

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, September 23, 1999

3:30 PM

Board of Trustees Conference Room

Senators in Attendance: Jim Aton, Idir Azouz, Ann Barnes, Jeff Barnes, Luciane Berg, Bonnie Bishop, Morris Brown, Jim Cotts, Thomas Cunningham, Ben Davidson, Richard Eissinger, Neil Gailey, Brian Hoover, Lamar Jordan, Prent Klag, Paul Larson, Elsie Leahy, Michael McGarvey, Gary McIntyre, Carol Ann Modesitt, Earl Mulderink, Dan Pence, Greg Powell, Bill Romey, Lila Schwaner.

Visitors: Mark Barton, Student Services; Jay Calkins, University Journal; Craig Forman, Assistant Dean of Students and Wellness Center Director; Bill Moody, Staff Association Representative; Gena Nelson, Student Senate; Steve Nelson, Student Senate; Ray Reutzell, Provost; Sarah Scott, University Journal; Lynn White, Faculty Retention and Recruitment Committee.

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

II. Review and Approval of minutes of August 26, 1999

A MOTION to approve the minutes was made by Jeff Barnes, SECONDED by Lila Schwaner. PASSED 23-0-0.

III. Officers' Reports

IV. President

1. Earl introduced new senators, Tom Cunningham, who replaced Richard Eissinger, and Michael McGarvey, who replaced Ken Munford. Each is to serve the remainder of the term for this academic year. Elections in Spring 2000 will select senators for a full three-year term. A MOTION was made by Jeff Barnes to approve their nomination, SECONDED by Morris Brown. PASSED 23-0-0.

2. Earl reported on a meeting of the Utah Council of Faculty Senate Leaders that he and Neil attended in Logan on September 2, 1999. At that meeting, the Council adopted the following resolution: "The Utah Council of Faculty Senate Leaders strongly urges the State Board of Regents to seek legislative appropriations for base budget increases in faculty compensation at the nine USHE institutions, with emphasis

on preserving and promoting the quality of education for students.” In a subsequent meeting, the faculty senate leaders met with the chief academic officers of all nine institutions and with Mike Peterson, Associate Commissioner of Higher Education. The number one priority for the regents this year is faculty salary equity. A second thrust is an attempt to separate benefits from salary in budget requests. A third area is a push for new type of analysis to compare faculty salaries with national averages. A final point was made that faculty will be best served if students and parents lobby for increased funding.

3. Earl mentioned that at the Deans’ Council Meeting of September 15, 1999, the Deans met with two members of our LRT Policy Review Committee, Chair Ben Davidson and Rhead Bowman. This constituted a significant step forward to get the deans and faculty to work together in creating an LRT policy that is fair and thorough. Ben reported that the meeting went well, the deans were receptive, and future meetings are planned.

4. Earl distributed a memo from Provost Reutzel concerning 7:00 AM classes and space utilization. Senators were asked to take the issue back to their departments, and we will discuss it at the next meeting. Lamar Jordan suggested that we have Maxine Stolk, the Registrar, respond to the issue.

5. Earl introduced Craig Forman, Director of the Wellness Center. Craig discussed the new Wellness Program. He informed Senators of the facilities on campus that are available to faculty, and he noted the use of the fitness center in the PE building at \$5 per month. He wants to expand the program when the new PE building comes on line, including tracking to see who uses program and monthly activities. Contact Craig or Dave McGuire to offer any input.

V. President-elect

1. Neil had just come from the University Assessment Committee meeting. The major topic of discussion was that all aspects of the university should be assessed. If you have concerns contact member of that committee.

2. Neil will be attending the Board of Trustees meeting tomorrow. If you have concerns let him know.

VI. Treasurer

Idir reported that we have in the University account \$1,100.90, and the Credit Union account has \$10,956.66.

Idir mentioned that about 55% of the faculty have paid their Faculty Association dues. He asked Senators to get the word out. Earl expressed a concern over senators who have not yet paid their dues.

