Faculty Senate Minutes
Thursday, November 9th, 2017
4:00 pm in the Charles Hunter Room of the Hunter Conference Center

• Call to Order 4:04 PM
• Recognition of Guests 4:05 PM
  a. Christine Proctor, Associate Director of Admissions
  b. Jamie Orton, Director of International Student & Scholar Services
  c. Rich Kendell, Our Schools Now, Former Interim President of SUU, retired Commissioner of USHE
  d. Andrew Misseldine, Mathematics, Chair of Distinguished Faculty Service Award Committee
  e. Phil Roche, Librarian, Chair of Distinguished Scholar/Creative Activity Awards Committee
  f. Joshua Price, Economics and Finance, Outstanding and Distinguished Educator … Chair
  g. Steve Barney, LRT Policy Revision Co-Chair
• Approval of minutes from October meeting. 4:06 PM
• Committee Reports Part 1
  a. Outstanding and Distinguished Educator Awards Committee (Josh Price) 4:12 PM
     Evaluates the nominations and decides on who should be awarded.
  b. Distinguished Scholar/Creative Activity Awards Committee (Phil Roche) 4:08 PM
     Three awards for distinguished scholars. It is nice to have representation from all of the colleges to have advocates for the applications so that the committee can put the applicants into perspective.
  c. Distinguished Faculty Service Award Committee (Andrew Misseldine) 4:15 PM
     Came about from the new strategic plan. Made to recognize the service of the faculty. Nominations come from all over campus, self-nominations are possible. Select from finalists based on nominations, in February.
• Our Schools Now, 2018 ballot initiative, (Rich Kendell) 4:18 PM

Dr. Kendell gave the history of the group and their goal. There isn’t a legislative answer to funding our schools. Their plan is to introduce a bill that will increase the state taxes to help pay for public education (primary, secondary and higher education.) The group needs signatures in order to get this bill on the ballot. This fund would provide 5 million dollars a year for education. 25% is earmarked for faculty salaries. Iron county school district would get 9 million dollars each year. Initiative for pre-schools and all-day kindergarten. They need 3900 from district 28, represented by Evan Vickers.

Scott Lanning – What is the teacher/student success program?

Dr. Kendell – This is set up to look at student success and faculty success. The money is held in a trust fund and then allocated to the schools based on the number of students. One of the challenges that students face is that as they progress in their education, they run out of money to pay for school.

Brad Cook – Where will the push back come from on this initiative?

Dr. Kendell – Americans for Prosperity (The Coke Brothers) 60-70% of Utahns are in favor of an increase in taxes to fund schools if the money goes to the schools directly and not the board of regents.
Angela Pool-Funai – You are asking us just get this initiative on the ballot?

Dr. Kendell – Yes, this is just to let the state vote for this tax increase. This money will be protected by going into a trust so it can’t be used for anything that isn’t education. A previous initiative was passed earlier in the state’s history under the auspices of education, but it was used for highways instead. Our state public school fund is short 1.2 billion dollars every year.

Abigail Larson – If we can educate people that the money has been diverted it would help people realize the we are just replacing money that has already been diverted from education.

- Policy 6.5, Undergraduate Admissions (Christine Proctor) 4:50 PM
  The main change was the get rid of the international admission portion of the policy. There are other consistency and clean-up changes. If it passes then it will go to the President’s council.

Mark Meilstrup – It seems that the undergraduate policy is supposed to be independent of the citizenship status. But the international national policy has some language that seems confusing about considering citizenship status, which seems strange since you acknowledged them as international.

Vote Called on passing the changes to the Undergraduate Admissions - Passed

- Policy 6.16, New Policy, International Student Admissions (Jamie Orton) 4:55 PM
  This is an extraction form the undergraduate policy. To get to Mark’s question, this part is a general nondiscrimination clause that may come straight from the department of homeland security. There is a definition of what constitutes an international students and outlines how they will be prepared to become part of the general student body. There is a program that is similar to the SUCCESS Academy to help students get necessary high school credit.

Stephen Allen – Three years ago the international department was created to help facilitate the international students.

