



**USU FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES
MARCH 14, 2011
Merrill-Cazier Library, Room 154**

Vince Wickwar called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of February 7, 2011 was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements – Vince Wickwar

Roll Call. Members are reminded to sign the role sheet at each meeting.

University Business – President Stan Albrecht.

President Albrecht updated the Faculty Senate on the legislative session outcomes with a grading scale. He awarded an A+ for the approval and funding of the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program and degree. President Albrecht expressed his appreciation to Rep. John Mathis and Senator Dennis Stowell who worked tirelessly for this bill from the beginning. An A+ was also given for the bond funding of the new Business Building. President Albrecht also gave an A for many important and largely unanticipated breakthroughs. Two million dollars was given jointly with the medical school at University of Utah for the Arrhythmia project. The human work on the project will be done at UofU and the animal work will be done at USU. Smaller amounts of money were received for several projects that will benefit other programs on campus, for instance \$50,000 will go to the Caine Music Department and \$50,000 to the Lyric Theater. As for the budget, President Albrecht gave the legislature a B. This is because at the beginning of the session we were looking at a 7% reduction, at the end of the session 5% of that was restored, leaving us with about a \$3 million budget reduction. Unfortunately, on the last day, SB6 past increasing state employee health care premiums, which cost USU about a \$1 million, even though USU is self insured, increasing the FY 2011-12 reduction to about \$4 million. That last \$1 million can be coped with centrally, leaving a \$3 million budget reduction challenge. Finally in President Albrecht's grading he gave an A+ to Neil Abercrombie who recently replaced Michael Kennedy as USU's Director of Government Relations. Faculty Senators expressed their gratitude to President Albrecht for his efforts for USU during this crucial legislative session.

Information Items

What USU is doing about air quality – Nat Frazer. Dean Frazer is chair of the USU Sustainability Council (www.sustainability.usu.edu/htm/about). The question about what USU is doing about air quality was raised at the Faculty Forum meeting last November. USU has actually done a lot in this area including, replacing the coal-fired generation plant with a hydroelectric and natural gas plant. This has greatly reduced emissions. One-third of the buildings on campus are heated with waste heat, which is circulated as hot water throughout campus. Occupancy sensors have been installed in rooms and 3.5 million square feet of lighting has been replaced with efficient florescent lights. IT servers scattered in many cooled rooms are being moved into one location, which is more efficient to cool. The increased use of video conferencing equipment has reduced travel expenses and emissions. Emissions testing will be required of all University vehicles and using the proper size of vehicle for the job will also be

required. New buses running on compressed natural gas have been purchased. Students have started an experimental food-composting project. As well, students from the School of Business and the College of Engineering are identifying all the refrigerators on campus. They are noting the model numbers, usage and power ratings to identify how much we are spending and how much power is being used to run office refrigeration units on campus. They hope to write a grant that will provide funds to replace the units with more efficient models. LED lighting has been added to the Old Main "A" to reduce costs. In calendar year 2010, USU faculty and staff traveled 18 million air miles, down from 21 million the year before. There is a statewide program to reduce idling of automobiles, called "Idle Free Utah" (www.idlefree.utah.gov). Campus organizations are working together to implement this program.

Faculty can help reduce the carbon footprint of the University by such measures as endorsing the Sustainability Council initiatives such as Idle Free Utah, voluntary reduction of air travel, parking fee subsidies, promote inclusion of sustainability and climate change curriculum in general education requirements. Faculty can also support student initiatives, such as the grad student organic garden, as well as Logan City initiatives, and the USU Car Free Friday initiative.

Information Technology at USU-CEU – Eric Hawley. Information Technology is focusing on two primary premises: 1) whatever we do should benefit the students, faculty, and staff, and 2) it should generate efficiencies. Part of generating efficiencies is reducing duplication, as we reduce duplication we can redirect resources to people instead of wires. For instance, the Banner System at Price is being merged into USU's system. This creates one common information technology environment. Every employee will have an A number no matter where they are located. Everyone will use the same registration systems. The same Network services will be extended to all locations as well. The Blue Zone wireless network, the registration of devices, etc. will be in place near the end of this semester. IT wants to create a common classroom experience with common hardware and interfaces for instructors throughout the system, including the new course management system as we move from Blackboard to Canvas. A lot of backend systems are going to be migrated and supported by USU in Logan. This means IT can redirect the staff at USU-CEU to focus more on support of students, staff, and faculty, and less on the support of the operation of services and wires. Library database access is being extended to USU-CEU so they will have access to the same databases as the Logan campus. USU-CEU will be joining us on our central email system.

Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee Survey – Doug Jackson-Smith. This survey was done in hopes of responding to two ongoing issues that looked to be important to BFW in the future: 1) we are reforming and accelerating efforts to integrate faculty conversations about future changes to the benefits program, thus we have been asked to get feedback about where the system might need the most attention. 2) we are looking at how to allocate future compensation resources by asking faculty what their priorities would be if there were future compensation dollars to distribute. The full report is on the BFW website. There is general satisfaction with our health care program and the choices we have within it. There is however, mounting concern over the high levels of deductibles. There are parts of the health care program that people know little about as indicated by using the response that they did not have enough experience to express an opinion. There tends to be overwhelming satisfaction with the level of retirement benefits contributed by the institution. There was a lack of familiarity with the early retirement program. Faculty would prioritize the allocation of compensation first by across-the-board salary increases. They would also like to avoid increased out-of-pocket health care costs. Then they would like differential raises to reward merit. When looking at the data by College, results varied greatly. BFW will be using the results of the survey to shape the work they will be doing in the coming year.

