

Faculty Senate Minutes  
Thursday, April 29, 2004, 3:30 p.m.  
ELC 405

- I. Call to order: 3:34 p.m. In attendance: David Lund (President), Judy Higbee (also proxy for Martha Hyder), Jim Aton, Kirk Fitzpatrick (new senator from HSS), Tony Pelligrini (new at large senator), Eric Brown, Rea Gubler (Treasurer), Ty Redd (also proxy for Steve Heath, Marty Larkin, & Seth Armstrong), Deb Hill, David Rees (President-elect), Doug Molash, Darin Wadley, Virginia Stitt (Parliamentarian), Kathy Black, Richard Eissinger, Kim Craft, Elise Leahy, Steve Barney, Jessica Tvordi, Roy Johnson, Britton Mace, Wayne Williams, Abe Harraf (Provost).

New senators introduced: Kirk Fitzpatrick (HSS), Tony Pelligrini (at large).

- II. Review and approval of minutes from meeting of March 25, 2004. Motion for approval, Deb Hill, second Richard Eissinger. Approved by vote of 11 in favor, with 4 abstentions.

III. Officers' Reports

A. President – David Lund

- a. Report for the 2003-2004 year (5 minutes): To be written and attached to the minutes; covered 16 different policies if all today completed. Most policies have been very significant; but more on the list. Other significant actions of the senate: Arbitration committee established, constitution was revised but did not pass the vote in the Fall Semester of 2003—disappointing turnout, less than half the faculty voted, the proposed constitution is still being considered; Senate website expansion, with policy information.
- b. Senatorial Elections for 2004-2005 academic year-update (5 minutes): We have postponed the elections in most colleges pending the trustee's approval of the reorganization that will effect most groups on campus until the beginning of the Fall semester—the trustee's will make that approval on May 6, after we have concluded business for the year. HSS and the at-large folks have already completed their elections and the vote will stand, even though it will not provide representation for the criminal justice folks who will be joining HSS.

- B. President-Elect – David Rees – Upcoming Faculty Senate Retreat: Having served a number of times on the senate, there are some questions regarding the operation, function and organization of the senate. Conversation with many senators reveals a great deal of frustration. Therefore, with the financial backing of the Provost, a retreat will be held at the Mountain Cabin on May 13<sup>th</sup> from 9 am – 5 pm. The discussion will be philosophical in nature. If time permits, we may look at the proposed constitution to continue the process of rewriting. A question was asked regarding who was invited, all are, including some who have been on the committee in the past—like Alan Hamblin, past presidents of the senate, etc. These additional invitations were suggested by the Provost. RSVP by Friday, May 8, 2004.

C. Treasurer – Rea Gubler

- a. Financial Report – Balances, \$1274.84 in the 2 account and \$13,431 in the 3 account where dues go. David Lund indicated that a new tape recorder has been purchased and that 2 scholarship recipients of 28 applications have been chosen. Lund also indicated that the senate will likely purchase a laptop computer for the senate. The 2 account will be spent prior to July 1.

#### IV. Old Business

- a. Scheduling – Status of policy we have considered (What did Mike Richards find?) We have been unable to find the regent’s policy on the use of buildings, nor did the regent’s refer to the building board policy. This policy will be put off to the Fall. The Deans are attempting to utilize space more efficiently, including earlier start times for evening classes.

#### V. New Business

- a. Provost Abe Harraf **(5 minutes)**: Rank and evaluation policies need to be moved on, they will be waiting so that they can all go at the same time. We need to move on this, or wait until Fall, so that we can inform those who are affected in the Fall. Lund asked how many might be on campus this summer, and a straw poll indicated that most would be. It was concluded that some of this work might be done via email in the summer. David Rees will take the responsibility to get with Ben Davidson and others to get the LRT policy ready to go by the middle of June. Back to the provost, graduation is next Saturday, colleges will have their own graduations, Trustees to meet the day before to vote on reorganization, which has received more positive than negative comments. Selection of Deans and Chairs will follow current policy. The Grants person should be finalized in the next few days, and the search for a Dean of PVA is going well. David Rees wanted to know what the protocol should be should he shake hands with Mike Leavitt. There are a number of honorary doctorates to take care of at the commencement.

