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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes December 11, 2023

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December 11, 2023
3:30 – 5:00 pm
Old Main-Champ Hall

MINUTES

Present: John Ferguson, Jon M. Huntsman School of Business (Past-President)
Matt Bunnell, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
Carol Kochan, University Libraries
Danielle Ross, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Michele Hillard, Executive Secretary
Yu Huang, College of Engineering
Robert Wagner, Executive Vice President
Denise Stewardson, Extension
Elizabeth Cantwell, President
Larry Smith, Provost

Absent: Grant Cardon, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences (President-Elect)
Maureen Hearn, Caine College of the Arts (President)
Yoon Lee, Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
Sarah Null, S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources
Don Busenbark, Statewide Campuses

Guests: Paul Barr, EPC Chair
Abe Rodriguez, USUSA President
Heloisa Rutigliano, Associate Dean
Todd Griffith, Chair, FEC
Craig Whyte, Executive Director

Call to Order - Maureen Hearn
Approval of Minutes – [November 13, 2023](#)
Minutes approved as distributed.

University Business - Elizabeth Cantwell, President | Larry Smith, Provost
President Cantwell – The president was traveling and joined for a few minutes via Zoom. Did not have anything to report at this time.

Provost Smith – Currently working on the search for the new College of Engineering Dean. There will be an entire college listening session tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 pm. Hope to launch the search before the end of the week. Tomorrow morning is the President’s Faculty Senate breakfast at the president’s home.

Faculty Senate Business - Maureen Hearn | John Ferguson | Grant Cardon
Board of Education Meeting – John Ferguson
Had a meeting last week. The big item that came out of it was the free expression policy. Every university is required to have guidelines. USU has been working on this and planning for this for quite some time. This will probably not affect us as USU already has a strong policy on free expression. We will also not have a blind eye to harassment.

Information

Education Policies Committee – N/A - Paul Barr

EPC does not meet until December 7 and will miss the FSEC deadline. Both December and January information will be reported at the January 22 meeting.

Reports

[Council on Teacher Education Annual Report | Summary](#) - Marla Robertson

No representative to provide this report. This report will be held until the January FSEC agenda.

[Faculty Evaluation Committee Annual Report](#) - Todd Griffith

Motion to put the FEC Annual Report on the Faculty Senate Agenda made by Carol Kochan. Seconded by Yu Huang. Moved to agenda.

Updated award eligibility requirements for the Eldon J. Gardner Teacher of the Year award. Proposed language: Nominees must have had a minimum of a six-credit annual teaching assignment for at least three consecutive years at USU, including at least one undergraduate course per year. Worked on evaluation outside of student evaluations. This year the committee is working on streamlining the promotion and tenure process for the non-tenure track faculty. Eliminate the requirement for outside letters for Professors of Practice and/or other non-tenure eligible faculty. Organize training for P&T chairs (provide consistency to the process).

[Library Advisory Council Annual Report](#) - Heloisa Rutigliano

Motion to put the Library Advisory Council Annual Report on the Faculty Senate agenda made by Denise Stewardson. Seconded by Yu Huang. Moved to agenda.

The council met twice during the 2022-2023 academic year. Library hours changed at the beginning of this summer. The library has set new hours based on an assessment of data collected by automatic gate counts and hourly head counts. The library budget has been provided in the report. Journal packet renewals continue to increase in cost. Did an event during Connections to welcome the students into the library. Students loved the interaction with the library. Looking at a book drop somewhere behind the library. Planning to create an innovation lab that will provide 3-D printers that students, faculty and staff can use.

[Scholarship Annual Report](#) - Craig Whyte

Motion to put the Scholarship Annual Report on the Faculty Senate Agenda made by Carol Kochan. Seconded by Abraham Rodriguez. Moved to agenda.

Work with AAA for the official report of the institution. There was a dip in the 2022-2023 scholarship awards. We have had a decrease in the non-resident legacy student numbers. There was a 4% decrease in the total amount awarded. FAFSA changes are now being implemented and will be opening in the next three weeks. Lots of things are happening in federal and state aid. Full four-year awards for in-state students and are much more competitive in the state.

[USUSA Annual Report](#) - Abraham Rodriguez

Motion to put the USUSA Annual Report on the Faculty Senate Agenda made by Yu Huan. Seconded by Matt Bunnell. Moved to agenda.

There was \$502,085.08 awarded in scholarships. During the Utah College Day of Service USU diverted 3538.3 pounds of apples. The average GPA for the 86 students on scholarships is 3.575. There were 217 student activities held last year that included 64% of Logan students.

Old Business

New Business

Beginning last year USU waived their application fees for October. This year we also waived the application fees. Utah Students are exempt from these fees. Moving all public institutions to a common process. This is the main source of funding for our admissions office. For the last two years we have deferred fees, and it has

resulted in a shortfall of about \$600K. The university has used one-time funds to fill that gap. There will need to be backfilled to help institutions fill this gap. Looking at a common application process. Met as a task force and within 5 days the board had met, and the statement was released. Working with the commissioner's office looking at how to back fill the money. This affects in-state undergraduate students and does not affect graduate students. Excited about not charging students the application fee. Since we have been waiving the fees, it has increased the number of applications being submitted. For 2024 we have exceeded the fall of 2023 numbers.

Adjourn: 4:13 pm