Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for April 19th, 2004

Attendance:

Senators:        Tom Kent (1189) Ed Heath (3306) Dan Davis (0890)  
                 Dean Miner (801-370-8469) Marv Halling (3179) Chris Coray (2861)  
                 Vance Grange (2702) Dale Blahna (2544) Bruce Miller (2232)  
                 John Kras (3881) Derek Mason (1288) Kevin Doyle (4025)  

Presenters:      Scott Hunsaker (0386) Mark Krum (0946) Sydney Peterson (1170)  
                 Stephen Bialkowski (1907) Russ Price (8305) Nicole McCoy (7153)  

Visitors:        Stephanie Kukic (1736) Rebecca Warnick A.J. Rounds

Excused:         Janis Boettinger (4026) Carol Kochan (2726) Kevin Kesler (0930)

Call to Order
Tom Kent called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

Minutes:
Bruce Miller moved to accept the minutes of February 23rd. The motion, seconded by Dale Blahna, was passed.

Announcements:
The next FSEC Lunch with President Hall will be held this Thursday, April 22nd, at noon in Champ Hall. This is not a brown bag lunch, it will be catered as it is the last lunch of the year.

Committee Reports:
EPC Business
Scott Hunsaker listed the latest items that have passed the EPC. Included was the report of the Academic Standards Subcommittee who submitted a new incomplete grade documentation form which was approved by EPC. Also the General Education Subcommittee approved a change in the computer and information literacy competencies and skills examination which will begin next fall. Bruce Miller moved to place EPC Business on the Consent Agenda. The motion, seconded by Dean Miner, passed.

Committee on Committees
Mark Krumm presented the results of the Faculty Senate election results. He then briefly reviewed the report which included the appointments of senate members to the various committees which require Faculty Senate representation. He then read next years Executive Committee membership. Dean Miner moved to place the Committee on Committees report on the Consent Agenda. The motion, seconded by Marv Halling, passed. Discussion continued and Marv Halling moved to also place the Report on the agenda as an Information Item. This motion, seconded by Kevin Doyle, passed.

Calendar Committee
Sydney Peterson introduced the final calendar for the 2004-2005, as approved by the Calendar Committee, and Administration. Bruce Miller moved to place the Calendar on the Consent Agenda. The motion, seconded by Dale Blahna, passed.

Budget and Faculty Welfare
Kevin Doyle moved to untable the report, which was tabled at the February 2004 Executive Committee meeting. The motion, seconded by Vance Grange, passed and the report was untabled. Stephen Bialkowski then presented the report and pointed out primarily the changes since its tabling, which were mainly changes in language presentation, not content. He highlighted issues where other committees are looking at issues which according to the policy manual, is the job of BFW. He then reviewed the BFW recommendations, including the recommendation to place a Senate placed representative, including BFW members, on all ad hoc committees. Also, the BFW chair be invited to become a member of, or at least participate in these ad hoc committees. Chris Coray moved to place the BFW report on the Consent Agenda and have it presented as an Information Item. The motion, seconded by Bruce Miller, passed.

Key Issues and Action Items:
Research Policy #306
Russ Price presented the proposed Research Policy #306 from the Vice President of Research Office. It is a broad policy
covering research topics ranging from the care and use of animals and human participants in research to scientific misconduct. He is asking the Senate for modification or acceptance. Bruce Miller moved to place the Research Policy #306 on the agenda as an Action Item. The motion, seconded by Kevin Doyle, passed.

**Tuition Task Force Report**
Nicole McCoy presented the Tuition Task Force Report. She introduced visiting members of the Task Force in attendance, Rebecca Warnick Stephanie Kukic, Sydney Peterson, Scott Hinton and A.J. Rounds who will take Stephanie Kukic's place on the Task Force next year representing the GSS. The recommendation is for the next three years, a 6% Tier II tuition increases, assuming 4% Tier I increases. This would produce an 18% Tuition increase in that three years. The reasoning behind these increases is from the simple fact that USU tuition, compared to peer and neighboring institutions, is very low. The University is in desperate need of money, and this will help ease the financial strain.

Stephanie Kukic mentioned that the students are in favor of these tuition increases, so as to become more competitive with other institutions. Rebecca Warnick made the point that these tuition increases will also be responsible for decreasing or even eliminating course fees for many classes. Sydney Peterson also added that this will help increase the much needed operating budgets. Scott Hinton mentioned that they plan on including a tuition calculator, which will automatically combine tuition with course fees. Chris Coray moved to place the Tuition Task Force report on the agenda as an Information Item. The motion, seconded by Dale Blahna, passed.

**New Business:**
Chris Coray proposed and moved that the Faculty Senate consider the following resolution. "Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of Utah State University recommend that all searches for presidents of this university from this time forward be completely open searches." The resolution would be placed on the agenda as a Key Issue and Action Item. The motion, seconded by Bruce Miller, passed.

Bruce Miller mentioned that the Executive Committee refer to PRPC to review the committee assignments of our standing committees. The new Executive Committee will see to this need in the August meeting, and action will begin in the Fall Semester later this year.

**Adjourn:**
Tom Kent called for adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.