



**USU FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES
APRIL 25, 2011
Merrill-Cazier Library, Room 154**

Vince Wickwar called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of April 4, 2011 was made by Darwin Sorensen and seconded by Steve Burr. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements – Vince Wickwar

Roll Call. Members are reminded to sign the role sheet at each meeting. If attending as an alternate, sign for the senator you are replacing as well as in the alternate section.

Status of Faculty Senate Motion Tracking. The updated motion tracking document can be found on the Faculty Senate web site at <http://www.usu.edu/fsenate/>.

Editing changes (non substantive) for USU-CEU code changes. Copies of non substantive changes (spelling, punctuation, etc.) were distributed to senators.

University Business – President Stan Albrecht and Provost Coward.

President Albrecht thanked and congratulated the senate on their work this year. It was a very involved year with the merger of USU – CEU.

The President and Provost visited the colleges making presentations on the current budget cuts. Provost Coward had met with the Deans and VPs to discuss the 2% cut to the central budget. He also discussed the ideas and proposals that are being considered. The ideas and possible actions that come out of these meetings will be taken to the Budget Reduction Committee. Four categories of cuts are being considered: 1) restructuring of administrative reporting lines so that educational programs and degrees will not be altered; 2) reduction or elimination E&G support and replacement with other revenue streams; 3) areas that have recently expanded will be moved back to former levels of service; 4) new hire positions for faculty and staff will be brought in at a lower entry level to save the difference in the new salary cost versus the previous salary cost. There is a concerted effort being made not to increase course fees for students during this process.

As of July 1, 2011 the recycling budget will be paid in full for all areas on campus. Having retired that debt now frees up that money for use by departments and programs.

The search for a new VP of Research and Dean of Graduate School continues. USU hosted a candidate on campus last week. Three more candidates will visit campus in the next 2 weeks.

This year's number of graduates is up 665 from last year.

Information Items

AA/EO Code Changes in Policy 300 – David Ottley. The purpose of updating policy 303 is to come into compliance with changes in the law and update some of the verbiage; for example, ADA is now ADAA.

Common Hour Revised Implementation – Jordan Olsen. Jordan presented a new proposed common hour schedule. The new schedule is once a week, Wednesdays from 11:30 to 1:00 pm. All afternoon classes will start on the hour instead of the half hour. Monday, Wednesday, Friday classes in that time frame would become Monday/Friday classes and would meet for 75 minutes. There are fewer than 20 classes that would not be accommodated by this schedule and they will be looked at individually. Classes that meet for longer than 90 minutes or that meet in a lab or specially equipped room are exempt. The schedule would not affect any class that begins after 4:30 pm.

Senators raised concerns over the effectiveness of, participation in, and value of interrupting the entire campus for the benefit of a small number of students that would participate, expressing that past experience with a common hour showed low participation rates. Another concern is the inconvenience of meeting on only Monday and Friday which forces professors to have to restructure their entire course to accommodate the extended class time. However, many senators thought that this plan was much better than the one presented several months ago. Jordan stated that the proposal must be presented to student government groups, the Faculty Senate, Deans, Vice Presidents and then the President for final approval.

Diversity Council – James Morales. The Diversity Council was formed by President Albrecht in the Fall of 2009. It is a 15 member council that was convened in January of 2010 and given the charge to look at issues related to the diversity climate across the USU system. The Diversity Council is announcing an internal grant opportunity. The council has a modest amount of money to award grants of \$3000 - \$5000 that support initiatives related to the Diversity Council. The grants can be sequentially funded up to three years pending an annual review. The goal of the grants are to support activities that support a climate that welcomes diversity of thought and culture. Applications are due June 1, 2011 and more information can be found on their web site, <http://www.usu.edu/diversity/>.

Consent Agenda Items – Vince Wickwar

Calendar Committee Follow-up – Scott Bates. There was acceptance of the 2014-15 employee and summer calendars attached to the agenda. There was one flexible holiday and the committee selected December 24th. The committee asked that the RCDE academic calendar be added to the USU Academic calendar. The committee is also recommending that a student, faculty, and staff survey be conducted in the fall to determine if any significant changes to the calendar should be considered next year.

FDDE Annual Report – Jennifer Duncan. The data packet has been distributed. The committee has been troubled by the lack of diversity over the years and they are trying to figure out how faculty can address this problem. The committee wants to consider a unit on campus to deal with diversity issues in addition to the Diversity Council. FDDE will be meeting with President Albrecht and has met with James Morales.

Committee on Committees Annual Report - Glenn McEvoy. Virtually all committee assignments have been filled except for one college. One academic unit still needs to elect some senators. If you are a new senator please contact Flora Shrode about your interests on serving on committees. There are descriptions of the committees in Section 402 of the Code.

EPC Items – Larry Smith. Larry thanked EPC and its Subcommittee members for their work this year. In the last two months there were 136 course actions, and 9 academic proposals. The

Academic Standards Subcommittee reports there were 4 basic actions, and they have been busy making policy for the USU-CEU merger. The General Education Subcommittee has also been busy with the USU-CEU merger. In its April 7, 2011, meeting, EPC approved a request from the College of Agriculture to create the School of Applied Sciences, Technology and Education.

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Nick Morrison and seconded by Mike Parent. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

Approval of the presidential appointee to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee – Vince Wickwar. Rick Clement has been appointed to FSEC by President Albrecht.

A motion of approval was made by Craig Peterson and seconded by Mike Parent. The motion passed unanimously.

USU-CEU Code Changes (Second Reading) – Vince Wickwar.

A motion to include the editorial changes was made by Glenn McEvoy and seconded by Nick Morrison. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to accept the proposed changes was made by Glenn McEvoy and seconded by Eric Worthen. The motion passed unanimously.

Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Vince Wickwar presented Ed Heath with a certificate for his three years of service to the Faculty Senate. The gavel was passed to Glenn McEvoy who will take over as Faculty Senate President on July 1, 2011. Glen also presented Vince Wickwar with a plaque for his service as Senate President this past year. Renee Galliher was introduced to the senate as President-Elect.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.