

Doug Ramsey called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from December 3, 2007

John Kras motioned to approve the minutes of December 3, 2007. Byron Burnham seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

Announcements – Doug Ramsey

1. Doug Ramsey asked for the roster to be passed around for roll call.
2. Doug provided an updated website for the Information Technologies policies that IT brought to the Senate last month. The wiki site is no longer working properly. Use: <http://it.usu.edu/policies/>.
3. Doug announced that the Faculty Forum minutes were on the Faculty Forum website: http://www.usu.edu/fsenate/FS/Minutes/Minutes_FF_Nov05_2007.pdf.

University Business – President Stan Albrecht

1. President Albrecht announced that we have received more commitments on the capital campaign from foundations and private sources. The majority of the walk-in contributions to Development have been faculty and staff. There have been 995 people on campus contributing monthly through payroll deductions. The George Eccles Foundation sent a check in December for the new childcare center. President Albrecht expressed his compliments and thanks to all who put in time for this.
2. As we look to begin a new legislative session, there is a little uncertainty in the capital projects side. The large building projects this year includes a \$77 million for a new prison project and there are no higher education projects built into governor's budget.
3. Provost Coward was asked by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to report the actions taken by administration regarding salary compression since the Faculty Forum. He said that during the Deans Council Retreat this Friday, they will spend half of the day discussing this issue. Then, on February 6, at an afternoon department heads workshop, he will bring the outcome from the dean's retreat to engage the department heads in more discussion. Lastly, as part of a national consortium – the University Leadership Council – we have commissioned a customized research on faculty salary compression and we should get the results of that by end of January.

Consent Agenda Items

1. Council on Teacher Education
2. Retention and FYE Report
3. Scholarship Advisory Board Report

John Kras motioned to accept the Consent Agenda. Sylvia Read seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

Key Issues and Action Items

1. **Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee Items**
 - a. **Conflict of Interest Recommendations** – Jenny Norton stated that BFW was charged to look at this issue and recommended that any substantial changes go through the entire senate. No action was taken.

Old Business

1. **LEEDS Resolution Proposals** – Larry Higgs presented to options for the proposed resolution Leeds Resolution Proposals. After much discussion, Mike Parent motioned to accept option #1 with the addition of the words "LEED or LEED equivalent". John Kras seconded the motion. Larry Higgs expressed concern with the words 'or equivalent'. Steve Burr motioned to amend the original motion to add the academic program and last paragraph of the second option. Daren Cornforth

seconded the motion. Will Pependorf motioned to add text to state, as background literature, that President Albrecht has already signed the Presidents Climate Commitment. Steve Burr seconded Will Pependorf's motion to amend. Back to original motion: the motion is basically to accept option #2 with the additional text as stated by Will Pependorf. Motion passed unanimously. This will be finalized in FSEC and Doug Ramsey will draft new language.

New Business

1. **Ombudsperson Code** – This new business was presented by Mike Parent. It is a suggested change to code 405.6.5(2) to add the text in red italics: "An ombudsperson will be present at all meetings of a promotion committee or a tenure committee *if requested by either the candidate or any member of the promotion or tenure committee*. Ombudspersons must receive adequate advance notice of a committee meeting from the chairperson." One of the reasons this has come up is because there is a lack of available ombudspersons to serve. The problem is that a candidate might not even know if or when to request an ombudsperson, so may not be protected when needed. Steve Burr motioned to accept the proposal as written. Ed Heath seconded the motion; motion failed.
2. John Kras encouraged all senators to read the faculty code.

Adjournment

Ronda Galliher motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by: Andi McCabe, Faculty Senate Executive Secretary, 797-1166