

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes

September 24, 2013
LC 243, 3:00-5:00 pm



Present: Mark Bracken, Tyler Brklacich, David Connelly, Karen Cushing, Matt Draper, Lars Eggertsen, Dan McDonald, Gary Measom, Rick Moody, Dennis Potter, Russ Thornley, Marcus Vincent, Ian Wilson

Excused or Absent: *Kat Brown, Matthew Holland*

- Call to order – 3:00 PM
- Approval of Minutes from September 10, 2013 Exec meeting. Minutes approved.
- VPAA – Ian Wilson
 - Enrollments are down to approximately 3%. We won't know the 3rd week actuals for a few more weeks.
 - The Executive Committee inquired as to how many students are projected to return Fall 2014? Ian indicated after final data comes in, they will be better able to answer those questions and see where the decreases occurred.
 - Spring projected declines are 4.2%.
 - Since the decline was less than projected, the Executive Committee want to know what is being done with the extra money in the pot and how it will be distributed. They also want to know the demographics of students in order to plan future courses accordingly.
- UVUSA – Tyler Brklacich
 - Student Government is pushing hard this year for student feedback. They are conducting forums the 1st and 3rd weeks of every month.
 - Science & Health would like a student government representative to attend their department meetings. Tyler reported that his information indicated the chairs aren't quite sure how to utilize the reps. A suggestion was made that the rep inform the chairs on what they can do for them such as review proposed text books.
 - The Faculty Senate would like to hear feedback from UVUSA on student perspectives on issues in order to facilitate communication and address issues appropriately.
- Fall Faculty Forum
 - Most of the chairs have received positive feedback on the forum and noted it was well attended. Many would like to see the discussion further developed and not just go by wayside. Also to keep in mind the big picture and open lines of communication.
 - The Executive Committee would like to see an information campaign initiated that demonstrates the value of an education. Connelly informed the group that the President plans to do some editorials. The committee wants to know how internal information is disseminated to the community at large promoting the value of an education. Several committee members indicated they do not receive the UVU Magazine and want to know who is scheduled to receive it.
 - Some members felt we need educated academic voices in the legislature and seek ways to get students involved in working with state agencies. One proposal was to consider personal invites to conferences in order to get input. The committee proposed inviting

Senator Urquhart for the Spring Forum around the 3rd week of March after the Legislature has concluded. Connelly will begin the invite process. Ian Wilson was also nominated as a speaker.

- UPAC SWOT Survey Results (Handout)
 - Connelly reviewed the survey results and Wilson suggested this information be shared with all departments/schools/colleges.
 - Student readiness/perception – Ian informed the committee that there is a lot of work being done at the state level to inform students and parents and what resources are available to assist them.
 - Some members proposed a study of educational outcomes in terms of preparation as well as other perspectives, but noted the institution will need to contribute funding in order to accomplish this study.
 - Russ proposed sharing the survey results with Senate, have a discussion, establish priorities, however, the Executive Committee decided to not share the information until priorities have been established and then apply a SWOT discussion to the priorities.
- Standing Committees
 - Benefits
 - Bracken noted the committee meets on Wednesday, September 25, 2013. The RFP has been reviewed and a finalized version should be ready to send out. Now is the time to do a survey/questionnaire to see what the faculty priorities are.
 - Faculty Development
 - The committee is finalizing the new SRI, plan to disseminate the information next week, and hope to test it this semester.
 - The committee would like an instruction document to educate faculty and students on how the SRI is to be used. Lars will work on a draft and bring it back to the Executive Committee for further discussion. Connelly will discuss with Tyler Brklacich regarding initiating a dialog with students about the importance and understanding of SRIs.
 - Ian would like a report on funds for faculty development so he can address the needs early.
- Faculty Agenda
 - David will invite the stewards for Policy 425 - *Scheduling Campus Facilities* and Policy 501- *Undergraduate Admissions and Enrollment* to the October 1st meeting.
 - Potter noted that the deadline for Stage 3 comments on Policy 601- *Classroom Management* is coming soon. The committee would like feedback on the comments taken to President's Council and how they were addressed.
 - Constitution/Bylaws Discussion – need to allow President/Ian to voice opinions on suspension of policy if opt to elect new president before the new Constitution and Bylaws are passed.
- Adjourn 4:35 pm