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Faculty Senate Minutes, April 25, 2022

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

April 25, 2022

3:00 – 4:30 pm

Merrill Cazier Library – 154 (Zoom)

Call to Order - Boyd Edwards

[Approval of Minutes](#) – March 28, 2022

Minutes approved as distributed.

University Business - Noelle Cockett, President | Frank Galey, Provost

President Cockett – Reorganization and structure changes. Frank Galey is retiring as Executive Vice President (EVP) and Provost effective July 1, 2022. Extremely appreciative of all of his efforts and work he has contributed to Utah State University. In moving forward, the President would like to change the position. She would like to split it out to two separate positions. One for executive vice president and one for provost. The thinking is that it allows the provost to follow one of the aspects of the title which is Chief Academic Officer (CAO). The CAO is not only involved in credit bearing classes but has moved into technology education due to USU Eastern. On the EVP side it is a Chief Operation Officer position. It has gotten a lot more complicated with many new offices and units and it makes sense to bring those in under one umbrella. The Vice Presidents will continue to report to President Cockett. USU has a very deep pool and she doesn't feel the need to do an external search for these positions. Would like to have these positions in place before July 1. Have reached out to specific groups for recommendations for these positions. She is reaching out to the faculty now as well. Send the recommended names to President Cockett. Some of the other searches will be resolving themselves within the next few weeks. USU has hosted two candidates for the position of Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Now pursuing a formal offer and later this week or first of next week the announcement will be made. Also working on a strategic plan for the university. A working group has been put together to work on this strategic plan. It is a really exciting time to fill the positions and get going on the next five years.

Provost Galey – has really enjoyed working with the faculty the university. The faculty has been remarkable in their work. In the next few days, he will be attending statewide campus commencements. Looking forward to having the faculty join this celebration, not just the students. The College of Natural Resources Dean search offer is being made and an announcement will be forthcoming. Thanks to Paul Barr for managing these searches and keeping the faculty members involved and engaged.

Information

[Education Policies Committee](#) – April 7, 2022 - Paul Barr

General Education – approved one gen ed designation. Discussions regarding the breadth of the rubrics for general education designations. The consensus was that they should be broad. If they are too narrow it would cause problems with course offerings.

Academic Standards – no meeting.

Curriculum Subcommittee – no course approvals. Approved nine R401s.

Reports

[Budget and Faculty Welfare](#) Annual Report - Jan Thornton

Motion to approve the Budget and Faculty Welfare Annual Report made by Maureen Hearn. Seconded by John Ferguson. Report approved.

Thanks to the committee for all the hard work they put in. Met four times this academic year. Committee recommended that the majority of the allocation goes to the cost of living. President Cockett was very helpful and supportive in this. Mental health issues are being worked on. When the committee started it

was a very lean. Recommend going forward with a little more continuity. Already selected the chair for next year and it will be Don Busenbark

Committee on Committees Annual Report - Crissa Levin

Motion to approve the Committee on Committees Annual Report made by Joel Ellsworth. Seconded by Danielle Ross. Report approved.

Working on continuity on the committees. Filled committees and faculty senate membership. Waiting to hear who the chair-elects will be for the upcoming academic year. Matched requests only to those colleges who need positions filled. Committees will be filled next week and emails will go out to the committee members. Cleaning up the issue of making sure faculty code is met so that there is always an accurate committee. Looking at making manuals for committees and chairs that will help with continuity.

Calendar Committee Annual Report - Renee Galliher

Motion to approve the Calendar Committee Annual Report made by John Ferguson. Seconded by Sunshine Brosi. Report approved.

Met last fall and approved a 2023-2024 academic calendar. Recommended a 2024 holiday calendar. Try to make sure that calendar aligns USU's spring break with the basketball finals and federal and state holidays. Discussing Juneteenth and what USU should do about it. Utah has declared it a state holiday, however, the USHE system has not declared it a holiday. It could be a possibility, in the future to add Juneteenth as a holiday. Juneteenth will be a no class day beginning in 2023.

Recruitment and Retention Annual Report - Heidi Kesler/Katie Jo North

Motion to approve the Recruitment and Retention Annual Report made by . Seconded by . Report approved.

Recruitment has been in person this year and it has been great to meet with individuals. Held 29 open houses across the country and they are seeing good numbers that are like the numbers pre COVID. New initiatives: one is the Utah State promise. Also have an earned admission program. Personalized financial aid videos have gone out to help students. Offered over 3,000 housing and dining grants in the last week. Enrollment is looking good, and all indicators are positive. Have set some aggressive goals.

Old Business

N/A

New Business

Faculty Code 403 [Current](#) | [Changes](#) | [Final Clean](#) - Scott Hunsaker

Code on Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility. 403.2.1 is a new section. Legal office raised the issue that the code is for what faculty should do and not what everyone else should do.

Motion to move the Faculty Code 403 to the Council of Deans made by Scott Hunsaker. No second needed. Moved to Councils of Deans.

Faculty Senate President Elect - Boyd Edwards

Entertain nominations from the floor for Faculty Senate President Elect. This is a three-year appointment. Senators will receive an email with the ballot. Term begins July 1. Rachel Nardo nominated Maureen Hearn. Jennifer MacAdam nominated Corey Christiansen. Winner will be announced next week.

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Membership - Boyd Edwards

(College of Engineering – USU Eastern)

President Edwards will send an email to College of Engineering and USU Eastern senators to get members for the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

Format for 2022-2023 Faculty Senate Meetings - John Ferguson

Will transition to fully in-person. Statewide campuses will still join via Zoom. Deans will appointment senators that will include faculty from the statewide campuses rather than having the statewide campuses broken out individually. Next year will be a transition year.

May 2 Faculty Senate Agenda Discussions - Boyd Edwards

Motion to add Promotion Raises and COLA made by Benjamin George. Seconded by Corey Christiansen.

Resolution sponsored by Faculty Senator Vicki Allan. "The USU Faculty Senate endorses the [petition](#) in Support of Promoted Faculty Receiving Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) beginning Spring 2022 ([signatures and comments](#)). The Senate urges the USU administration to separate COLA and promotion raises and to remedy the associated salary inequities and compression." President Cockett stated that there shouldn't be an expectation of receiving promotion and tenure and COLA.

In Favor = 20

Opposed = 23

Motion does not pass. Resolution not adopted.

"The USU Faculty Senate expresses its appreciation to the Utah State Legislature for the 5.75% salary increases that were authorized this year."

Motion to discuss resolution of gratitude for the Utah Legislature regarding the monetary increase made by John Ferguson. Seconded by Corey Christiansen. Resolution approved.

Adjourn: 4:30 pm