**Faculty Senate Minutes**

April 25, 2023

Via Microsoft Teams, 3:00-5:00 pm

***Present***: President Tuminez, Alex Yuan, Armen Ilikchyan, Ashley Nadeau, Brandon Ro, Bryan Sansom, Christ Witt, Christopher Goslin, David Frame, Dianne McAdams-Jones, Diego Alvarado Karste, Donna Fairbanks, Doug Czajka, Dustin Shipp, Eric J. Russell, Evelyn Porter, Gareth Fry, Hilary Hungerford, Jennifer Shubert, Jim Pettersson, Jim Price, John Hunt, John Jarvis, Jon Anderson, Jonathan Allred, Justin Schellenburg, Kathleen Young, Kathren Brown, Kyle Kamaiopili, Laura Ricaldi, Laurie Toro, Leo Schlosnagle, Maureen Andrade, Merilee Larsen, Michaela Giesenkirchen Sawyer, Mike Smidt, Ming Yu, Natalie Monson, Nate Jeppson, Nicole Gearing, Nizhone Meza, Raiden Gaul, Rich Paustenbaugh, Sam Gedeborg, Sandie Waters, Scott Lewis, Skyler Simmons, Tammy Parker, Waseem Sheikh, Wayne Vaught, Wioleta Fedeczko

Guests: Christina Baum

Call to order by President Hilary Hungerford: 3:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes stand approved

