

## FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, January 27, 2000

3:30 PM

Board of Trustees Conference Room

### Present:

Jim Aton, Idir Azouz, Joe Baker (proxy for Greg Powell), Jeff Barnes, Luciane Berg, Bonnie Bishop, Morris Brown, Jim Cotts, Thomas Cunningham, Ben Davidson, Neil Gailey, Brian Hoover, Lamar Jordan, Rick Lambson, Paul Larson, Elise Leahy, Gary McIntyre, Carol Ann Modesitt, Earl Mulderink, Dan Pence, Greg Powell, Lila Schwaner.

### Absent:

Ann Barnes, Michael McGarvey.

### Excused:

Bill Romey.

### Visitors:

Betsy Fullmer, *University Journal*; Bill Moody, Staff Association Representative; Amanda Presley, *University Journal*; Ray Reutzell, Provost.

### I. Call to Order:

Earl Mulderink, Faculty Senate President, called the meeting to order at 3:35 P.M.

### II. Review and Approval of Minutes of December 9, 1999:

MOTION by Morris Brown to approve the minutes of December 9, 1999, SECONDED by Carol Ann Modesitt, PASSED unanimously.

### III. Officers' Reports:

A. President.

1. As an item of information, Earl distributed a flyer entitled, "Ten Ways to Manage Stress."
2. Legislative update.
  - a. Earl brought to the attention of the Senators a new Web page prepared by Dorian Page, Associate Vice President. This web site contains a Legislative Update, including links relating to the activities of the Utah Legislature in their current session. The web address is [www.suu.edu/ad/finserv](http://www.suu.edu/ad/finserv).
  - b. Earl distributed a comparative budget entitled "Comparison of 2000-2001 Regents' Request and Governor's Recommendation." It outlines differences between budgetary requests by the Regents and Governor.
  - c. Earl distributed a copy of a newspaper article from the *Salt Lake Tribune* (1/25/2000) which discusses recommendations of legislative analyst Boyd Garriott, who offered a bleak analysis of funding for higher education.
3. Earl distributed copies of a preliminary report from the Utah System of Higher

Education Commissioner's office concerning faculty workloads, student-faculty ratios (SUU has the highest ratio in the system, and it is climbing), transfer efficiency indices, overloads taught, comparisons with peer institutions, and salary equity request information.

4. Earl presented SUU's freshman survey, part of a CIRP Institutional Summary, a nationally normed perceptual survey offered by the Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA. SUU has participated in the survey for two years, and this document presents the most recent results. In terms of student satisfaction, Provost Reutzel commented that employment opportunities, especially academic-related activities, constitute a greater factor in retention than do scholarships .
5. Earl reported that he and Neil Gailey attended the meeting of the Utah Council of Faculty Senate Leaders' meeting January 21, 2000. The following items were discussed:
  - a. Higher Education Rally (see "Old Business" below)
  - b. Faculty representation on Boards of Trustees and Regents. The Faculty Senate last year recommended that faculty be granted representation on these boards. This was validated by the Deans' Council and Presidents' Council. The Utah Council of Faculty Senate Leaders believed that this issue should not be pursued at this time.
6. Earl reported on the Deans' Council meetings of December 1999 and January 2000. Among the issues discussed at those meetings were the following:
  - a. The Administrative Withdrawal Policy (first-day drop policy) was rejected by President's Council.
  - b. A Distance Education Funding Model has been approved by the deans, and the Senate discussed its ramifications.
  - c. Faculty Evaluation problems from Fall 1999 were discussed. Tom Cunningham discussed the problem, which centered on a Scantron machine malfunction. Some evaluation forms were subsequently shredded. The consensus of the Senate was to rerun all forms that remain and recompute evaluations.
7. Earl discussed several items under the heading of "Faculty Senate News." These included the following items:
  - a. The Faculty Senate Website is nearly complete, thanks to Idir Azouz and Michael Jordan. Idir reported that hot links to individual senators' email addresses can be made if desired by the individual senator. The page should be operational by the February 24 Faculty Senate meeting.
  - b. Faculty Senate scholarships notices have now been posted. Senators were asked to inform students that the Senate offers two half-tuition scholarships annually.
  - c. We may discuss LRT policies at the February 24 meeting. Ben Davidson circulated annual and third-year review policy suggestions for the Senate to consider before the next meeting.
  - d. The Grievance Policy (Due Process) was returned to Rob Behunin by Michael Carter, Assistant Attorney General, and the issue may be ready for the agenda of

