Present: Marlene Bacon, Deborah Baird, Lyn Bennett, Kathy Black, Bret Boyer, Mark Bracken, Clayton Brown, Kat Brown, Arlen Card, David Connelly, Karen Cushing, Matthew Draper, Lars Eggertson, Vivienne Faurot, Wioleta Fedeczko, Debora Ferreira, Doug Gardner, Phil Gordon, Erin Haskell (UVUSA), Joel Herd (PACE), Vance Hillman, Matthew Holland, Yang Huo, Dianne Knight, Pierre Lamarche, Dan McDonald, Gary Measom, Rick Moody, Tyler Nelson, Cheol Hwan Oh, Dennis Potter, Jacqueline Preston, Axel Ramirez, Nancy Steele-Makasci, Kim Strunk, Darin Taylor, Russ Thornley, Craig Thulin, Elaine Tuft, Marcus Vincent, Lorraine Wallace, Ian Wilson, Alex Yuan, Brian Birch, Mike Freeman, Richard Tafalla, Alan Clarke

Excused or Absent: Jon Anderson, Steve Allred, Leo Chan, David Dean, Tim Doyle, Dwayne Erdman, Carolyn Howard, Mark Jeffreys, Xiaoyi Ji, Ryan Leick, Gary Mercado, Jeff Packer, Paul Tayler, Kent Walker

Call to order - 3:01 PM

Approval of Minutes from March 19, 2013 will be approved at the next meeting.

David reported that there are no candidates running for Faculty Senate President and encouraged everyone to consider the opportunity.

VPAA – Ian Wilson

Received funding for the new classroom building, mission-based funding, and equity funding. The Regents meet Friday and we will have the final approval on the tuition proposal of increasing tuition by six percent. Higher Education did not receive the one percent COLA as other state agencies. USHE did get an additional $1 million in equity funding and an additional $1 million in mission-based funding. The President and Cabinet want to provide that one percent salary increase to all faculty and hourly with staff receiving two percent to bring them up in the market. Adjunct rates for one contact hour will increase to $2,325 give or take. Retention money has also been set aside for future needs.

After examining all sources of revenue, UVU still has a deficit of $3.9 million. Deans have been provided with their budget cuts due to the decline in enrollments. They will be working with their department chairs to strategize and address the budget declines and determine what positions are needed to fill the gaps and at the same time reduce their overall budgets.

Ian indicated that decisions on faculty funding cuts should remain with the Dean and departments and that they have maximum flexibility. He did point out that the Cabinet did agree that if enrollments increase, first priority would be given to faculty. Some senators feel that maybe Administration needs to have some oversight. Ian did state that he and the President will be reviewing all budget proposals and address anything that calls attention. Ian did confirm that overload can be used, but very sparingly during this period of decreased enrollments.
Guest Speaker - Tad Linn, JD

Tad provided an overview of UVU’s medical plan and some terminology of the plan. He referenced that UVU has a leak and needs to find where it is and what are other employers doing to managed healthcare costs.

Overall focus of the presentation was on Primary Care service. He noted the major problem with primary care is there are not enough doctors and that they don’t have enough time to see patients. In addition, he referenced that 40 cents of every dollar goes to administrative costs.

He made some cost containment suggestions that are covered in his PowerPoint presentation. David will email Faculty Senate the presentation. Mr. Linn recommended a documentary entitled “Escape Fires” dealing with rising healthcare costs. He encouraged UVU to take control and look at creative plan designs to get a higher level of service for fewer dollars.

Senate Conversation

Recommendation was made to hold conversations with Human Resources, Senate, and Pace regarding healthcare and where we are today. Education for all employees is key to establishing a plan that provides both savings and effective healthcare.

MOTION: Craig Thulin motioned for Lars Eggertsen and David Connelly to create a healthcare summit/conversation. All were encouraged to send suggestions, information, or volunteer for the committee to Lars or David. Seconded by Bret Boyer. All in favor? Motion passed.

The question was raised as to how does UVU discover entities outside that can design a plan? President Holland indicated there is an opening, as the current health plan will expire at the end of this next plan year. This is a time to share among employees and bring in experts to share options. He noted the Benefits Committee and President’s Council will be discussing this issue over the next several months regarding the direction UVU will headed in the healthcare picture. Some faculty suggested to have a dialogue at the USHE level and partner with other institutions.

Is there any possibility that UVU could start a cohort this next plan year within the constraints of our relationship with EMI? President Holland indicated he will discuss this issue with HR to see if anything can be done.

Dennis Potter motioned to adjourn. Matt Draper seconded. Adjourned at 4:58 pm.