**Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes**

August 24, 2021

Via Microsoft Teams – 3:00-5:00 pm

***Present***: Jon Anderson, Wendy Athens (OTL), Kat Brown, Joy Cole, Suzy Cox, Karen Cushing, Wioleta Fedeczko, David Frame, Hilary Hungerford, Dianne McAdams-Jones, Ethan Morse, Elijah Nielson, Evelyn Porter, Skyler Simmons, Karen Sturtevant (Library), Wayne Vaught

Visitors: Nizhone Meza

***Excused or Absent:*** Ben Moulton, Sandie Waters

* Call to order – 3:00 p.m.

**COVID Questions/Concerns**

* Vaught is meeting on Mondays at Noon with Department Chairs to address concerns and will follow-up with an email to all faculty. Did send a copy of the student email to all faculty and staff. Do not anticipate a mask mandate.
* Most courses are being recorded and posted to Canvas. Faculty do need to be cognizant of the recording and make sure they are not sharing private information that might be recorded.
* Vaught will follow-up to ensure QR codes are posted in classrooms.
* In very isolated and unique situations such as dance and aviation where students have close personal contact where you could ask if they have been vaccinated, but you cannot ask them to be vaccinated.
* If a student is aware of a student who has tested positive, they can report to Robin Ebmeyer.

**AGENDA**

* **POLICY UPDATES**
  + Information Items
    - * Policy 137 – *Sponsored Programs (Grants, Contracts, Cooperative Agreements)* - Invite Curtis Pendleton, Policy Steward to attend senate and provide overview. Simmons to create comment document.
      * Policy 146 – *Sponsored Programs Financial Management* - Invite Curtis Pendleton, Policy Steward to attend and provide overview. Simmons to create comment document.
  + Debate items
    - Policy 633 – *Faculty Annual Reviews* – Faculty Senate was in debate stage at end of FY21, but due to number of comments, committee went back to address comments and prepare new draft. Will submit new draft for Faculty Senate comment. Stage 2 closes 10/1/21.
    - Policy 635 – *Faculty Rights and Professional Responsibilities* - Stage 2 closed
    - Policy 638 – *Post-Tenure Review* – This policy will be deleted as it is encapsulated within Policy 633.
  + On Drafting Board
    - Reviewed list of policies that are currently in Stage 1 and will be coming forward in the next few months.
      * Policy 646 – *Faculty Appeals for Retention, Tenure, and Promotion* - Coming in October.
      * Policy 640 – *Faculty Sabbatical Leave* - Review in Faculty Senate and address any concerns before moving forward into Stage 2 (consider holding special session with Alan Parry).
  + Discussion about policies and timeline for discussion in senate.
* **NON-POLICY ITEMS**
  + Discussion about incoming proposals and the process to address them. Nielson recommended creating procedures on how to handle special topics going forward. Decision made to bring proposals held over from previous senate meetings 1) permanent residency renewals or citizenship costs and 2) Teaching professorial track, and have a new vote whether or not they want to pursue further exploration.
  + New Proposals
    - Resolution on masks or other COVID prevention measures related to public health. Not sure a resolution is the proper mechanism. Repetition and encouraging all to wear masks and sharing why they are recommended seems to be more valuable. Messaging to students seems confusing as the university cannot mandate masks. Discussion about legislation and not all UVU administration was in agreement with the bill that was passed. Recommend contacting your legislators to express opinion on the bill, but must not contact via UVU email.
    - Biology Department posted a link regarding FAQs for vaccines that faculty might find useful information. <https://uvu365-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/10758260_uvu_edu/ESiDA_LeYRxHknGLHXiNHKEBnnD4-A1I3cMyqqps6AtcqA>
    - Syllabus checklist - <https://www.uvu.edu/otl/syllabuschecklist.html> - Consider adding a page to the senate website. Solicit language from faculty across campus via a Qualtrics survey to be included on the checklist. There are three required statements on the Faculty Relations website under Resources.
    - SRIs: Potential changes to instrument and analysis – Discussion about CHSS using septile tool for evaluating faculty. Academic Affairs has no intention in adopting this tool for the university as a whole. Policy 631 – *Student Ratings of Student Instruction/SRI Terminology Bundle* does say that the senate along with the Provost and/or designee can revise or create a new SRI system.
    - Advancement of Teaching (AoT) would like to know what specific projects the committee should address this year.
      * Examine SRI tool – Would like data to see what is happening at UVU and what biases exist related to women. Recommend moving forward with AoT researching and addressing this tool. Deans, Department Chairs, and RTP Committees were informed that there is no university cutoff score for SIRs and there is no intention for there to be. The new RTP website states that Faculty Senate does not endorse the use of SRI scores as the sole or main determinant of faculty evaluation for teaching.
      * Redeveloping the FEA process - hold
      * Role of teaching evaluation in merit discussion – Senate authorized a joint task force with Academic Affairs to address merit. The task force has been meeting throughout the summer. As the committee moves more toward decision-making, collaborate with other faculty committees for input.
    - Affirmation of support for anti-racist teaching, diversity and inclusion – Propose a task force to prepare a resolution for affirmation of support.
    - PBA Request for faculty senate positions – Cushing will work with Hungerford on PBA request. Consider submitting a request for administrative support for Faculty Senate committees.
* **MISCELLANEOUS**
  + - Faculty Development Funds – Brown will follow-up with Trevor Morris regarding available funds. Anyone traveling internationally does need to contact Baldomero Lago’s office.
    - Add Mykin Higbee selected as new CHPS representative on AoT as Consent Agenda item.
    - Academic Scheduling Committee – Wioleta Fedeczko moving to committee as a Faculty Senate representative as Consent Agenda item.
    - Hungerford will follow up with Waters for committee updates.

Meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm