Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes  
November 15, 2011  
LC 243, 3:00-5:00 pm

**In Attendance:** John Balden, Arlen Card, Karen Cushing, David Connelly, Stan Jenne, Pierre Lamarche, Ian Sorensen, Kim Strunk, Russ Thornley, Elaine Tuft, Rick Vincent, Ian Wilson

**Absent or Excused:** Kathren Brown, Matthew Holland

1. **Call to Order 3:00 pm**

2. **Minutes Approved.**

3. **VPAA – Ian Wilson:** Asked for volunteers for several committees on behalf of Kat Brown: Policy 633 - *Annual Faculty Reviews* and the new Discipline Policy. These are currently in Stage 1 and Kat Brown would like these volunteers to help provide feedback to the Senate before Stage 2.
   - John Balden will add the request for volunteers as an agenda item for next week’s Senate Meeting.
   - Ian Wilson will send an email to John Balden referencing which policies are seeking committee volunteers.
   - John Balden also noted that Judy Martindale is seeking volunteers for the Wellness Committee and Retirement Recognition Committee. He will also add these as an agenda item.

4. **Policy 644 – Appointment and Responsibilities of Department Chairs**
   - Lyn Bennett mentioned that the Policy Committee met today and had a general discussion of the policy. They have scheduled to meet every two weeks and hope to have a rough draft ready for the Faculty Senate by the end of January or beginning of February. She noted that the Policy Committee is a very diverse group with many discussion ideas.

5. **Policy 204 – Appropriateness of Expenditures**
   - The Policy committee has completed their review. Lyn Bennett will send the policy review notes to John Balden to distribute with the agenda for next week.

6. **Policy 612 – Course Content Modifications**
   - The committee has met to begin review of the policy and will meet again on Tuesday, November 22.

7. **Senator Urquhart Higher Education Proposal**
   - The University Planning Advisory Committee (UPAC) sent out a response to Senator Urquhart regarding his white paper on higher education and provided feedback of what we think of his policy. John Balden noted that
Urquhart proposed several ideas, but he never really outlined what he plans to do with them. It was also noted that Senator Osmond is proposing a Public Education Reform bill that could affect higher education as well. John will be attending a meeting on Friday at KSL with Osmond. There are many bills coming out that are affecting higher education and the Faculty Senate needs to be aware of them. The Executive Committee feels that the Faculty Senate should discuss whether or not to develop a response/opinion to these bills and proposals. Links to Urquhart’s and Osmond’s websites will be sent to the Faculty Senate for review and discussion at the next Senate meeting. The Executive Committee pointed out that a number of assumptions have been made in the proposal that are not supported by facts.

8. The Prosperity 2020 presentation states higher education in Utah is doing a great job. It provides a picture of what’s actually going on. The Power Point was distributed with the agenda.

9. Committee Reports
   - Academic Standards - Thomas Henry reported that 47 petitions were processed for students. He has received a request for discretionary funds from a student, which presents as interesting problem.
   - Budget and Benefits – Stan Jenne reported nothing new. He did note the Wellness Committee wants to propose more opportunities for employees such as making exercise facilities more readily available.
   - Tenure Board of Review - Kim Strunk contacted Phil Matheson and will meet with him tomorrow. She continues to contact all the members of the committee to find a time that all can meet. The Executive Committee stated that Reba Keele can serve on the committee another term. It was suggested that Kim contact the Associate Deans of the schools/colleges that are in need of a representative so appropriate elections can be held. Kim will contact Elaine Tuft to work out details.
   - Curriculum - Russ Thornley noted that the committee has rescheduled their meeting for the first Thursday in December.
   - Faculty Development
     - Ian Sorensen reported that about 2/5 of the money is left in the development fund.
     - The committee is beginning the process for Faculty Senate Faculty Excellence awards. Nomination requests will be sent out in December. In January, the committee will determine who receives the awards. He noted that the committee will be using the same draft copy from last year, but will submit a new one for Faculty Senate approval next semester to be used next year.
     - The committee has a recommendation for replacements for SRLs. In order to determine if the Student Evaluation of Learning and Teaching (SELT) are effective, they will need input for several years then reevaluate. Ian will email John Balden the online survey
process link for review. The committee has completed a few informal reviews. The recommended SRI has tried to obtain real data for evaluation. The recommendation from the committee is to put the proposed SRIs out there, watch them, and then review the instrument after the first year.

- What happened to the proposal for students to opt out of SRIs to get final grades? Nothing has been done since the proposal met a lot of resistance from faculty. Classes for Distance Education might need additional information to determine if more questions need to be added. A suggestion was made to give students the ability to evaluate lecturer and teaching assistants in discussion or lab sections.

- It was recommended to put the SRI response issue on the Faculty Senate agenda for discussion. Note: The SRIs are just one input for faculty evaluation and there are other avenues to measure and evaluate faculty performance.

- There are no faculty development funds available to assist faculty working towards higher education degrees. Possible other contacts recommended were the FCTE and Deans.

- Personnel and Elections - Elaine Tuft reported nothing at this time.
- Policy - Lyn Bennett noted that the WSB does not have anyone to participate on committee. Stan Jenne will seek faculty to assist the committee to review the 644 policy document.
- Post-Tenure Review - Arlen Card had and electronic meeting with the committee and determined a pattern of review. The committee will use the “cloud” computing to host and most likely will use Dropbox.
- Rank and Promotion - Rick Vincent had nothing to report.
- Grievance - Pierre Lamarche reported the committee is finalizing their meeting for the first week of December and hopefully will report in January 2012.

10. The question of how adjuncts handle payment when they need replacements was brought up. The main issue is the university does not have a policy on how to handle it. Department Chairs are told to make it work. The Executive Committee feels the university needs a policy that will also aid in the mechanics. Ian feels this is a Human Resources issue. The recommendation was to invite Human Resources (Ronnie Price, Judy Martindale, Core Callahan) to attend Faculty Senate for discussion.

11. David Connelly noted that the next white paper discussion will be the multi-year contracts portion of the paper.

12. Adjourned 4:10 pm