

Minutes for Faculty Senate Meeting
April 26, 2007
4:00 PM ELC Room 405

In attendance: Christine Frezza, Kevin Robinson, Denise Woodbury, Carol Ann Modesitt, Kevin Stein, Dave Tufte, Seth Armstrong, Pat Keehley, Carl Franklin, Mark Colberg, Tim Lewis, Art Porter, Dennis Vredenburg, Mark Miller, Katy Herbold, Britt Mace, Kirk Fitzpatrick, Robert Eves, Kay Andersen, Virginia Stitt, Dezhi Wu, Andrew Marvick and Abe Harraf.

- a. Approval of Minutes.

Motion moved and seconded. Carried in the affirmative.

- b. Presentation of Awards

Bob Eves and Dave Rees were publicly recognized and thanked. Each received a gift.

- c. Transition of Presidency and Announcement of President Elect

Kevin Robinson officially ended his term as faculty senate president as Christine Frezza began her term. The new president elect is Denise Woodbury.

- d. Election of New Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Treasurer: Mark Colberg
Secretary: Bart Reynolds
Parliamentarian: Virginia Stitt

- e. Academic Affairs Committee Transition

With Art Porter's retirement, we needed a new Academic Affairs Committee chair. Robert Eves was nominated and selected.

- f. Policy 5.52 Change Recommendation (Tim Lewis)

Distance education contracts contain a clause that indemnifies the university if the faculty member makes resources available to students that violates copyright laws. Tim suggests that the language be changed to indicate a good faith or fair use warranty. A secondary issue involving web access was raised.

A motion was made to shift the liability from the faculty member to the University. The motion was seconded and carried in the affirmative, with one abstention (Carl Franklin).

g. Committee Reports

Christine suggested that each senate sub-committee provide a written report of their activities and minutes from their meetings at least once a semester. However, the policy indicates that committees should report once a year.

h. For Consideration over the Summer (Christine Frezza)

1. Grant residuals
2. Rewriting the questions on the student evaluation rubric used at SUU.
3. Rules on auditing courses: students have used “audit” to avoid a failing grade. Audit does not mean withdrawal. Students should continue to attend class. The senate discussed allowing faculty to enter a failing grade if the student does not attend the remainder of the course.

i. Final Exam and Contact Hours

Students must pay a \$10 fee to take a final exam early. Students appear to interpret this as permission to take the final early. The Senate discussed the magnitude of the fee and a need to provide disincentives for students who take final exams early so they can leave campus early.

The provost indicated that this requirement should be symmetric. Faculty need to be in class and fulfilling contact hour requirements through the end of the semester.

A motion was made that the Academic Affairs Committee address the problem. However, Art Porter pointed out that this committee can not write a policy without consensus from the Senate. The motion was withdrawn.

The Senate decided to investigate the practices at other institutions prior to giving the Academic Affairs Committee a charge to address the issue. David Tufte will look at Weber State University’s policy. Carl Franklin will determine Utah State University’s policy. Kevin Stein will explore Utah Valley State College’s policy. Mike ??? will cover the University of Utah’s policy. Pat Keehley will investigate a variety of peer universities that are not in Utah.

j. Adjourn

The Senate was adjourned until the fall semester.