

SPECIAL MEETING  
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL  
JULY 18, 2011

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Utah State University Board of Trustees held as a telephone conference call in the Champ Hall Conference Room, Old Main 136, at 3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ronald W. Jibson	Chair
Scott R. Watterson	Vice Chair
Jody K. Burnett	
David P. Cook	
Robert L. Foley	
Douglas S. Foxley	(Champ Hall Conference Room)
Erik D. Mikkelsen	(Champ Hall Conference Room)
Frank Peczuh, Jr.	
Suzanne Pierce-Moore	
Richard L. Shipley	

MEMBER EXCUSED

Susan D. Johnson

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT (Champ Hall Conference Room)

Stan L. Albrecht	President
Raymond T. Coward	Executive Vice President and Provost
Sydney M. Peterson	Chief of Staff and Board of Trustees Secretary
Mira G. Thatcher	Secretary
Vincent B. Wickwar	Former President of Faculty Senate

Chair Jibson conducted the meeting and welcomed those present.

I. Amendments to the USU Policy Manual, Section 401 – Composition and Authority of the Faculty; Section 402 – The Faculty Senate and Its Committees; Section 403 – Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility; Section 404 – Faculty Appointments; Section 405 – Tenured and Term Appointments: Evaluation, Promotion and Retention; Section 406 – Program Discontinuance, Financial Exigency and Financial Crisis; and Section 407 – Academic Due Process: Sanctions and Hearing Procedures

President Albrecht expressed appreciation to the Trustees for taking time to join the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees, and to Chancellor Joe Peterson for attending. He indicated that the revision of the USU Policy and Procedures Manual was extensive because of the merger with CEU (see Appendix A). Section 400 of the USU Policy and Procedures Manual received a comprehensive and thorough review by a special committee formed by the Faculty Senate to modify the Code and incorporate faculty colleagues at USU-CEU (Appendix A).

Chancellor Peterson stated that the USU-CEU merger joined together two different types of institutions – a land-grant university and a rural community college. The initial complexity of the merger was due to the differences in the institutions, but the institutions also had a lot in common. The CEU Board and some faculty members were concerned about how the merger would evolve. Chancellor Peterson stated that Vincent Wickwar, President of the Faculty Senate for 2010-2011, visited CEU and met with faculty concerning blending the two institutions and the Faculty Code. As time passed, we realized that the merger was going to work, and it was going to work well. Chancellor Peterson stated that great wisdom was used in making the revisions to the Code. He expressed appreciation to those who were involved in the revision at CEU and in Logan, and for the leadership of Provost Coward and Dr. Wickwar. He stated his endorsement of the amendments to the Faculty Code in the USU Policy and Procedures Manual.

Provost Coward stated that the committee formed to revise the Code consisted of faculty from the Logan campus, from CEU, and the Regional campus. Provost Coward co-chaired the committee with Dr. Wickwar, and the committee met during Fall and Spring Semesters with a goal to create a Code that was consistent across all campuses. He expressed appreciation for Dr. Wickwar's outstanding leadership and credited him for completion of the Code changes.

Provost Coward indicated that many of the changes were minor nonstructural, grammatical changes, but listed the following three major changes to the Code:

1. Section 401.3.5 – A fourth category of academic rank among tenured and tenure-track faculty – “Professional Career and Technical Education.” This category is in addition to the current tenured and tenure-track faculty – core faculty, librarians, and extension faculty.
2. Section 401.4.2 (1) – Expanded teaching responsibilities of lecturers with term appointments. He said this includes clarification of procedures that must be followed when lecturers who are uniquely qualified through education and/or experience are appointed to teach courses numbered 5000 or above.
3. Section 401.4.2 (6) – Addition of a new faculty category of term appointments titled “Professional Practice Ranks.” Previously, the title “Clinical Ranks” was used for faculty members with “substantial professional experience and expertise in a specific professional arena outside of academe. The new category better describes the type of faculty and provides a title more befitting experience and expertise.

Trustee Watterson asked the cost of granting tenure to more faculty, and the result if there were a breakup between USU and CEU. Provost Coward stated that the faculty members at CEU already had tenure, and the goal was to join them into our system and to make it a better fit, so a new category was created.

Trustee Pierce-Moore asked if these changes addressed concerns expressed by Regent David Jordan at the Board of Regents meeting. President Albrecht stated that differences in the two institutions range from technical education to research and major grants and contracts. He said the changes to the Code allow an integration which is important in addressing issues raised by Regent Jordan.

Provost Coward stated that due to the changes in the Code, faculty members in Price and Blanding will not feel they are second-class faculty. Chancellor Peterson agreed that the faculty feel they are on equal standing. He said the Code is broad enough to cover different circumstances.

Provost Coward summarized that the changes to the Policy Manual emerged from extensive discussions about how to align the Policy Manual with multiple campuses encompassing instructional programs ranging from non-credit courses, to professional career and technical education certificates, to associate degree programs, to baccalaureate degree programs, to graduate degree programs. He again pointed out that Dr. Wickwar led the effort and is principally responsible for its completion and adoption.

Action: Trustee Foxley moved approval of Resolution 11-7-1a (Appendix A) the amendments to the USU Policy Manual, Section 401 – Composition and Authority of the Faculty; Section 402 – The Faculty Senate and Its Committees; Section 403 – Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility; Section 404 – Faculty

Appointments; Section 405 – Tenured and Term Appointments: Evaluation, Promotion and Retention; Section 406 – Program Discontinuance, Financial Exigency and Financial Crisis; and Section 407 – Academic Due Process: Sanctions and Hearing Procedures. Trustee Peczuh, Jr. seconded the motion, and the voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Chair Jibson extended congratulations to the committee for its work on the Code changes. He said their extensive effort and will help to make the merger complete.

## II. Peer Institutions for Utah State University

The Commissioner’s Office in the Utah System of Higher Education periodically works with each institution in the system to update lists of peer institutions. These lists are used for various financial and statistical comparisons. It is important to update the lists to ensure that peer group members remain representative of the nature and mission of the institution for which they are compared.

Peer institutions for USU include Colorado State University, Kansas State University, Montana State University, New Mexico State University, Oregon State University, the University of Idaho, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the University of Nevada-Reno; the University of Wyoming, and Washington State University (see Appendix B).

Trustee Watterson asked about the peer institutions for Utah Valley University, Weber State University, and the University of Utah. President Albrecht said all of the institutions have gone through a revision of peer institutions. The list for the U of U was approved at a prior meeting of the Board of Regents. The lists for the different institutions are very different.

Chair Jibson asked how President Albrecht and Provost Coward felt about the peer institutions chosen for USU. President Albrecht said this list was modified from the initial list after concerns were expressed. He said USU is supportive of the updated peer list.

Action: Trustee Foxley moved approval of Resolution 11-7-2b the updated list of Peer Institutions for Utah State University (Appendix B), and Trustee Foley seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

## III. Board of Trustees Workshop

The Board of Trustees Workshop will be held on August 26. The agenda has not yet been set.

IV. Change in Date of Trustees Meeting

The date of the November Trustees meeting will change from November 11 to November 4.

V. Board of Regents Meeting Schedule for 2012

Sydney Peterson informed the Trustees that the schedule of meetings for 2012 will be determined after the schedule for the Board of Regents meetings is posted. For 2012, the Regents plan to schedule for six months at a time, so USU will also only schedule for six months.

The Special Meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

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Ronald W. Jibson, Chair

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Sydney M. Peterson, Secretary  
(Minutes Taken by Mira G. Thatcher)

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Date Approved