ECR 2019-04

Committee: Executive Council
First Reading Date: October 9, 2018
Second Reading Date: October 23, 2018
Final Action Date: October 23, 2018
Final Action: Passed

Requesting Amendment to Add Utah State University Blanding Campus as a Regional Campus Service Region

1 WHEREAS Utah State University Student Association (USUSA) Regional Campus Student Government exists to serve the needs of students attending Utah State University (USU) at regional campus sites;
2 WHEREAS the function and structure of USUSA Regional Campus Student Government is determined and governed by the USUSA Constitution;
3 WHEREAS the USUSA Constitution divides the state into several service regions to provide effective representation to students in their respective areas;
4 WHEREAS the USU Blanding Campus requested to join USUSA Regional Campus Student Government as its own service region in July 2018;
5 BE IT THEREFORE RESOVED THAT the USUSA Constitution be amended to include Utah State University Blanding Campus as part of its service region within Regional Campus Student Government.
6 WHEREAS one of the principles of USUSA is the effective and timely representation of the needs and concerns of students;
7 WHEREAS due to the requested change, students at USU Blanding currently lack full representation and voice for the 2018-2019 academic year;
8 WHEREAS to allow for the election and appointment of the 2019-2020 USUSA officers at USU Blanding to occur in Spring 2019, an immediate and decisive action on this issue is needed.
9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT on approval of this resolution that it be placed before the student body in a special election to be completed no later than November 16, 2018.
10 WHEREAS this request is extremely time sensitive to ensure the effective representation of USU Blanding students;
WHEREAS coordination between the USUSA Regional Campus Executive Council and the USUSA Executive Council is desirable to achieve the wanted outcome.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the desired changes are specifically to Article 1, Section 1.B adding the line “7. USU Blanding Service Region” and to Article 2, Section 6.D.2 adding line “g. USU Blanding Service Region Executive Vice President” to the USUSA Constitution.

Tags: USU Blanding, Constitution Amendment, RCEC, Special Election, Adding USU Blanding to Regional Campuses

Sponsor: Jaren Hunsaker USUSA President

Co-Sponsor: Sam Jackson Student Advocate VP
Policy Paper

Committee: Executive Council

In Attendance: President Jaren Hunsaker, VP Allie Smith, VP Samuel Jackson, VP Bannon Greer, VP Meghan Tatom, VP Joshua Johnson, VP Jenna Stoker, VP Daria Griffith, Senator Kristin Hall, Director Braxton Moon, Assistant Brooke Jorgensen
Absent: None

History:

Shortly before the Fall 2018 USUSA Regional Campus Officer Training Retreat, Kevin Webb contacted Michael Booth, the Regional Campus President, with the news that USU Blanding had requested to join USUSA Regional Campuses. Historically, USU Blanding had been viewed as part of USU Eastern and operating under their purview. As more was learned, it was decided that the best course of action moving forward would be to bring USU Blanding fulling into the regional campus student government system.

A desire to allow them to maintain the structure and roles they need for effective student representation was expressed. It was decided that adding them as their own service region was the appropriate outcome, rather than adding them to an existing one. To take this action, an amendment to the USUSA Constitution would be needed. Due to past legislative efforts, we knew that the RCEC does not have the authority to directly propose a constitutional amendment to the student body. After several years of looking at various options, it was decided that the appropriate and constitutional method for the RCEC to do this would be through a resolution requesting the Logan EC propose a bill placing the amendment before the student body.

We also realized that the amendment would need to be fast tracked through both bodies and placed before the student body in a special election. Without the changes, USU Blanding is without a voice or constitutionally sanctioned officers for the 2018-2019 academic year. We have given their elected officers non-voting observer status as of now but need to resolve this issue as soon as possible to allow for their representation. Also, to allow for the needed updates to the USUSA Officer Charters, Regional Campus Elections Bylaws, and election materials, these changes need to be in place by November or December 2018 at the latest.
Committee:  RCEC
First Reading Date: 11 September 2018
Second Reading Date: 25 September 2018
Final Action Date: 25 September 2018
Final Action:  PASSED

Purpose:

This resolution requests to amend the USUSA Constitution to add the USU Blanding Campus as the USU Blanding Service Region under the USU Regional Campus system, and to place the question before the student body in a special election as soon as possible. Our reading of the USUSA Constitution suggests that only 2-3 lines will need to be modified.

Pros:

This resolution enables the effective representation of students attending at USU Blanding. By adding USU Blanding to the USU Regional Campus system as its own service region, they maintain their current officer structure and unique culture within the USU system. This has developed over many years and is considered by the body to be highly desirable to preserve. Adding USU Blanding to regional campuses will bring new voices to our body and added diversity to our student population.

Cons:

By adding USU Blanding as its own service region, we are expanding the Regional Campus Executive Council’s membership from seven (7) officers to eight (8). This will cause the possibility of tie votes to occur on issues depending on how the vote of the Regional Campus President and chairperson is considered. The president would then be that tie-breaking vote.