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## Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes February 20, 2024

Utah State University

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February 20, 2024  
3:30 – 5:00 pm  
Old Main-Champ Hall

MINUTES

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**Present:** John Ferguson, Jon M. Huntsman School of Business (Past-President)  
Matt Bunnell, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences  
Carol Kochan, University Libraries  
Michele Hillard, Executive Secretary  
Yu Huang, College of Engineering  
Don Busenbark, Statewide Campuses  
Denise Stewardson, Extension  
Elizabeth Cantwell, President  
Maureen Hearn, Caine College of the Arts (President)  
Yoon Lee, Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services  
Grant Cardon, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences (President-Elect)

**Absent:** Larry Smith, Provost  
Danielle Ross, College of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Sarah Null, S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources

**Guests:** Paul Barr, EPC Chair  
Matt Pinner, Executive Director, Office of Equity  
Tracy Hulse, Director, Parking & Transportation  
Caitlin McLennan, Sustainability Coordinator  
Benjamin George, Associate Professor

**Call to Order** - Maureen Hearn  
Approval of Minutes – [January 22, 2024](#)  
*Minutes approved as distributed.*

**University Business** - Elizabeth Cantwell, President | Larry Smith, Provost  
President Cantwell – As of right now the state legislature is looking at a 2.9% increase for performance monies. There will be a certain flat amount and a certain amount for merit. This information has been provided to the USUSA and will be brought up in the truth in tuition hearing next week. At that meeting there will be two briefings, one on tuition and one on fees. President Cantwell is going back to the capitol tomorrow and Thursday. The general education requirements are being changed at the University of Utah and the question is, where will that go next year? Legislators are strongly affiliated with the Heterodox Academy, and they want to make these changes, but not a lot will happen at this point. Some years they provide a heads-up and the next year there will be a push. If the State is going to move against higher education the president would like to see a commission put together and this is going to be challenging during this political cycle. The legislature ended up with a signed bathroom and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion bill. USU can and will manage within the construct of the bills. Currently watching the roles and responsibilities of the Presidents. There is a strong feeling in the legislature that the 16 Utah institutions are costing too much. The legislature would like to see institutions share their services. USU is looking at MOUs to see what is currently being shared. We will need to provide sharing services to the legislature annually. President Cantwell will be staying in Salt Lake City next

year for the legislative session. Held the final listening sessions in Vernal, Roosevelt and Salt Lake City. Will be moving a lot of the units under Robert Wagner back into the Provost's Office. Currently working on a design process for the reorganization of the institution and this team is being led by Kerri Davidson who is the new Chief of Staff. Right now, the president has 18 direct reports. Some of them will move into the Provost's Office. Restructuring will be happening shortly. What does it look like to design for the future? Bring in a customer relationship management system that will help with managing the student lifecycle. Some of Robert's units will move into other places. John O'Neill is also coming in as the Vice President of Operations. Both he and Kerri will begin their employment on March 1. USU will end up with an operation team, provost team and then 4-5 Vice Presidents that will report to the president. Going to be working on policies and aligning them. This effort will begin sometime next year. Predicting that this will take up to two years.

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

Maureen Hearn – In order to follow Robert's Rules, the Faculty Senate President will allow individuals to present their reports and then there will be a motion and a second made. Once the motion and second has been made it will be opened for discussion/questions before a full vote is taken.

### **Information**

Educational Policies Committee – [December 7, 2023](#) | [January 4, 2024](#) | [February 1, 2024](#) - Paul Barr  
*Motion to move the Educational Policies Committee information to the Faculty Senate Agenda made by Yoon Lee. Seconded by Yu Huang. Moved to agenda.*

December 7, 2023

Academic Standards Subcommittee - Proposed language for a second degree and the difference between bachelors and associates. Update the second associate's language to mirror the bachelor's degree language.

General Education Subcommittee – Approved six General Education designations.

Curriculum Subcommittee – Approved 124 course approvals and 30 R401 proposals. The committee had an initial discussion regarding the impact of USHE Policy R475.

January 4, 2024

Academic Standards Subcommittee – The subcommittee was asked to review the catalog page “Conflicts with beliefs, alternative course requirements.” The deadline for this update is February 1, 2024

General Education Subcommittee – Approved four General Education designations. Policy R470 has been approved and outcomes will be coming out this spring.

Curriculum Subcommittee – Approved 103 course approvals and eight R401 proposals. USHE is working on Policies R401, R402, R411 and R475.

February 1, 2024

Academic Standards Subcommittee – The committee reviewed the catalog page “Conflicts with Beliefs, Alternative Course Requirements.” There is some concern about the statement in considering whether to provide an alternative requirement, the instructor may evaluate the sincerity, but not the validity, of the student's beliefs.

