

## Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes

August 27, 2013  
LC 243, 3:00-5:00 pm



**Present:** Mark Bracken, Kat Brown, David Connelly, Karen Cushing, Matt Draper, Lars Eggertsen, Dan McDonald, Gary Measom, Dennis Potter, Russ Thornley, Marcus Vincent, Ian Wilson

**Excused or Absent:** Tyler Brklacich, Matthew Holland, Rick Moody

- Call to order – 3:00 PM
- Approval of Minutes from April 2, 2013 Executive meeting. Minutes approved.
- SVPAA – Ian Wilson
  - Freshman Convocation – Ian thanked all those who participated in the event and noted it was well attended. Send any comments to Ian Wilson.
  - Faculty Convocation - Kat expressed thanks for the faculty who served on the planning committee. Keynote speaker José Antonio Bowen was well received and did a great job. His workshop was standing room only. Ian indicated there is a possibility of having Bowen back at UVU to do music workshops, etc. Send thoughts for speakers and ideas to Kat so we can plan and invite early as the committee would like to have the program completed by April.
  - Enrollment – Enrollments are still around 7% down. We were not anticipating a drop in juniors and seniors and are not sure why they dropped. At this point, we are not anticipating anything negative in budgets at this point. We are waiting for 3<sup>rd</sup> week enrollments for final determination.
  - Senior VP Search – The plan is to hire a search firm that will begin meeting with faculty and groups across campus in the next few weeks. The President's hope is to begin interviews in December. The President will form a search committee in the next few weeks.
- UVUSA
  - David Connelly announced Tyler Brklacich is the new Student Government Vice President for Academics. David met with him over the summer to discuss upcoming issues.
- Summer Updates
  - Benefits – The Benefits Committee met several times over the summer with UVU's consultant in the room. Connelly indicated we are in the RFP process and seeking a new administrator. He also noted that the RFP was broad. The Executive Committee would like a survey conducted so faculty and staff have the ability to state their top priority in regards to medical coverage in order for the committee to focus primarily on that issue when reviewing the RFPs. Connelly will discuss a potential survey with the Benefits

Committee on Wednesday, August 28. The committee would also like to see the RFP bidders address the Affordable Care Act impact.

- Policy 644 – *Appointment and Responsibilities of Department Chairs* – The policy needs to be reviewed by the Deans first and moved to Stage 2 next month. The Executive Committee wants to know when rewriting policies 103 and 104 if strategic planning needs to be included and is it the burden of the Exec Committee to review and edit.
- Policies 103 and 104 – *Faculty Senate Constitution and Faculty Bylaws* – Both are in Stage 1 and drafts will be presented to the senate for comments at the first meeting.
- Strategic Planning – The University is ramping up their strategic plan. Connelly plans to discuss this issue at the next meeting to see if the senate wants to develop a four-year plan. There was concern there is a larger trend occurring and the faculty's actual perception of senate. Connelly feels the senate needs to be proactive in all aspects of the university, a student's education, and politically motivated. How does faculty affect change? Some members feel faculty needs to get politically active outside of the university and voice their concerns. Senate needs to think about bigger issues that affect campus and get involved to advocate those issues that affect the faculty and university as a whole such as pay compression and the curriculum process. Ian indicated that the curriculum process needs to be reviewed. Questions arose such as 1) Has the concept of Shared Governance decreased? 2) If so, where, why, and how? and 3) What will be the power and authority of Faculty Senate?
- Service – Discussion over how to rank service when it comes to tenure and rank advancement. One proposal was to rank the committees. Connelly feels that faculty needs to identify what release time really should be in order to have clear expectations.
- Policy 601 – *Classroom Management* - Going to President's Council for Stage 3 on August 29, 2013. If approved, it will take a few days to get into the system for the 30 day comment period. Connelly has all comments that he will send to Faculty Senate once the policy has been approved for Stage 3.
- New Parking Structure – Connelly encouraged everyone to review the guidelines online for procedures. Committee proposed bringing Jim Michaelis or Val Peterson in for discussion. Faculty has concerns over conferences and what the impact will be on attendance if visitors have to pay for parking.
- Testing Center - Information was sent out over the summer via email regarding new procedures. If you have questions, contact Colleen Sorenson.
- Fall Forum – David Knowlton is scheduled to speak on September 17 in SB246. He will speak for the first hour, 3-4 pm, and the Faculty Senate will meet for the second hour.
- Spring Forum
  - Need suggestions for external speakers that promote interest to faculty.
- Committee Reports
  - Tenure Board of Review (Marcus Vincent) - Send Marcus a list of the standing committee members.

- Faculty Development (Lars Eggertsen) – The committee has created a new SRI and developed three questions that will be included, but not included as part of the RTP process. It was suggested that the three questions have a separate rating scale so they would not be included in the overall score. Lars noted the SRI was scaled down to about 18 questions (including the 3). Individual departments can add additional questions specific to their department to capture specific issues they would like addressed. He plans to bring the issue to senate the end of September. Concerns were raised that some SRI questions might discourage faculty from attempting new approaches to good teaching. Kat reminded the Executive Committee that the SRI is only one instrument to measure good teaching and that departments really drive the measures.
- Senate Agenda for September 3, 2013 was reviewed and approved.

Adjourned 4:37 pm