Faculty Senate Minutes

November 19, 2024: MS Teams, 3-5 PM

Call to Order; Silent Roll Call (0 min.)

Present:
Senator (S), ExCo (E), Other Non-Voting Member (O)

Abdennour Seibi (S)	Douglas Gardner (E)	Matthew Duffin (S)	Sean Crossland (S)
Ahmed Alsharif (S)	Dustin Shipp (S)	Max Aeschbacher (S)	Shelton Weech (S)
Aicha Rochdi 9	Evelyn Porter (E)	Mel Gurr (S)	Stephanie Dunn (S)
Alex Yuan (S)	Howard Fullmer (S)	Merilee Larsen (S)	Summer Karafiath (S)
Alma Laney (S)	Farzad Ahmadi (S)	Michaela Sawyer (S)	Tracy Sermon (S)
Anthony Ciccone (S)	Jennifer Shubert (S) (E)	Ming Yu (S)	Tyson Riskas (S)
Ben Moulton (E)	John Newman (S)	Nate Jeppson (S)	Waseem Sheikh (S)
Christopher Goslin (S)	Jonathan Allred (E)	Nichole Ortega (S)	Wayne Vaught (E)
Colleen Hough (S)	Joshua Fagan (S) (E)	Nicole Gearing (E)	Wioleta Fedeczko (E)
Dallas Smith (S)	Kat Brown (E)	Nizhone Meza (E)	
Dan Perry (S)	Ken Adams (S)	Peter Sproul (S)	
Dan Sutliff (S)	Kevin Smith (S)	Raiden Gaul (S)	
David Frame (S)	Laura Ricaldi (S) (E)	Rich Paustenbaugh (E)	
Deb Dowd (S)	Laurie Toro (E)	Richard Cho (S)	
Diego Alvarado Karste (S)	Maria Blevins (S)	Rick McDonald (S)	
Donna Fairbanks (S)	Matt Flint (S)	Ron Miller (S)	
Doug Czajka (S)	Matt Withers (S)	Sayeed Sajal (S)	

Absent/Excused:

Chris Lindquist (S)	Ian Gotcher (E)	Ezgi Sertler (E)	Terrance Orr (S)

Approval of Previous Minutes (available in Faculty Senate teams/[website](#))
Minutes stand approved

Faculty Senate President, Wioleta Fedeczko   [3:00-3:32]

Utah Council of Faculty Senate Leadership Update: Wioleta provided an update on the Utah Council of Faculty Senate Leadership's recent meeting, where Dave Pulsipher, the USHE compliance director, shared the following information.

Campus Expression Climate Survey: The upcoming campus expression climate survey, which will be deployed to all universities in January 2025. The survey aims to assess the perceptions of students, faculty, and staff, and the results will be reported to the legislature.

   Survey Deployment: The campus expression climate survey will be deployed to all universities in January 2025, targeting students, faculty, and staff to assess their perceptions of their institutions.

   Survey Cycle: Each university will be put on a cycle to take the survey every three years, with some universities potentially taking it two years in a row depending on the cycle.

Data Usage: Wioleta inquired about the use of survey data, and it was confirmed that each institution would receive its own report and data for internal reflection and improvement.

Vendor Selection: Kat Brown mentioned that they are currently looking for national vendors with experience in conducting such surveys and that universities are asked to postpone other surveys during this period to ensure higher response rates.

Biannual HB 261 Compliance Reviews: Dave Pulsifer addressed the biannual House Bill 261 compliance reviews for all institutions. He emphasized the importance of resolving any issues before finalizing the report to the legislators.

Compliance Reviews: Dave Pulsifer discussed the biannual House Bill 261 compliance reviews, highlighting the challenges due to the bill's vague language and varying interpretations by institutions.

Resolution: Pulsifer's goal is to work with each institution to resolve any compliance issues before finalizing the report to the legislators, allowing universities to explain or fix potential glitches.

Faculty Involvement: A faculty member from Utah State agreed to be on the committee to create the parameters and template for the compliance review, ensuring faculty representation in the process.

Syllabi Reporting: Wioleta and Kathren discussed faculty concerns about the requirement to make syllabi public. They highlighted the challenges of maintaining updated syllabi and the potential issues with discrepancies between posted and actual syllabi.