General Education Subcommittee – Approved six General Education designations.

Curriculum Subcommittee – Approved 355 course approvals and 22 R401 proposals. Approved CIP Code changes for Econometrics and Quantitative Economics.

Limited English Proficiency (LEP) [Draft Policy](#) | [Procedure](#) | [Summary](#) - Matt Pinner

*Motion to move the Limited English Proficiency Policy to the Faculty Senate Agenda made by John Ferguson. Seconded by Matt Bunnell. Moved to agenda.*

Policy 521 – Limited English Proficiency and the accompanying procedures are required as a condition of our receipt of federal funding. The purpose of this proposal is to ensure that persons with Limited English Proficiency have meaningful access and an equal opportunity to participate in our services, activities, programs and other benefits.

## Reports

[Faculty Diversity, Development, & Equity](#) Annual Report – Grant Cardon

*Motion to move the Faculty Diversity, Development and Equity Annual Report to the Faculty Senate Agenda made by John Ferguson. Seconded by Yu Huang. Moved to agenda.*

Committee reviewed and summarized past efforts related to salary equity. Specifically, there was an acknowledgment of the challenge where large annual raises could potentially set individuals behind on salary when they receive a promotion. Discussed research conducted by a graduate student on salary equity.

[Parking and Transportation Committee](#) Annual Report - Tracy Hulse

*Motion to move the Parking and Transportation Committee Annual Report to the Faculty Senate Agenda made by John Ferguson. Seconded by Grant Cardon. Moved to agenda.*

Completed a new parking lot for Aggie Village Laundromat. Implementing T2 MobilePay in the Taggart Student Center visitor lot. There will be a virtual permit system coming onboard and this will begin July 1. Lost 100 stalls in the purple lot due to the construction of the Mehdi Heravi building. Construction is beginning on the south campus business building, parking terrace, and housing structure. Big Blue Terrace was built in 1979 and is in the last cycle of its life. There will be an increase of 7% in parking permits this year. This is for faculty, staff, and students. The largest increase is \$25 per year. Parking fees will continue to increase in order to pay for newer parking terraces.

Sustainability Council [Annual Report](#) | [Summary](#) - Caitlin McLennan | Zac Cook

*Motion to move the Sustainability Council Annual Report to the Faculty Senate Agenda made by Carol Kochan. Seconded by John Ferguson. Moved to agenda.*

Looking at a linear trend of 3% emissions reduction over time. Our annual carbon footprint, however, increased by 12%. Conducted an emissions reduction comparison with other peer and Utah institutions. Looking at progress on some of the key recommendations. The president thanked Caitline for her great work and stated that she has the support of the president.

## Old Business

Update on IRB Ad Hoc Committee - Benjamin George

*Motion to include the IRB Ad Hoc Committee updated to the Faculty Senate Agenda made by John Ferguson. Seconded by Matt Bunnell. Moved to agenda.*

The committee has been working on the survey for quite a while. Hoped to have the survey submitted last semester but that did not work out. It is done and they are hoping to distribute it next week through the Faculty Senate. Asking that the Faculty Senate try and aid in the distribution of the survey. It will be open for a month. to gather as much information as possible. Plan to provide a preliminary report at the last Faculty Senate meeting of the year. This is a peer survey and not a hierarchal survey. Assure people who sees the data, where it will be kept and other concerns that may seem sensitive. They may consider benchmarking with other institutions and include a remedy in the policy. Will use the data to see what the issues looks like.

Update on Faculty Code 405 - John Ferguson

*Motion to include the Faculty Code 405 updated to the Faculty Senate Agenda made by Matt Bunnell. Seconded by Yoon Lee. Moved to agenda.*

This faculty code has already been sent through the process and is waiting with the President. We will pull it back and add a new piece. We need to include the College of Veterinary medicine information.

## New Business

Faculty Code 407 [Redline – Clean](#) | 408 [Redline – Clean](#) (first reading) - John Ferguson

*Motion to move Faculty Code 407 to the Faculty Senate Agenda made by Matt Bunnell. Seconded by Grant Cardon. Moved to agenda.*

Very few changes. PRPC and the committee have gone over these policies multiple times. Changes to 2.6 transfer of tenured faculty. Also changing 2.7.1 aligning timeframes. Fourteen days will be the standard response timeframe.

*Motion to move Faculty Code 408 to the Faculty Senate Agenda made by Matt Bunnell. Seconded by Grant Cardon. Moved to agenda.*

Adding language for clinical instructors for the College of Veterinary Medicine. Aligned with 14 days and with promotion committee. Everything must be in by December 18.

**Adjourn: 5:00 pm**