Call to Order
Kimberly Lott called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.
Minutes from the December 5, 2016 meeting approved.

University Business - Noelle Cockett, President - Larry Smith, Interim Provost
Larry Smith was introduced as the Interim Provost. USU submitted 19 proposals to the Board of Trustees on January 6. The Trustees were provided with information on much work and dedication is put into the R401 Program Proposal work.

President Cockett is starting the second week as President and is enjoying it so far but staying really busy. It is great to have everyone back on campus and be able to walk through classrooms and see all the students. USU is doing really well with enrollment numbers. The legislative session will begin in January. The institution is sticking with USHE in areas of Growth and Market Demand. Future salary compensation will be across all public education and not divided between secondary and higher education. President Albrecht was a master at acquiring funds for building projects. He helped set the university up for funding for this year for building initiatives. USU is not looking at too much special treatment from the legislature.

Sexual Assault Task Force – President Cockett will remain as the lead and will be working with each of the groups here on campus, as well as working with other groups outside of USU. Really good moment in that we are all talking about sexual assault. This is not just happening on the campus it is happening everywhere in society. Currently working with CAPSA and they will utilize the consent campaign that the university is using. Community approach and dialogue will continue to happen more and more. Rolling out a bystander intervention program focused on students and how they have the conversations and what they should do. Discussing a Campus Climate Survey regarding sexual assault which would include only students, not faculty or staff. Student survey will be first and then another survey for faculty will be done at a later date.

Reports
EPC Items (December) - Edward Reeve
Ed Reeve was introduced as the Interim Vice Provost and he will be reporting monthly on the Educational Policies Committee. Ed reiterated how USHE reviews the R401 proposals.

Three R401 program proposals were submitted and approved.

Depth requirement for Teacher Education majors have been temporarily suspended. Request from TEAL was to suspend the depth requirement while they rework the curriculum. Change due to state system and accreditors.

Motion to approve the EPC report made by Becky Blais. Seconded by Chris Luecke.
Council on Teacher Education Annual Report – Kimberly Lott
The report is divided into three different sections. First part discusses Program Changes; second is Policy Changes and third is Student Profile. Two new members have been added to the CTE council. One is a principal and the other is a public school teacher. Accrediting wants to see more of a connection between the university and public schools. Utilizing new student teaching evaluation form adopted based on Utah’s Teaching Effectiveness Standards. Increase the number of students admitted into initial teacher education programs is at 10.6% and there has been a 4.35% increase in post graduate licensing and endorsement programs.

Given the teaching shortage in the state and the placement rate do most students want to stay in Cache Valley and not go anywhere else? Need to look at the context of the teacher shortage as things like location and specialties may make a difference.

Motion to approve the Council on Teacher Education Annual Report made by Mike Lyons. Seconded by Ronda Callister. Report approved.

Scholarship Advisory Board Annual Report – Susan Barrus
The Admissions Scholarship is the only scholarship that extends for more than one year and is only half of what is done in the scholarship office. The website located at: scholarships@usu.edu is a great resource for students, faculty and parents. Last year there were more than 12,543 students receiving scholarships and students can receive more than one scholarship. Stipends are now called non-qualified scholarships. This scholarship is working much better than a stipend. The number of individuals who can “touch” the money or student accounts has now been decreased to four and they are using ServiceNow to help gather information that is needed. Susan Barrus is the departmental contact so she can be reached for any questions or concerns. Send out one-page description. If you have scholarships in your department make sure that whomever is rewarding and reviewing them are FERPA trained. No one should be working in student services without that training and ensure that whoever is providing the funding for the scholarship has nothing to do with the awarding.

Motion to approve the Scholarship Advisory Board Annual Report made by Jeanette Morton. Seconded by Becky Blais. Report approved.

New Business
Annual Review Procedures - Ronda Callister
This went through last year, however, it was not approved through the Executive Committee so it is being brought back to Faculty Senate to see where we go from here. Next step should be to meet with the deans and talk with the executive council to let them know what we are trying to accomplish. Continue conversations and see what can be done and raise awareness regarding faculty governance. It may be uncomfortable for deans and DHs to be held to timeframes. If there are not concise rules and specifications, there really is no change. Set up a two-way conversation to raise this awareness. Faculty Senate will send a letter to all deans and department heads to let them know that this is what needs to be changed/updated in the process/procedure. Once a meeting is held with the Executive Committee then we will move forward and inform the faculty of the change.

Adjourn at 3:55