February 24.

- e. Michael Stathis will report on the activities of the By-Laws Revision Committee at the February 24 meeting.
  - f. Earl asked the Faculty Recruitment and Retention Committee to repeat the survey of faculty satisfaction that was done two years ago. If you have concerns or suggestions, direct them to Lynn White. This survey can be tied to university-wide assessment efforts.
8. Earl turned the time over to Provost Reutzel for a question and answer session. Senators asked questions about large general education classes, academic reorganization, the strategic plan, time-and-a-half for teaching large classes, the Provost's brown bag lunch series, and other topics.

Copies of documents pertaining to the above items are on file in the Faculty Senate office.

B. President-elect.

1. The Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, January 28. Neil will be out of town and asked for a volunteer to attend in his stead.

C. Treasurer.

The University account has \$570.13, and the Credit Union account has \$11,731.46.

**IV. Old Business:**

- A. LRT issues will be discussed at the February 24 Faculty Senate meeting.
- B. "Higher Education Rally" at State Capitol, February 16.  
The Utah Council of Student Body Presidents has invited faculty, friends, and parents to attend the rally at Noon. The question was raised as to whether the Faculty Senate should provide funding for travel. Faculty were encouraged to participate, and the Senate will provide transportation. MOTION by Jeff Barnes for Earl to use his discretion as appropriate to use Senate funds for faculty transportation to the rally. SECONDED by Dan Pence. PASSED unanimously.

**V. New Business:**

- A. Instructional Space and Scheduling.  
This issue has been discussed by the Deans and Registrar. Earl was asked to inform faculty that some space problems exist. Faculty are urged to be cooperative and understanding, because the Registrar is facing intense space pressures, especially for the larger classrooms.
- B. General Education.  
Earl distributed a report from the Provost's Office and a list of general education requirements. The Deans' Council has assumed oversight, while the faculty has been largely excluded in recent decisions. Senators suggested ways to increase faculty involvement in curricular issues. A MOTION was made by Jim Aton that we form a

General Education Committee consisting of the Deans' Council and two faculty members from each academic college. The motion was SECONDED by Jim Cotts. After discussion the motion FAILED by a vote of 5-12-1. A new MOTION was made by Jeff Barnes and SECONDED by Jim Aton that a committee be formed consisting of one representative from the Deans' Council and two faculty members from each academic college. After discussion of the motion it FAILED by a vote of 7-8-3. A MOTION was made by Lamar Jordan that a committee be formed consisting of one Deans' Council representative plus one Department Chair and one faculty from each college. This motion was withdrawn, and the issue will be discussed again at the February 24 Faculty Senate meeting. While Faculty Senators did not agree on the structure of the committee, the consensus was to maximize faculty participation.

C. Program Prioritization.

Earl distributed a letter from the Provost and Associate Provost that outlined criteria for measuring administrative programs, and program analysis. The issue was discussed in detail by the Senate and will be addressed again at next meeting. In the meantime Earl will get more information from the Provost. A suggestion was made to invite the Provost to address the Senate on these issues.

**VI. Executive Session:**

None.

**VII. Motion for Executive Session:**

MOTION for executive session at the next meeting was made by Greg Powell. SECONDED by Gary McIntyre. PASSED unanimously.

**VIII. Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn was made by Jim Aton at 5:20 P.M.