**Faculty Senate Minutes**

February 23, 2016

LC 243, 3:00-5:00 pm

***Present***: Kim Abunuwara, Christa Albrecht-Crane, Anne Arendt, Brian Barthel, Nicholas Ball, Debanjan Bhattacharjee, Mark Borchelt, Mark Bracken, Clayton Brown, Kat Brown,Josh Cieslewicz, Alan Clarke, David Connelly, Rob Cousins, Ken Crook, Karen Cushing, Courtney Davis, Debora Escalante, Doug Gardner, Lindsey Gerber, Barry Hallsted, Laurie Harrop-Purser, Sherry Harward (PACE), John Hunt,Ellis Jensen, Robert Jorgensen, Lydia Kerr, Dianne Ryan Leick, McAdams-Jones, Duane Miller, CheolHwan Oh, Jeff Olson, Jeff Peterson, Jim Pettersson,Karen Preston, Robert Robbins, Matt Robins (UVUSA), Anthony Romrell, Sheri Rysdam, Makenzie Selland, Craig Thulin, Sean Tolman, Violeta Vasilevska,

***Excused or Absent***: Steve Allred, Howard Bezzant, Dean Bohl, Joel Bradford, Dustin Fife (Library), Ron Hammond, Matthew Holland, Gary Mercado, David Morin, Tyler Nelson, Cyrill Slezak, Stuart Stein, Allison Swenson, Alex Yuan

***Guests:*** Sheldon Holgreen, Michelle Taylor, Jim Bailey

Call to order –3:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from February 9, 2016. Minutes approved.

Announcements

* Howard Bezzant’s daughter passed away on Sunday. Funeral is Friday, February 26, with a viewing on Thursday. Bracken inquired if senators wanted to donate to an arrangement, they can do so directly to the department.

SVPAA – Jeff Olson

* Olson excused President Holland.
* Legislature took building priorities and moved the Arts Building to #7 on the Higher Education Appropriations Committee. Senators can provide feedback directly to their senators and representatives. Cushing will send the link to the priorities to Faculty Senate. Do need to be judicious in our actions.

UVUSA – Matt Robins

* Student Government election season. Elections will be held next week Monday thru Wednesday. Elections this year are independent. Recommendation was made that all paper used in promotion of the elections be put into the recycle bins. Rationale for the election change was to encourage more students to run for office.
* Next Speaker Series will feature Sheldon Nelson –March 9 in Ballroom at Noon.

VETERAN AFFAIRS – Sheldon Holgreen

* Expressed gratitude to faculty for their dedication to assist veterans.
* Veteran’s Center is available on campus to support not only faculty, but our student veterans. They can address questions for faculty and staff that are veterans as well.
* Veteran Center’s role/responsibility is to be a conduit between students and faculty/staff. For general support, veterans use is student health services. Some veterans don’t share that they are a veteran and many don’t know what benefits they are entitled to.
* Second area of focus is certifying veteran’s benefits and helping them obtain a job. Veteran Affairs does not want students taking classes that will not help them obtain a job. Their office must review each class a student signs up for and sends the information to the State and Federal Government for approval.
* Third area of focus is anything else.
* How are they governed? USERRA protects employees from being discharged from their jobs if they were called up to go perform military service. In 2012, the Principles of Excellence System created a stop gap and added some formalized protections into the education system. UVU will do what they can to assist students in achieving their education in the most effective manner possible. Faculty accommodations can be made unless the time away will truly be detrimental to the education process.
* There are approximately 800 veterans on campus that have been identified. The Veteran’s Center is located in WB 100.
* Holgreen can facilitate obtaining documentation to produce to faculty for accommodations.
* Thulin inquired about providing accommodations for ADA students and not inquiring about specifics. Holgreen confirmed that faculty are not to pry into a student’s ADA accommodations. If suspect a veteran student needs assistance, a faculty member can contact Holgreen directly and he will follow up.
* Veteran’s have priority registration for courses that are being funded through Department of Labor grants. The new GI bill (Chapter 33) benefit is a transferrable benefit to a veteran’s dependents.
* Enlisted personnel do have a period of time they can be called up after their active duty has finished. Officers can be recalled at any time during their life.
* PRSSA is running a campaign to support the Veteran’s Center. There are also some other campus initiatives being put forward.

VICE PRESIDENT, STUDENT AFFAIRS – Michelle Taylor

* Policy 503 – *Add/Drop/Withdrawls* (Limited Scope) – Deleting the “or ‘E’ grade on a student’s transcript” in Section 3.15.3. If this portion is not removed, all faculty will be required to provide a last date of attendance.
* Cousins inquired about the appropriate use of a “UW” vs “E” grade. Taylor indicated that a one page handout will be presented on March 8 addressing the here’s what you can and can’t do. Taylor also noted that the grade given is up to the faculty member. Recommended that if student has never attended the class, they get a UW with last date of attendance. If the student dropped out before middle of term, recommend a UW, but up to faculty, and they will need to provide a last day of attendance. We must show that our policy is in compliance with federal guidelines.
* Clarke would like clarification on cases to use UW or E when the situation is ambiguous. Rysdam would like a quick reference with different scenarios. Taylor recommended that faculty senate develop the criteria for using UW or E and present it to Student Affairs and they will incorporate it into the handout.
* Bracken proposed senate develop some recommendations.

POLICY – Jim Bailey

* Policy 510 Review of Faculty Senate Proposed Comments
  + Section 4.5 – Bailey’s response was we need to be flexible, but who has responsibility to make the decision. Peterson noted there needs to be a national clearinghouse that has expertise to determine the U.S. equivalency. Bailey noted that if the clearinghouse did not approve, they can appeal to the Graduate Council to make a final determination. Halsted asked if we were not opening a door to potential problems in the future. Bailey noted that the burden of proof is on the student. Clarke commented that there are some individuals who are not required to go to school and need to deal with these on individual basis. Bailey noted that Section 4.8 deals with the exceptions. Albrecht-Crane proposed adding language “bachelor’s degree or the equivalent.” Bailey accepted the amendment.
* **MOTION** – Albrect-Crane motioned to extend the discussion by five minutes. Robbins seconded. All in favor? Motion passed.
  + Bailey still working on language in 4.5 referencing “only.”
* **MOTION** – Abunuwara motioned to accept the comments as amended. Albrecht-Crane seconded. All in favor? 1 Abstention. Motion passed.

Information Items

* Be sure to review the information items with department faculty in preparation for the next meeting.

Standing Committee Reports

* Service & Elections – Clayton Brown
  + Working with schools/colleges to hold elections.
  + Three departments that will have two senators are Behavioral Science, Biology, English.
  + Need to elect 19 faculty to serve on the senate committees.
* Curriculum – Robert Robbins
  + Working on course leaf design forms. Trying to get as automated as possible.
* RTP – Jim Pettersson
  + Working on spring appeals.

Good of the Order

* Robbins expressed support for Policy 403 regarding adding hoverboards being added to the list of items excluded in campus buildings.

MOTION - Arendt motioned to adjourn at 4:23 pm.