

## **FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**

Thursday, November 18, 1999

3:30 PM

Board of Trustees Conference Room

**Present:** Jim Aton, Idir Azouz, Jeff Barnes, Ann Barnes, Luciane Berg, Bonnie Bishop, Morris Brown, Helen Chuang (Proxy for Bill Romey), Thomas Cunningham, Ben Davidson, Neil Gailey, LaMar Jordan, Rick Lambson, Paul Larson, Elise Leahy, Gary McIntyre, Carol Ann Modesitt, Earl Mulderink, Dan Pence, Bill Romey, Lila Schwaner.

**Not Present:** Jim Cotts, Brian Hoover, Michael McGarvey, Grdg Powell.

**Visitors:** Grace Boyer, University Journal; Lynne Brown, Director of Student Support Services; Shawn Herzog, Academic Support Coordinator; Bill Moody, Staff Association Representative; Ray Reutzel, Provost; Georgia Beth Thompson, Associate Vice President/ADA Coordinator.

**I. Call to Order:** Earl Mulderink, Faculty Senate President, called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM.

**II. Review and Approval of Minutes of October 28, 1999**

MOTION by Tom Cunningham to approve the minutes of October 28, 1999, SECOND by Morris Brown, passed unanimously.

**III. Officers' Reports**

IV. President

V. Earl thanked the Senators who attended the Assessment Committee Luncheon on November 11. The Senate discussed the assessment process and its implications, including its impact on faculty workloads.

VI. Earl met with President Bennion and Provost Reutzel on November 10. Several issues were discussed at that meeting.

VII. Faculty Compensation and Benefits. The President and Provost reiterated that improved funding for faculty and staff salaries remains the top institutional priority in this year's budget process.

VIII. Health Insurance and coordinated benefits were discussed.

IX. Faculty Recruitment Guidelines. The President received a copy of the guidelines that were recently endorsed by the Faculty Senate and distributed to Department Chairs. President Bennion stated that he would read and review the policy.

X. Academic Reorganization. The President and Provost stated that Academic Reorganization is needed to address long-standing organizational issues at SUU, some of which were highlighted in an accrediting report in 1993. Provost Reutzel stated that these plans are in the "talking" stages, and that faculty will have opportunities for providing input on these plans. In discussing the proposed Academic Reorganization, several senators expressed

disappointment that they and their colleagues knew nothing about such plans, even if their departments were directly affected. In contrast, some faculty knew of the reorganization plans and had been involved in ongoing discussions. Earl mentioned that all faculty can address their concerns with their Department Chairs and in forthcoming meetings with President Bennion. Earl noted, in addition, that academic reorganization may impact the composition of the Faculty Senate.

XI. ADA Compliance. Earl introduced Georgia Beth Thompson, Lynne Brown, and Shawn Herzog. He had met with them on November 3 to discuss faculty concerns over ADA compliance. Georgia Beth introduced Shawn and Lynne, who distributed useful information and explained issues related to accommodating students with disabilities. Shawn explained the procedure for documenting and assisting students, and she reiterated that faculty can contact her directly with questions or concerns. In a spirited discussion with our guests, faculty senators learned more about ADA compliance and how to educate and assist their faculty colleagues..

XII. Earl and Neil Gailey attended the Utah Council of Faculty Senate Leaders meeting on November 12 at UVSC in Orem. Guests included Mike Peterson, Associate Commissioner of Higher Education, and the Chief Academic Officers of most of the nine USHE institutions. Several issues were discussed:

XIII. Campus Safety. In particular, the issue of guns on campus was discussed, and the UCFSL decided to defer to students and their student senates.

XIV. Performance-based Funding. We learned that this item is the last priority for the Regents and Commissioner's Office in this year's budget plans, so it may have limited initial impact on higher education in the next year.

XV. Health Insurance Costs. Earl distributed to the Faculty Senate a handout he shared with the UCFSL about the comparative costs of health insurance at the USHE institutions. Senators discussed health insurance, including plans by the Regents and Commissioners to separate funding for salaries from funding for benefits in their forthcoming budget requests to the State Legislature.

XVI. Salt Lake Community College Faculty Association Lawsuit against the Board of Regents. The UCFSL was updated on the status of the lawsuit against the Board of Regents regarding the issue of collective bargaining.

XVII. Rally for Higher Education. The UCFSL is planning a rally at the State Capitol on Wednesday, February 16, 2000. We will work with students, parents, staff, administration, and alumni to generate support for increased funding for higher education by Utah's elected officials. The legislature will be at a midpoint in their session during our rally. Earl distributed a flyer that explains how to contact State Legislators.

XVIII. The next regular meeting of the Deans' Council will be held on November 30, and Earl reported that the Drop Policy will probably be considered at that time.

XIX. President-elect

XX. No report.

XXI. Treasurer

XXII. Credit Union Account contains \$11,497.79.

XXIII. University Account contains \$961.13.

XXIV. Faculty Senate scholarships will be discussed soon.

**XXV. Old Business**

XXVI. Due Process/Grievance Policy (Postponed). The policy is still being reviewed by Michael Carter, University Legal Counsel, and will be discussed by the Senate when his review is completed. Questions should be directed to Rob Behunin.

XXVII. Replacement Senator from College of Education. Earl introduced Rick Lambson as replacement senator for Prent Klag, who has assumed an administrative position. As Prent was just elected this past Spring, Rick's term of office will be nearly the three full years. MOTION by Ann Barnes that we approve the appointment of Rick Lambson, SECONDED by Lila Schwaner. PASSED unanimously.

XXVIII. Faculty Representation on the Board of Trustees and Board of Regents. Earl turned the time over to Neil Gailey who reported that, based on a recent conversation with the Provost and on discussions at the recent UCFSL meeting, it will take legislative action to permit faculty representation on these bodies. It was suggested that Earl contact State Legislators to forward this request, one that has been endorsed by the Deans' Council and others in the SUU administration.

**XXIX. New Business**

XXX. Faculty Senate Scholarships Committee Report. Earl distributed a report from Kate Grandison, Chair of the Faculty Senate Scholarship Committee, along with copies of the scholarship application form. Senators were given an opportunity to review the report, followed by a brief discussion. MOTION was made by Jeff Barnes that we approve the procedures listed in the report. SECONDED by Gary McIntyre. PASSED unanimously.

XXXI. Leave, Rank, and Tenure Policy (LRT) Review Committee Report. Earl turned the floor over to Ben Davidson, Chair of the LRT Policy Review Committee, who outlined policy suggestions for both Annual Review and Third-Year Review. Ben explained that the current policy lumps these two reviews together, and his committee sought to separate and detail these review processes, policies, and deadlines. In discussing these proposals, several senators noted that they had never seen or been given annual review letters from their Department Chairs. Ben explained that the new policy would serve to strengthen the review process. Provost Reutzel stated that he keeps annual review letters on file in his office, but that he is not involved in either the

annual or third-year reviews. Several faculty senators noted the need to align the deadline dates in the two policies, and we expressed thanks to Ben for the committee's fine work. Ben was asked to incorporate these suggestions and bring a revised document for discussion to the Faculty Senate Meeting of December 9.

**XXXII. Executive Session:** None.

**XXXIII. Motion for Executive Session** made by Elise Leahy, **SECONDED** by Bill Romey, **PASSED** unanimously.

**XXXIV. Adjournment:** Next meeting scheduled for December 9. **MOTION** to adjourn by Carol Ann Modisett at 5:04 PM.