Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes
October 9, 2012
LC 243, 3:00-5:00 pm

Present: John Balden, Lyn Bennett, Mark Bracken, Arlen Card, Karen Cushing, Pierre Lamarche, Russ Thornley, Elaine Tuft, Marcus Vincent, Ian Wilson, Ed Firmage, Jason Brown, Alma Wilson, Chris Foster

Excused or Absent: Kat Brown, David Connelly, Lars Eggertsen, Matthew Holland, Dan McDonald, Gary Measom

• Call to order - 3:00 PM
• Approval of Minutes from September 18, 2012 Executive Committee meeting. Minutes approved.
• VPAA – Ian Wilson
  o UVU is now a member of the Western Athletic Conference (WAC). This opportunity will provide more exposure for UVU in addition to other opportunities.
  o LDS Age Change for Missionaries
    ▪ What impact will this have on enrollments over the next few years? What do we do with recruiting? Does recruiting shift to parents? What focus will UVU take?
    ▪ Propose that contact be make with student wards and institutes to see what the numbers look like for students submitting for missions.
    ▪ Linda Makin and IRI are researching information and gathering some data for review.
    ▪ Summer semester challenges will need to be addressed.
  o What does Administration do with faculty who cancel classes when they are not suppose to? Would like to receive feedback from senate.
    ▪ Need to know who is canceling classes and deal with them on an individual basis.
    ▪ Send document to faculty member’s file noting the inappropriate behavior.
    ▪ Ian will send an email to chairs for them to follow up on the number of classes cancelled and readdress after this information has been received.
• Adjuncts – Chris Foster, Ed Firmage, Jason Brown, Alma Wilson
  o Represent group of adjunct faculty petitioning for better working conditions. Would like input from the Executive Committee on what might be effective strategies.
  o A resolution proposal was handed out. The adjuncts are seeking agreement in principle and suggest a meeting with salaried colleagues to explore and work out an operating plan.
  o Would like the creation of an ad hoc committee in conjunction with Faculty Senate to explore and develop recommendations/action plan in great detail over how this is to be done, timeframe, etc. Would like to see the faculty act in concert to address this issue.
    ▪ Senate would like the adjuncts to investigate the USHE average for adjuncts and convey to the ad hoc committee to propose getting salaries close to the USHE average rate.
  o Administration recognizes the salary problem and the President is currently working to address the issues. This is not just an adjunct problem, but across the university including staff salaries.
  o Hard data has the power to make change and once assembled, then can submit the data to the media and legislature to begin conversations.
Lyn Bennett proposed creating space for adjuncts in the new classroom building to provide working area for the adjuncts as a way to address one issue of working conditions.

Primary criteria for success the adjuncts are seeking - the recommendations out of the ad hoc committee would be that administration would adopt as policy then take to legislature. This plan provides leverage with the legislature. Adjuncts want a response to a problem. The Executive Committee expressed creating a policy would most likely not happen. In addition, they would like to see adjuncts receive at least the average salary compensation for adjuncts.

MOTION – Arlen Card motioned to take the second paragraph on the proposed resolution to the senate for development of an ad hoc committee to explore the issues. Elaine Tuft seconded. All in favor? Motion passed.

David Connelly will contact Chris Foster to set up time for adjuncts to present resolution Senate.

Future Senate Meetings

Linda Makin will be attending senate meeting on October 30. Discussion topics:

- Define “planning” in terms of core themes, assessment, etc., and review the budget process so faculty understands where the funds come from (e.g. mission-based funding, equity funding), how one differs from another, where the money goes, and what impact we have on them.
- Bring up issues of salaries for faculty, staff, and adjuncts and why are we so far below and how can we get them up.

Discussion Item Prioritization

Curriculum oversight – Discuss curriculum talking points (see handout) as senate to hear what some of the issues are so they can be addressed. Suggested that chairs review the talking points, determine what some of the issues are first, and then bring back to senate for discussion.

Grade inflation

Additional items were not prioritized.

Ian proposed Insight training on the new assessment software.

Committee Reports

Marcus Vincent – Appeals Committee is formed and meets October 22, 2012.

Lyn Bennett - Waiting for Policy 601 comments from Kat Brown, otherwise the committee has no charge. Lyn has spoken with Kat Brown for status update on department chair policy.

Arlen Card – Post-tenure review activities waiting for Kat Brown so can move out of stage 1 to stage 2. Intent is to have before spring.

Elaine Tuft – No updates.

Russ Thornley – Curriculum Committee is meeting October 11, 2012.

Pierre Lamarche – No updates.

Mark Bracken – Benefits committee met last week. There are some claim appeals pending.

Adjourned 5:00 pm

Next Faculty Senate Executive Meeting – October 23, 2012 – 3:00-5:00 pm – LC243