

SUU Faculty Senate Minutes
January 23, 2014
4:00 p.m. Charles Hunter Room, Hunter Conference Center

Senators in Attendance: Julie Taylor, Emily Dean, Lee Montgomery, Kim Weaver, Selwyn Layton, Janet Seegmiller, Steve Irving, Mark DeBeliso, Artis Grady, Kyle Bishop, Lhien-Ying Wang, Christine Frezza, Carmel White, Jim McCoy, Randall Allen, Jeff Barnes, Tyler Stillman, Isabella Borisova, Helen Boswell, Emmett Steed, David Shwalb, Derek Hein, Connie Nyman, Thad Morton, Lindsey Harvell, Shobha Gurung, Michelle Orihel.

1. Julie Taylor: Call meeting to order at 04:02 p.m. Motion to approve the minutes of December 5th by Mark DeBeliso; and seconded by Steve Irving. All in favor. Minutes approved.
2. Recognition of guests: President Scott Wyatt , Steve Barney
3. Comments from President Wyatt:
 - a. President Wyatt set aside February 13th, 2014 at 04:00 p.m. to meet informally with the faculty senators.
4. Treasurer report from Kim Weaver:
 - a. The Senate operating budget is \$1,231.00 with \$218.00 spent. The Senate scholarship fund is at \$12,969.00 with \$8,000.00 spent in scholarships. This is down \$6,891.00. President Taylor mentioned that there are many letters from students who have received this scholarship and how much the appreciated and needed these scholarships to advance in school. She also mentioned that the senators need to promote giving to the faculty senate scholarship fund amongst their faculty members to help boost donations.
5. Vice President Report from Emily Dean:
 - a. Nothing to report from Trustee's meeting.
 - b. Upcoming Senate elections announced and that the senators need to start thinking about the Faculty Senate President Elect and have nominees in mind. President Taylor also mention that the senate is working on getting more course release time for the faculty senate president and vice president which will hopefully help qualified faculty gain interest into these positions.
6. President Report from Julie Taylor:
 - a. President Taylor announced that Todd Peterson will be meeting with the senate during February's meeting to discuss EDGE updates.

- b. President Taylor encouraged senators to mention and encourage to their faculty to attend the Danielle Dubrasky “What the Best College Teachers Do Workshop Series.”
- c. President Taylor announced that the Center for Teaching and Learning is getting a physical location on campus in the Education Building, ED 338. Grant Corser is the director of the center.
- d. The deadline for submissions for the Festival of Excellence is February 21, 2014.
- e. Convocation Series for 2014 was announced and encouraged to attend by all faculty.
- f. President Taylor also announced that Canvas has also made some changes by developing an automatic shell for each course taught instead of having to request a shell before the beginning of each semester.
- g. President Taylor announced that the Faculty Senate Scholarship updates were mentioned in the Treasurer report and did not need to be brought up again.
- h. President Taylor brought up an issue from the SUUSA Vice President about surveying students on students who are not meeting grades and may fail and the need for advice on this issue. It was suggested that maybe SUU needs a way to report this on a quarterly basis or have a stronger way in capturing this data in order to catch these students before they are in trouble grade wise. Multiple faculty brought up that SANS is already in place and should be doing this, however, the SANS people are often mentioning they are trying to contact these students but cannot. It was suggested many faculty are utilizing Canvas in their courses, however, some do not use Canvas in their courses due to the nature of the course, so this may not work either. With this being said it was noted that Mid Term grades could be input in Canvas by all even if they do not use Canvas in their course for reporting purposes and help catch the at-risk students early before they fail their course. President Julie Taylor took responsibility for passing this information on.
- i. Steve Barney presented the flexible faculty workload policy ideas and how this policy could look. The purpose is to help give faculty reasonable workloads since each college and department is different across campus thus relieving extra workload off the faculty who are working harder and taking on more to meet not only teaching standards but also a lot of extra work. The point was brought up that more and more expectations have been placed on faculty without much give and thus overwhelming many faculty. Steve Barney is chair to this committee. Also, faculty petitioned from each college and serving on the committee is Todd Peterson, John Taylor, Scott Lanning, Bart Reynolds, and Grant Corser. This committee reviewed other models from the CoPlac schools, Carnegie Schools, and the schools in Utah. The models presented were the Track Model, Departmental Prerogative (most popular model), Substitution Models, Scholarly reductions for publication (also a popular model), and Reassignment for specialized course content. Julie Taylor mentioned that she would put the information sheet with these models up on Canvas for the faculty to review. Steve Barney asked the senate what they would like to see. The question was posed “We are the teaching school with accreditation standards so to be independent on the financial side may this be in vain?” and “How do some of these models apply to schools at the University who have