**PRESIDENT TUMINEZ**

* Thank you to our outgoing faculty senate president, Hilary Hungerford, and welcome to our new one, Wioleta Fedeczko. I want to thank the faculty and staff as well who worked with us when Governor DeSantis was at the UCCU Center. I think we did the right thing informing our commitment as an institution of free expression.
* We have new building that will be coming online. I’m very excited about getting all of our advancement people into one building.
* Our Evergreen Campaign is well on its way.
* It’s exciting to report the increase in faculty and staff giving.
* Follow the money will be an ongoing theme at the University. We just completed our planning budget and assessment PBA process so people will know what got funded and what didn’t get funded. We allocate and expand resources in the appropriate time frame.
* The good news is for Utah that the Legislature is still very much in favor of funding higher education. The largest category of spending is compensation.
* One of the things we ran into is the Governor put a freeze on tuition. Because of that freeze, we had to rely mainly on the Legislature. This year they funded it at 87.5%.
* This year the legislature decided to make performance-based funding as one time funding. For $5,743,700 will wait until November to see if we could treat it as ongoing.
* Even though our headcount has continued to grow, our fulltime FTE are down by quite a bit. We’ve lost $8.7 million of tuition revenue since 2020.
* The needs of UVU as we grow will become greater. The deficits will be growing larger every year so that by fiscal year 2028 we will be running nearly an 8.2 million deficit just on technology. U of U charges a technology fee and we haven’t done that.
* I’m engaged now with the Carnegie Postsecondary Commission. They are looking into having classifications on universities that really focus on social mobility and economic advancement.
* Class of 2023: 8,517 graduates
* Question: Do you know how we apply for funds for the Native American funds?
  + President Tuminez: Talk to Tara Ivy if you have a project or would like to collaborate with her.
* Michaela Giesenkirchen Sawyer: My whole department is requesting that the takeover of control over the internet browsers be reversed. We feel like big brother has moved onto our computers. This also raises the question is the University sending the signal is there no privacy anymore on the University owned machines? That also brings the questions of using our private phones.
* President Tuminez: The purpose of the landing page is so people will get the information they need to see. We aren’t snooping on you. My own email isn’t private. There is no policy at UVU where we are snooping on anyone.
* Hilary: Christina Baum did send out directions to change this last week. I just posted this in the chat.
* President Tuminez: In almost all organizations it’s a pretty common practice to have a landing page. When I first saw the page, I thought it looked uninspiring. If it’s technical, you could get help with that.
* Michaela: It is important to have access to the information; the complaint was that it was unannounced.
* President Tuminez: Our computers are constantly being managed remotely by UVU. I want to emphasize again that there is no random snooping. We have constantly been trying to improve the architecture of our systems.
* John Hunt: I’ve got a couple of questions related to our mission. I’m in the classroom and it seems like our students just don’t want to be held accountable. I’m teaching two HIST 1500. One is excellent. In the other, half are showing up and they are turning papers in late. When I bring it up, they get upset and it goes into the SRIs. Many of our students aren’t being held accountable. My second concern several of my colleagues wanted me to bring up. It seems like we aren’t getting a lot of support in level three of the Clark Building. Trash isn’t being picked up, bathrooms are out of service and printers aren’t working. It took a week and a half for someone to listen to our complaints and get it fixed.
* Christina Baum: Was one of the printer problems during the first weeks of April? We had some large outages at that time. That was part of the issue. There wasn’t a lot a service technician could do. We had some instability that made a lot of systems go down, though that is not an excuse by any means.
* John: Was this communicated? Everyone in my department was wondering what was going on.
* Christina: I will post the link to the status page. If you have some interest, you can subscribe to updates on this. With that said, if it’s a broad enough outage, we need to make sure people see it and know what it is going on. With security, we might just blame it on outages and not say directly we have a security attack for security reasons.
* President Tuminez: Let me answer the questions about students. I have taught once here and my husband has taught two semesters. We both have the experience of diligent students and also the other side where it seems impossible. I think that as teachers, the best we can do is show that exceptional care and mentor in these behaviors of accountability. Then I think we need to direct them to the other resources on campus and empower students with information. I know there will be discouraging moments. That may impact your SRI that semester, but if that is your SRI for five or six years in a row, that is a pattern and you need to ask yourself what you can do better. With one offs, you can discuss it with your department chairs and deans. A mandate is harder because we are a teaching university.
* John: The issue is we have four classes x30 people and we have the potential to have 120 students. That is a lot of students to have exceptional care for. How do I instill in them the value of taking the initiative?
* President Tuminez: I look across this campus and early on I realized I couldn’t help 43,000 students, but I can create a culture. Sometimes the amount of effort you put in may not reflect the semester, but later the student may remember something you said to them. We constantly do our best and ask how can we to improve? There isn’t a magic wand. We come into the situation and try to do the best we can.
* John: I’m most concerned about SRIs. There’s a culture if you aren’t getting a 4.5 or higher, you aren’t doing well. Some of the deans have been taking this seriously.
* President Tuminez: You are all fully empowered to have SRIs conversations with deans. Start with your department, move on to your deans. I want to answer other questions. One thing is I’m so frustrated that the Board of Higher Ed put a moratorium on all practice-related doctorates. I’m afraid there is a fear that we are going outside our mission, which isn’t happening to us. There is a new board of higher ed coming in and I don’t know where they will stand on this moratorium. There is a fear that UVU will take someone else’s pie or cheese. We have to keep the dialogue going if there is a demand for NDP. We have to choose our fights. Right now, we are living in a moment in time where there is an aversion to UVU launching this.
* Hilary: A lot of the chat is asking about the one-time bonus amount for faculty you mentioned earlier in your slideshow?
* President Tuminez: We are working on finalizing the amount. We will announce that amount in August.

**PROVOST**

* There are some various policies in USHE that could impact us. They are looking at revising the mission statements for each of the institutions. I don’t see a whole lot that will really impact us with this one. There is one area which I had pushed for within the system that there are some doctoral level types of programs that should be included in the regional comprehensive, but there was strong pushback against it.

**FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT**

* We would like to welcome the new senators Thank you to the outgoing senators. We have accomplished a lot these past few years. The work is incremental and can feel slow, but it adds up over the years.
* We want to make sure that new senators are aware that there are some new positions available in the Senate standing committees. Wioleta just put those in the chat. We will be voting on these later in the meeting.
* For outgoing senators, there is one standing committee you can run for, CAS. Think about nominating yourself. Again, that vote will happen later on in Senate today.

**DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION**

* Christina: If you are looking at something on a UVU issued device, there is the right for the university to take back the equipment and look through it. With that said, we aren’t snooping. The remote work agreement is to make sure you have the necessary equipment to do your work. There were recent policy updates to make that clearer on what it looks like.
* Hilary: The control of the landing page is more of a creep and a “what’s next?”.
* Michaela: We don’t feel we need to be exposed to the newsfeed 24/7. We would like to have the option to change it. What is in our heads right now is “we will be audited”? We will probably start using our private computers more often. I think the University will have to by us smartphones then because our private machines are linked to the University equipment and it has to for the whole network to work. On the other hand, the University is indirectly using our private equipment. We have talked about this in our department. I know it would be a huge expense for the University, but if we are going on a corporate route, it is what it is.
* Christina: We have put in place the Microsoft MFA. There are two options available. One is the app on your phone and the other is the fob. You don’t have to use your cellphone.
* Gareth Fry: I would also like to request that the landing pages be turned back to us.
* Christina: There a lot of options on how you can set your tabs. It’s a high priority for us to ensure that all processes are streamlined. It’s a more of an “all or nothing”. We can’t make that change. It’s either set as the default browser or it’s not. I know it’s an adjustment and I apologize for that. If anyone has any problems or struggles with the instructions with that, please let me know. This is all on only UVU issued equipment; we aren’t reaching into your private Google account.
* Raiden Gaul: If you do things like download teams or look at emails on your personal cell phone, is that all linked to the UVU system?
  + Christina: You will need the two-factor authentication, but it’s not getting into your personal information.
* Raiden: Ever since this has been uploaded, I have had two emails that have gotten censored. What is that all about?
  + Christina: Through Microsoft, all emails are routed and they open up the attachment on the Microsoft side to make sure everything is okay before sending it to the recipient. If it’s longer than a few seconds, please let me know. Maybe it was the size of the attachment and it flagged the automated security checks. That shouldn’t happen very often. Sometimes it’s flagged if it’s coming from a suspicious source.
* Hilary: How can people follow up with you?
  + Christina: Last time we were here, we pulled the chat and tried to follow up on each and every comment. We will do it again this time. The goal is to have a delightful experience but it’s taking time to get there. We really appreciate your feedback.

**POLICY**

* Policy 168: Whistleblower Anti-Retaliation
  + Skyler Simmons: Today is our last session of the year so we either vote or it doesn’t happen.
  + Hilary motions to vote on the policy comments.
  + Sandie seconds the motion.
  + Skyler calls the question.
  + Results: 30 agree, 1 disagree, 1 abstain

**NON-POLICY**

* Wioleta Fedeczko: We will now be voting on decisions that will be starting the next academic year. We will begin by voting for new positions. I encourage you to self-nominate. I have asked each of the nominees to take a moment to introduce themselves and while they are interested in the position.
* Rick McDonald moves to open the vote.
* David Frame seconds it
* Skyler calls the question.
* Results:
  + Service and Elections Chair: Jennifer Shubert
  + Special Investigations: Laura Ricaldi
  + Council on Academic Standards (CAS): Nicole Gearing
  + Policy Liaison: Joshua Fagan

Bylaws:

* Skyler: At the end of Senate each year, we have a chance to revise the bylaws for the incoming Senate. A few changes that we’ve proposed are regarding people who serve on the executive committee. We propose that the policy liaison now be three years to match the term of faculty senate president and that there be a staggering between senate president and liaison We also voted to extend Ben Moulton in his position.
* Sandie Waters: I submitted changes to clean up the language and numbering.
* Wioleta: Our proposal is that we vote on these changes early fall instead of today.
* Jim Price moves to table the vote until fall.
* Jennifer Shubert seconds it.
* Jon Anderson: It’s unanimous and the vote is to wait until fall.

Next Year’s Meeting Format:

* Wioleta: Now we need to decide on how we will meet in the fall. It won’t be hybrid; only one way or the other though we will certainly revisit it each year or even each semester.
* Michaela: I have never experienced anything but the Teams format and I’m not sure I could remain a senator if we go face-to-face. Attendance rate seems to be higher this way as well. Then again, I haven’t experienced the way it usually works.
* John Hunt: I agree with Michaela. I also think more people get their voice heard.
* Joshua Fagan motions to vote.
* Jim Price seconds it.
* Jon Anderson calls the question.
  + Results: Teams-31, In Person-4

SRI Taskforce

* Hilary: We voted on this last year and have had a taskforce working on this for most of the year. We have some proposals coming that we are working on over the summer that we will bring back to you in the fall.

Good of the Order:

* Hilary Hungerford: I hope you all are planning on attending commencement and convocation. It’s important for students and their families to see they have our support. Also, thank you for all of the birthday wishes.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:58 pm