- b. Faculty Representation/Unionization – Steve Barney **(10 minutes)**: Steve is not well informed, but has gotten a lot of email regarding this issue. He proposes the possibility of bringing union representatives in to share information. He recommended a task force to look at this. David Rees thought we might look at this idea at the retreat. Asked if we could defer this topic to the retreat. Steve thought it might be a good idea if there were faculty with expertise. Provost Harraf reminded us that in a right to work state like Utah, unions are not recognized by statute in public entities like the University. Steve Barney felt that the faculty should hear what is to be offered from the unions. David Lund had researched this topic in the Regents policy and found that the Regents will not recognize unions at institutions of higher education. Kathy Black is to look into unions and code.

Eric Brown brought up the committee reports; specifically that the Outstanding Educator committee had elected a new chair—Elise Leahy—and proposed that she be ratified as the chair of that committee by the senate. Ty Redd seconded the motion. In discussion, Elise has agreed to serve in this position. Vote was unanimous.

New senator, Britt Mace, was introduced by Steve Barney. It was suggested that all senators introduce themselves. This was done.

- c. New policies to consider – David Rees @ 10 minutes each

1. Academic Officers (Academic Position descriptions): A very lively discussion ensued that took up the remainder of the meeting. As David Rees tried to begin the discussion, Ty Redd said that the policy was very different, and that since he had only had the policy for a few days, it should be tabled to the Fall. Motion was seconded by Rea Gubler. In discussion it was determined that the policy was very important. Vote on the motion, 8 in favor, 6 against, 11 abstained. Motion to accept the policy by David Rees, second by Virginia Stitt. David discussed the overall policy. He highlighted the major changes—covers all academic officers, gives the administration more leeway in evaluations, established procedure for faculty to move against a dean. He read the policy through. Ty Redd thought that chairs and deans no longer have authority to advocate for their faculty. David directed us back to end of the policy. Here is where the bad/messed up policies came out. It was discovered that due to a computer problem, many senators had not received the policy. Ty Redd wants to have the faculty be responsible for deposing Deans. In the end, It is not the same policy. The policy that was passed back in November is a much better policy. Rea wanted to have the side-by-side set up on this policy to see what the changes were and how they were made. Kathy reminded us that we voted to let the discussion proceed. David added that the faculty does not have the authority to change administrators—this is a power given to the President. He feels that the proposed policy is better, it follows code and still gives the faculty the right to ask for a formal evaluation. Rea wants a firmer policy that can be used in case of legal suit against the university. Abe Harraf reminded all of us that all faculty and administrators are subject to due process. The above is a sample of the discussion that occurred. There were other problems, for example a clarification of whether two thirds of the voters or two-thirds of the entire faculty are required to make a vote. In the end, the whole thing was tabled to the fall with the remainder of the policies listed below.
2. Graduate Handbook – tabled to Fall
3. Graduate Faculty – tabled to Fall
4. Policy Development Authority – tabled to Fall
5. IRB policy – tabled to Fall.
6. There was discussion regarding summer work for the senate. It was agreed that David Rees would get information on the LRT policy and that the senate would look at it during the summer, as most indicated in a straw poll that they would be around. The point was to have the policy ready for the Trustee’s meeting in June.

VI. Adjournment 5:00 p.m.

President’s Written Report for the 2003-2004 Academic Year  
David Lund, Faculty Senate President

The 2003-2004 academic year has been a very busy one for the Southern Utah Faculty Senate. Many policies have been reviewed and many have gone on to the President's Council and been approved—including, Course Fees, Retention of Student Records by Faculty, Faculty Hiring,