

SUU Faculty Senate Minutes
March 19, 2015
4:00 p.m. Cedar Breaks Room, Sharwan Smith Center

Senators in Attendance: Emily Dean, Kevin Stein, Joy Sterrantino, Kim Weaver, Loralyn Felix, Scott Lanning, David Berri (Also proxy for Jeff Barnes and Tyler Stillman), Bruce Haslem, Mark DeBeliso, Tonhy Pellegrini (proxy for Michiko Kobayashi and Brian Ludlow), Kholoud Al-Qubbaj, Andrew Van Alstyne (also proxy for Michelle Orihel), Lynn White, Jee-Young Chung, Randall Allen, Rheana Gardner, Denise Purvis, Wendy Sanders, Selwyn Layton, Mark Meilstrup, Isabella Borisova, Chad Gasser, Nasser Tadayon, and Matthew Weeg.

1. Emily Dean: Call to Order at 04:00 p.m. Motion to approve the minutes of Feb. 12, 2014 by Mark DeBeliso and seconded by Joy Sterrantino; minutes approved unanimously.
2. Recognition of Guests:
 - a. Associate Provost James Sage, Tom McFarland, and Julie Taylor
3. Senate Treasurer's Report: Kim Weaver reported that we have \$5,300.00 for scholarships and the senate is at about 65% left in the faculty senate budget that was set this year. We are looking at getting a new laptop and covering traveling costs to meet with the Utah State Higher Education faculty senate presidents.
4. Senate President Elect's Report: Kevin Stein reported that the Board of Trustees meeting is tomorrow and that there is nothing to report on at this time. The summer compensation committee has been meeting and that the overall vision is growing summer school with regular offerings. There are different ideas on how to grow it and there will be a meeting next week. It was reported that there will be an April 9th meeting plus an April 23rd meeting to introduce new senators which will provide more time for the upcoming senate elections are coming up. Kevin stated that he would be sending out a call for nominations next week. The senior senator from each college that is rotating off is in charge of making sure elections happen in their college for each faculty senator election needed for that college. Elections needed are; At Large (Library) one election, Business two elections, Education one election, Humanities and Social Sciences two elections, COSE two or three elections.
5. Senate President's Report
 - i. There will be a grant writing quick course on Sat. April 11, 2015. Emily will get the information about this course out this next week to the senators on CANVAS. Contact Julia Anderson about this course. Tom McFarland is introducing chrome books for classroom use, primarily for

the Library and English composition but if you are interested talk to Tom. Gale Jackson will be doing a series of events for convocations the last week of March into the first part of April. Benefit committee is looking at adding faculty representatives so if interested look into it. Also, looking at renaming the Electronic Learning Center. The poll and new names are in the SUU portal and if interested you can vote.

- ii. Deans Council discussed Policy 6.2 (Evaluation of Administrators) which has been stopped at this council.

6. Action Items:

- i. Policy 6.36 on Course Syllabus. Associate Provost James Sage addressed that some courses may not need a syllabus so they made that change and flexibility per departments. Thus, if there is a question about the syllabus that the policy does not address the faculty for the course can go to the department for their input on a syllabus. Pg. 1 change on learning outcomes, pg. 2 b2 change, section b.e. added if applicable. Mark DeBeliso motioned to accept the changes and Lynn White seconded motion. Motion for changes passed unanimously.

7. Discussion Items:

- i. Deans' Council Reactions to Policy 6.2 changes ("Evaluation of Administrators") were a mixed of positive and negative tones to the document. Even though there were many positives the council was worried about the negative implication or tones from the yearly call for evaluation. This may be a confusion of language. Associate James Sage agreed to help with the committee to work on this policy to make sure the wording doesn't have negative underlying tones as well as something the faculty and administration can both agree on.
- ii. Problems with the way in which SUU handles the first week of no shows and waitlisted students. In courses like English 2010 there are big waitlists and the no shows are, Dixie states policy the instructor has the option to drop a student if they do not show the first day to class. Some are doing two consecutive days in the first week. In SUU the instructor does not have these options, so students you never hear from and never come take up a spot for those who would come. John Allred has agreed this is problematic and would be willing to meet with the senate about this issue.

8. New Business:

- a. Progress on Policy 6.1.C ("Early tenure") proposed revisions were presented. Some suggestions for a mechanism for early tenure were a grading of excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service for multiple years, a letter of support from the Dean, and a faculty could apply 1 year early. The document with proposed

changes is on CANVAS. Also, the proposal is a one shot for tenure and thus if they do not get tenure then they will have their one year probation. A question about a letter from the chair and the dean was brought up. A worry about service being a qualification was brought up. It was stated that in some departments service is emphasized more than others thus this would be in the hands of the chair, dean, and tenure committee. Another worry was that if a faculty member already had received years before higher they could not apply for the year after because this would make the probationary period too short to really know if the faculty member is exceptional or not. The committee will keep working on proposed changes.

9. Motion for Executive Session by Mark DeBeliso and second by David Berri, all in favor.
10. Motion to Adjourn by David Berri with a second by Mark DeBeliso, all in favor.