Consent Agenda Items – Vince Wickwar.

Brief summaries of the reports, which were distributed with the agenda, were presented by the following people:

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

One-year renewal of USU-CEU Faculty Senate apportionments – Vince Wickwar. Last year there was a motion to give USU-CEU apportionment on the Faculty Senate. It was set up so that it could be renewed until the Faculty Code was modified to include them. We are asking for a renewal for this coming year and also recognizing that USU-CEU needs to be included on our standing committees. There was a motion to approve the one-year renewal and include USU-CEU on the Faculty Senate standing committees. The motion passed unanimously.

Proposed procedure for code changes to integrate USU-CEU – Vince Wickwar. An Ad Hoc Committee was put together to work on changes that needed to be made to the Code to integrate USU-CEU. The Memorandum of Understanding, which was included in the legislation, affects much of what needs to be done to the Code. Thus some aspects of the changes are dictated by law. A planning committee on Career and Technical Education was set up and they reported last summer on the code language needed to include career and technical education. In this proposal we are looking for support for two special meetings of the Faculty Senate at the end of this week (Thursday, March 17th from 5 - 6:30 p.m. in the CHaSS Conference Room, Main 338 and on Friday, March 18th from 3 - 4:30 p.m. in Library 154). It is hoped that senators will be available for one of these two meetings or both if they wish. The distribution of the revised code on March 28th would constitute the first reading. It would be put to a vote at the April 4th Faculty Senate meeting. The distribution of the revised code on April 18th would constitute the second reading. It would be put to a vote at the April 25th Faculty Senate meeting. These are the last two senate meetings of the year. The usual process for code changes would be for the changes suggested by the Ad Hoc Committee to be sent to PRPC and then to have PRPC bring them to the Faculty Senate. Because of the need for timely implementation of USU-CEU into the code, it became apparent, that due to the overwhelming volume and detail of the needed code changes, it would take PRPC several years to examine the suggested code changes. The Ad Hoc Committee was selected to include people, many with Faculty Senate experience, who had considerable code experience, and the committee met extensively since October to make and examine the suggested changes. Membership of the committee can be found in the supporting documentation appended to the agenda for this meeting. The two special Faculty Senate meetings are requested to give further review by faculty senators.

The committees charge was to: 1) increase excellence of USU as a whole; 2) reinforce the land grant mission to increase educational opportunities for Utah citizens; 3) take into account the growing proportion of faculty that are outside Logan, not only at USU-CEU but in Extension and Regional Campuses; 4) take into account the existing and future possible structure of our system of Regional Campuses; 5) follow the framework set by the "Memorandum of Understanding" approved by the Legislature, and take into account discussions that occurred before the merger with CEU faculty and staff; 6) create a new category of faculty in career and technical education; 7) faculty senate apportionment; and 8) finish the work by the end of this year.

Each member of the committee reviewed each section separately and made comments, suggestions and changes. In the process the Ad Hoc Committee found that they were dealing with issues that PRPC would be deliberating with the Kras Committee changes, and decided to incorporate some of them in their work, because it would be too difficulty and confusing to have two different groups going forward with code changes at the same time, especially when they overlapped. Version 1 of the revised code document constitutes changes made by the committee along with adding some of the Kras Committee suggestions. Version 2, which was sent to all

Faculty Senators a week ago, constitutes the changes the committee made as they looked at all sections of the code as a whole. After the two special Faculty Senate meetings, another draft will be put together with the suggested changes that came out of the meetings and it will become Version 3. It will be distributed on March 28th. This will be brought to the Senate for a vote as the first reading April 4th (the distribution of the document will be considered the first reading since there is not enough time to read it at the meeting). If there are no substantive changes from the first reading the document will be distributed again prior to the last senate meeting and voted on as a second reading April 25th.

Some highlights to help put things in context as you read it are as follows:

- A section has been added under Tenured and Tenure Track Ranks for Professional Career and Technical Education. This was covered very carefully in the CTE report.
- A section called "Professional Practice Ranks" was added to the section on Term Appointments. It is appropriate for Work Force faculty at USU-CEU. Edith Bowen Teachers were eliminated because Edith Bowen has become a Charter School and its teachers are no longer USU employees.
- There was a modification in the Lecturer Ranks that had to do with better specification of course levels and recognition that a few lecturers are teaching graduate courses. This came out of the work of the Code Compliance Committee a year ago and has been extensively reviewed by PRPC.
- Under Role Statements, one of the terms that has been used is "research" but this does not cover artistic or performance endeavors so the term has been changed to "research or creative endeavors".
- There is a list of people that have to have reports made to them. The list is totally out of date and was revised.
- Reapportionment was made for Faculty Senate and its Committees.
- When the code discusses promotion and tenure letters, the request was modified to be based on the major emphasis in the role statement.
- There have been updates to media references.
- Under Service in Role Statements the inclusion of engagement in local communities has been added.
- There are a lot of straight forward editing changes.
- Reporting sequences in the document were update to include our other campus structures.
- All faculty are assigned to academic departments. Academic units in the document refer to academic departments, library, and extension. The use of the word "school" refers to units within a college, with the exception of the Huntsman School of Business, which refers to the College.

Ed Heath made a motion to accept the proposed procedure and the time frame, the motion was seconded. There was a question that if you can't make the meetings what should we do? Get your comments to Vince. You can also talk to your Executive Committee member. What happens if there are substantive changes? We are hoping they will come up in the two special meetings. If they come up in the Senate meeting they will have to be dealt with next year, that is why we need the extra meetings now. Other editorial changes could be passed on to PRPC. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made at 4:30 p.m.