accreditation standards?” It was then stated that maybe the Departmental prerogative model may be the way to go then. It was also mentioned that the Track Model or hybrid mix may also work. It was also mentioned that the Flexible Faculty Workload model will help with issues such as inequality in workloads among faculty. Lee Montgomery moved in the interest of expediency to limit discussion to one more comment and Mark DeBeliso seconded the motion with the question to President Wyatt if he thought if some form of a flexible workload policy would be possible. President Wyatt stated he is too new to properly answer the question. President Taylor encouraged Steve to continue and that senators bring this back to their faculty for ideas and support.

- j. Christine Frezza gave an update from the Benefits Committee. The committee is focusing on benefits through new vendors that meet new requirements. The question is “will this increase costs?” The answer was a simple yes, but they are trying to keep costs down. They are trying to make sure the access and providers are in the local network/providers, meaning Cedar City and St. George. The decision should be made by February.
- k. Michelle Orihel updated the faculty senate on the GE committee. The GE mission was revised. Michelle talked about one of the objects being Sets which help registration be more streamlined and setting the students up in courses that focus on their interests. The question about TRIOs and when implementation would happen. The answer was “next fall there will be a pilot program.” The professors would come up with the sets and fostering learning communities and ultimately improve grades and retention of first year students. Essential learning outcomes are also being looked at and the committee has set up rubrics of how these ELOs would look.
- l. President Julie Tayler mentioned the need for recruits to work with the staff association on the parking issue. Steve Irving and Isabella Borisova volunteered to work on the faculty parking.

7. Action Items:

- a. Faculty Senate President/VP Release Time
 - i. Policy 6.1 about the 3 year review of non-tenure track faculty on page 10 section 2 and in appendix A was voted by the Deans to omit the whole section from the policy since it didn’t make sense. Mark DeBeliso motioned to approve and Steve Irving seconded. Kyle Bishop motioned to make a grammar fix on page 3 under associate professor had a parallel problem with having no verb. Addendum to motion by Mark to have the verb maintain in front of “currency in field” and Steve seconded. With 1 opposed and the rest of the body voting for the changes. Motion passed.
 - ii. President Taylor asked to add policy 3.12 as a reference in Policy 6.27. Randall Allen motioned and Helen Boswell seconded. Steve asked about the definition of ICH to be moved section C on page 3 instead of it being second. Connie Nyman motioned to add the policy 3.12 as a reference in Policy 6.27 along with changes to the definition of ICH under #3 under the definitions of policy 6.27

with a second by Mark DeBeliso. Vote was unanimous and motion passed with the changes.

8. New Business:

- a. Policy 6.51: Proposal by the Deans Council for clarification of the appeals process. Adding appeal for dismissal for the program on page 1, appeal for the grade on page 2, and appeal for other reasons. This is for a clarification for graduates in the policy.
- b. Policy 6.9: Bruce Tubbs chairing the committee for this policy. Suggestions for a separate policy for consulting. Thus, this policy would cover overload, compensation, and supplemental income. A comment was made that then the internal and external regulations would be different and that supplemental compensation is what the University pays you for anything that is outside a normal 9 month contract. Also, that it is SUU compensation and other consultations, royalties from a book, or other income outside the University is not effected.
- c. Adjunct pay has not changed in many years and needs to have a proposal to increase adjunct pay. Julie Taylor will put together a proposal for an increase in adjunct and supplemental/overload pay. Jeff Barnes and David Shwalb will get data to help support the proposal. Julie Taylor will also put together a proposal for increasing search committee budgets.

9. Motion for Executive Session:

- a. Lee Montgomery made motion for Executive Session; Carmel White seconded with unanimous vote.

10. Motion to Adjourn:

- a. Mark DeBeliso moved to adjourn; Tyler Stillman seconded with unanimous vote at 05:56 p.m..