a citizen of the State of Utah. More bang for the buck if you present and frame things positively it will go a long way and will be far better received.

New Business

N/A

Adjourn: 4:58 pm