Faculty Senate Minutes

February 11, 2014
LC 243, 3:00-5:00 pm

UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY

Present: Jon Anderson, Debanjan Bhattacharjee, Mark Bracken, Clayton Brown, Kat Brown, Monica Campbell, Leo Chan, Alan Clarke, Marty Clayton, David Connelly, Karen Cushing, David Dean, Matthew Draper, Wioleta Fedeczko, Debora Ferreira, Doug Gardner, Gloria Gilmore, Barry Hallsted, Vance Hillman, Matthew Holland, John Hunt, Yang Huo, Vessela Ilieva, Jill Jasperson, Ellis Jensen, Mi Ok Kang, Dianne Knight, Dan McDonald, Gary Mercado, Rick Moody, David Morin, Tyler Nelson, CheolHwan Oh, Dennis Potter, Jacqueline Preston, Leslie Simon, Cyrill Slezak, Nancy Steele-Makasci, Allison Swenson, Darin Taylor, Russ Thornley, Craig Thulin, Violeta Vasilevska, Marcus Vincent, Lorraine Wallace, Ian Wilson, Alex Yuan

Excused or Absent: Steve Allred, Deborah Baird, Tyler Brklacich (UVUSA), Kathy Black, Joel Bradford, Lars Eggertsen, Joel Herd (PACE), Ryan Leick, Gary Measom, Kent Walker

Call to order – 3:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from January 28, 2014. Minutes approved.

SVPAA – Ian Wilson

- The State of University address was given today by President Holland. All faculty are encouraged to view the presentation online if they did not have a chance to attend.
- Searches – University College interviews are completed. Currently interviewing for the Dean of Science & Health. The two AVP positions are beginning to conduct phone interviews. The SVPAA search committee will be conducting the first round of interviews next week. Faculty is encouraged to attend the open forums and provide feedback.
- Surveys – The NSSE Survey will be conducted in the next few weeks. Students will receive a letter inviting them to participate in the survey. This is an important survey in terms of measuring our university outcomes. Faculty is asked to encourage students to participate in the survey. Two additional surveys: Great Colleges to Work For and Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) will also be coming out and faculty is encouraged to participate. A meeting will be held in the fall regarding the results and what they mean in addition to providing results to the Faculty Senate.

Policy – Kat Brown

- Kat announced an opportunity to have a Faculty Senate member on the Academic Technology Steering Committee (ATSC) and is seeking nominations. Time commitment is about two hours once a month. The focus is broad, but geared towards curriculum and the teaching mission of the institution. David Connelly will send out an email reminder for nominations.

President Holland

- The Legislative Session is in full swing. In regards to equity, the question is how much money we can get into that line this year.

Spring Speaker

- Connelly reported that Senator Urquhart's schedule was not conducive during normal Faculty Senate meeting times. Clayton Christensen was proposed as a potential speaker. President Holland will follow up with him directly. Connelly will send President Holland the appropriate information.

Service Resolution

- Matt Draper reviewed Draft Five and indicated that the top portion has been reworked to incorporate language about an engaged institution based on the Carnegie website.
- Alan Clarke noted the progress on the resolution, but expressed concern over junior faculty being pushed into administrative positions such as department chairs and program directors. He recommends that problems be clearly separated out and encourage the appropriate hiring at the appropriate level.
- During discussion, some senators felt that the problem might not be the RTP criteria, but the incentives for service. In addition, others felt that there needs to be more weight on service once a faculty member has achieved tenure.
- Recommend language to define service within the institution be included in the resolution.
- Draper commented that the resolution was clear on teaching and research and intended to elevate service, but not necessarily on the same level.
- Ian Wilson reported that the university is in the process of establishing a merit pay system and that faculty needs to be sure and include service as a criterion for merit.
- Connelly noted that while some departments are in good shape with their criteria, there are other departments that need to review their criteria. The question raised was "do we have to incentivize everything?" If yes, what are they? Barry Hallsted responded that whatever the incentives, they need to be mission-based and moving the university forward. Darin Taylor noted that whatever merit pay system comes forward needs to be sure there are specific criteria for receiving merit.
- Connelly asked Faculty Senate where they want to go with the resolution.
- **MOTION** – Dennis Potter motioned the resolution clause include the suggestion to increase incentives for faculty service, including but not limited to, reassigned time and merit pay. Rick Moody seconded. All in favor? 1 Opposed; 4 Abstained; Motion passed.
- **MOTION** – Alan Clarke motioned to revise the resolution and make the distinction between the assistant professors and those further along in their career and that the proposal be directed towards encouraging and recognizing service at that mid-level and take into account those people who have provided service in the past and provide provision for those who have been victimized already. Russ Thornley seconded. Leslie Simon suggested instead of dividing it into

three parts, use language such as for all of our Associate Professors [include Matt's statement] and for all Assistant Professors newly hired, we would like to see that [include Alan's statement] happen. If this doesn't happen, if the department needs them, then we would like this to apply to them too. Alan Clarke accepted this as a friendly amendment. All in favor? 12 Abstained. Motion passed.

- **MOTION** – David Morin motioned to remove the resolution from the table. Dennis Potter seconded. The resolution is only a recommendation. Some feel the motion to remove is premature. All in favor? Majority Opposed. Motion failed.

Academic Calendar – Eva Bernfeld

- Overview – The Academic Calendar for many years was very similar to the year before. A few years ago something of a departure and last year was a few instructional days shorter than what we use to have. What is accepted by NWCCU is a range and they appear to be more concerned with total minutes of instruction. There are variables that are considered when setting a calendar. The calendar normally accounts for 18 weeks (15 instruction, 1 break, 1 finals, 1 padding). She also provided information on how the summer semester affects the academic calendar and would like feedback/suggestions from the Faculty Senate on what they propose. Eva indicated that the committee feels the summer calendar should not drive the fall/spring calendars.
- Senators want to know who their school/college representatives are serving on the Academic Calendar Committee and would like to see the guiding principle variables. Eva will provide the information.
- **MOTION** – Craig Thulin motioned to bring the Academic Calendar conversation back at the next meeting. Dennis Potter seconded. All in Favor? Motion passed.

Announcement

- Engagement Week – March 24-28, 2014. Check out the website for more details.

Mark Bracken motioned to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 25, 2014, 3:00-5:00 p.m. in LC243