Vote Called on Approving Policy 6.16 – passed

- LRT Process (Steve Barney) 4:59 PM
  a. Value and Purpose statements revisions, Definitions and Evaluative Criteria draft

Trying to better align faculty incentive with the university’s mission. Part of the process is the make adjustments to bring these two things into alignment. The Value and Purpose statements were revised based on the input from the faculty. The response to those comments is part of the information to the senators.

Two documents for review are a list of definitions/key terms and a model for LRT policy the develop a learning curve and how we help new faculty to learn the various parts of the university. Moving to towards a more integrated model instead of the current three pillars.

Scott Lanning – I can’t see the difference between the red and green on the Venn diagram.
Bruce Howard – I am concerned that you want a faculty member to have all of the traditional values integrated. I am afraid that this will be excluding those who are using the traditional model and force them to change.

Dave Lunt – we talked as a work group about that concern, and we want to be more inclusive and not exclusive in our criteria.

Bruce Howard – There are certain service opportunities that may not be able to integrate into the scholarly and teaching.

Steve Barney – they don’t have too.

Nathan Barker – I think that the issue is that you are trying to combine everything into one chart. If you remove the additional circles with lecturer, assistant, associate and Full professor.

Steve Barney – Please put a comment on the canvas page so I can remember your suggestion.

You are asked to provide feedback through a survey on the Faculty Senate Page

Shalini Kaesar – I can see myself not incorporating teaching with my service and research.

Steve Barney – We are getting closer to a truly integrative model, more than other institutions.

- Open Forum on Growth, November 21st, 1-3 PM Sterling Church Auditorium. (Nathan Barker) 5:13 PM

There were concerns about growth in our last meeting so there is an open forum because the president was unable to make it to this meeting.

Brad Cook – we need to think if we are going to be a better institution as a larger body of students if we don’t do it strategically.

Suggestion to move the meeting to during the University hour to make sure more people can come to the forum.

- Committee Reports, Part 2
  a. Testing Center Review Committee (Matthew Roberts) 5:19 PM

The members of the committees have been working hard on Friday afternoon. The have some recommendations coming soon. The students have been asked about the testing center, there wasn’t an overwhelming response and the answer was split right down the middle. The biggest problem is the wait times, there are the largest in the state.

Faculty have responded in a larger number (33%). From the responding group only 40% use it with any regularity. The reasons why most don’t use the testing center is that it doesn’t work for them and that the students can take it at different times and cheating might be a problem. The people who were for the testing center expressed concern that it would negatively impact the student’s ability to perform on their exams and that they would have to reevaluate how they assess their students.

For what to do with the testing center, the majority of the suggestions, was to restrict usage so that is might still be used but not be a resource drain on the university. The second suggestion
was to divert more funds and the lowest suggestion was to terminate the usage of the testing center. We will pursue a recommendation to retain proctoring services for the testing center. They will recommend to increase funding but restrict the services possible in the testing center. Also would like to create a committee to address best practices for the testing center. To pay for the testing center there could be a fee for each exam.

b. Faculty Publication and Student Scholarship Committee (became the Distinguished Scholar/Creative Award)
c. Distinguished Faculty Lecturer and Grace A. Tanner Committee (Mark Meilstrup) 5:35 PM

This is usually a yearly email that explains this committee’s goals. This is award that is based on faculty proposals and awarded based on those proposals. It is the first A.P.E.X. meeting in the Spring Semester. The committee reads the proposals and rank them. There is no restriction on resubmitting a proposal if you didn’t win the previous year. If you win there is a 6 year moratorium on applying if you do win.

Committees to hear from next time

University Press Editorial Board
Library
Academic Standards and Admissions Committee

• Motion for Executive Session 5:41 PM
  Food break while non-senators exit
  a. Senate Treasurer’s Report
  b. Senate President Elect’s Report
  c. Senate President’s Report
• New Business 6:23 PM
  Dave Lunt – What happens to the Ombuds position? – There is a link on the homepage that asks you to submit an ethical concern.

• Motion to Adjourn 6:28 PM
  a. Next Meeting, TUESDAY December 5th, 2017