Cultural Center (re)Establishment: Wioleta mentioned that some institutions are applying to re-establish cultural centers that were previously closed. Five applications from three institutions have been submitted to USHE for consideration.

Academic Affairs, Kat Brown   [3:32-3:50]

Faculty Vacation/Sick Leave Guidelines: Kathren discussed the guidelines for faculty vacation leave, emphasizing that personal vacations are not allowed during teaching weeks. She clarified the use of personal days and the importance of working with People and Culture for accommodations.

Vacation Guidelines: Kathren discussed the guidelines for faculty vacation leave, stating that personal vacations are not allowed during teaching weeks and should be taken during breaks or non-teaching periods.
Personal Days: Faculty earn 1.5 personal days per semester, which can be used for extenuating circumstances like weddings or graduations, but not for vacations during teaching weeks.

FMLA: Kathren emphasized the importance of working with People and Culture for accommodations, such as FMLA, for mental health or other protected leave needs.

Senate, Jonathan Allred, Advancement of Teaching Chair   [3:50-4:05]
Senate Distinguished Faculty Awards Jonathan Allred presented the criteria for the Distinguished Faculty Awards, highlighting the separation of teaching, service, and scholarship awards. He requested feedback from the faculty before the final vote on December 10th.

Award Criteria: Jonathan Allred presented the criteria for the Distinguished Faculty Awards, separating them into teaching, service, and scholarship categories to better recognize faculty achievements in each area.

Feedback Request: Jonathan requested feedback from the faculty on the proposed criteria before the final vote on December 10th, emphasizing the importance of faculty input in shaping the awards.

Award Amounts: The awards will be adjusted based on available funding, with a minimum of $1000 per award and one award required to be 60% of the Board of Trustees award amount.

MOTION
Motion to ratify Cody Crandall as member of the Advancement of Teaching Committee: Joshua Fagan
Seconded: Jacob Mattson
Motion Passes

VOTING RESULTS
33 agree, 0 disagree

Curriculum, Ben Moulton, University Curriculum Committee Chair [4:05-4:20]

VOTING RESULTS
Curriculum Procedure: 32 agree, 1 disagree, 1 abstain

Innovation Academy – Discussion regarding Innovation Academy's R401 of the Integrated Studies program and the concerns about its alignment with existing policies (Policy 605 and 106). Faculty were encouraged to review the proposal and provide feedback before the UCC meeting on Thursday, November 21.

Policy, Drew Burke, Policy Steward [4:20 – 4:32]

Drew Burke summarized the reasons for deleting five policies, including redundancy, obsolescence, and procedural basis.

Deletions

- Policy 353 Group Healthcare Coverage for Benefit-Eligible Employees
- Policy 374 Termination Clearance for Hourly Employees
- Policy 375 Termination Clearance for Salaried Employees
- Policy 105 Reporting Organizational Changes
- Policy 322 Employment Responsibilities and Standards

MOTION
Motion to suspend the rules and vote to delete Policies 353, 374, 375, 105, and 322: *Joshua Fagan*
Motion Seconded: *Max Aeschbacher*
Motion Passes

VOTING RESULTS
Policy 353: 34 agree, 0 disagree, 2 abstain
Policy 374: 36 agree, 0 disagree, 2 abstain

Policy 375: 36 agree, 0 disagree, 2 abstain
Policy 105: 37 agree, 0 disagree, 2 abstain
Policy 322: 37 agree, 0 disagree, 3 abstain

Good of the Order [4:00-4:33]
Have a great break next week!

Adjourn [session end time 4:33]
Meeting ended at 4:33 pm

Announcements: *No time allocated. Please review and send to your departments, as applicable.*

Use this form to suggest items that need to be brought before Faculty Senate: https://forms.office.com/r/0E2nE8dekR

    a. **AI Resources**
- Fulton Library's student AI Guide
- Fulton Library's faculty AI Guide
- Faculty Senate and OTL's AI Resources
- AI Task Force Events

    b. **Fulton Library:** Check out Fulton Library's faculty resource guide, which offers helpful information about publication in academic journals.

    c. **Office of Teaching and Learning:** The Office of Teaching and Learning (OTL) has launched a Request an Instructional Designer form so you can request a consultation meeting with an Instructional Designer at any time. Consultations will typically be through Microsoft Teams but may be in-person if needed.