VII. Old Business

VIII. Due Process (Grievance) Policy. Discussion on this issue was postponed until the October 28, 1999, meeting. Senators were asked to take the policy to their colleagues for comment and bring those comments to the next meeting.

IX. Recruitment Policies (Faculty Recruitment & Retention Committee). Lynn White discussed a questionnaire concerning faculty recruitment that was distributed to the faculty. The FRR Committee offered a draft report of suggested guidelines for faculty recruitment, which was discussed at length. A MOTION was made by Richard Eissinger that the Faculty Senate direct Lynn and her committee to incorporate the corrections and suggestions offered by the Senators and to distribute the revised guidelines to all faculty for input before the next Faculty Senate meeting. SECONDED by Jeff Barnes. PASSED 20-0-0.

X. First-day Drop Policy. Earl gave a brief history of the proposed drop policy's status. Steve Nelson, Student Senator, distributed a resolution that was passed by the Student Senate in their meeting of this week. A copy of their resolution is on file in the Faculty Senate office. Students favor a second-day drop policy (clarified to mean second class meeting) rather than a first-day drop. The Student Senate passed the resolution by a vote of 11-3-1. The Student Senate feels that the Administration will be more inclined to approve a policy if students and faculty together support it. The proposed policy will be implemented on an as needed basis only.

Mark Barton, Assistant Vice President of Student Services, also addressed the issue. He stated that there already is a drop policy that requires students to pay a fee to drop a class. He discussed other problems with the type of drop policy that has been proposed. Several questions and comments came from the Senators. A MOTION was made by Jim Cotts to return the proposed Faculty Senate first-day drop policy together with the Student Senate resolution to the Ad Hoc Committee on Drop Policy to revisit the issue and to report back to us at their earliest convenience. SECONDED By Dan Pence. PASSED 20-0-1.

XI. "Acceptable Use" Computer Policy. Earl mentioned that Senators had been asked to discuss the policy with their colleagues and bring their comments to this meeting. We will

then forward our recommendations to the Deans' Council. Following a discussion by the Senate, a MOTION was made by Jim Aton that the Senate endorse the Teaching, Learning, and Technology Committee's policy with the exception of Section B6, "public displays." SECONDED by Jim Cotts. Several Senators offered comments in discussion of the Motion. PASSED 16-2-2.

XII. Committee Reorganizations (Memberships and Charges). Earl thanked the Senators for their nominations, and noted openings on the Faculty Development and Evaluation Committee from BTC. There is another opening for an at-large member on the Faculty Recruitment and Retention Committee. A suggestion was made for Earl to contact Don Blanchard for Technology to fill the opening on the Faculty Development and Evaluation Committee. A third opening exists on the Ad Hoc Committee on Drop Policy.

XIII. New Business

XIV. Utah Council of Faculty Senate Leaders Resolution. A MOTION was made by Jeff Barnes that we endorse the following resolution: "The Southern Utah University Faculty Senate endorses the State Board of Regents' initiative to preserve and improve the quality of higher education through special increases in base budget funds for faculty compensation at the nine USHE institutions." SECONDED by Idir Azouz. The motion was discussed by the Senate. PASSED unanimously.

XV. Clarification of Leave, Rank, and Tenure Policy Review Committee's Membership. At present there is no at-large member on this committee. A MOTION was made by Jim Aton that we add an at-large member to the Leave, Rank, and Tenure Policy Review Committee who will roll off the University Leave, Rank, and Tenure Committee at the conclusion of their term to serve as an at-large representative on the Leave, Rank, and Tenure Policy Review Committee. SECONDED by Bonnie Bishop. PASSED unanimously.

XVI. Executive Session: None.

XVII. Motion FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION: Jim Cotts made the MOTION for executive session for the next meeting. SECONDED by Greg Powell. PASSED unanimously.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT: MOTION for adjournment was made at 5:30 PM by Elise Leahy.