

## FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, December 9, 1999

3:30 PM

Board of Trustees Conference Room

**Present:** Jim Aton, Idir Azouz, Ann Barnes, Bonnie Bishop, Morris Brown, Jim Cotts, Thomas Cunningham, Ben Davidson, Neil Gailey, Brian Hoover, Les Jones (proxy for Luciane Berg), LaMar Jordan, Rick Lambson, Paul Larson, Elise Leahy, Michael McGarvey, Gary McIntyre, Carol Ann Modesitt, Earl Mulderink, Dan Pence, Greg Powell, Bill Romey, Lila Schwaner.

**Not Present:** Jeff Barnes.

**Visitors:** Grace Boyer, *University Journal*; Rhead Bowman, Business; Bill Moody, Staff Association representative; Pat Paystrup, Communication; Peter Smith, Mathematics and Computer Science.

**I. Call to Order:** Earl Mulderink, Faculty Senate President, called the meeting to order at 3:35 P.M.

**II. Review and Approval of Minutes of November 18, 1999**

MOTION by Bill Romey to approve the minutes of October 28, 1999 with corrections, SECONDED by Gary McIntyre, PASSED unanimously.

**III. Officers' Reports**

IV. President

V. Interim Committee reports.

Earl had asked all of the committee chairs to submit an interim report of their activities thus far this year. He expressed thanks to the committees and encouraged them to stay on track.

2. Deans' Council Meeting of November 30, 1999.

Earl reported that several items were discussed, including the following:

A. Drop policy.

The Deans have formed an ad hoc committee to further study the issue. Jim Cotts expressed concern about the need for additional study, noting that the policy has both Student Senate and Faculty Senate support.

B. Computer Use Policy.

The proposed policy was sent to the University Counsel for input, and the matter will soon go before the President's Council. Earl explained that Section 2B6 remains a contentious part of the policy.

### C. General Education.

A proposed model was discussed in detail, including the following elements:

1. 1,500 new freshmen to be placed in more large-section GE classes (art, theater arts, music, chemistry, biology, and others).
2. Student Services would help with “compensating mechanisms,” including mentoring programs, cohort registrations, and a waiting list procedure.
3. Deans would assist with “support mechanisms,” including graders, mediated space, and released time.
4. New freshmen are to take four GE classes per year.
5. Computer literacy will possibly be added as a requirement in the Fall of 2000.

The issue was discussed in detail by the Senate. Many Senators expressed concerns that proposals are apparently being made without significant input from the faculty.

#### 3. Meeting with Provost Reutzel (December 7, 1999).

Earl asked for more faculty input on academic reorganization and general education revision, salary equity, and related issues. The Provost said that he is responsive to faculty concerns and that he is planning to organize meetings with departments and colleges.

#### 4. Meetings of Colleges with President Bennion.

Senators gave responses and reactions to those meetings.

#### 5. Planned Rally at the State Capitol scheduled for February 16, 2000.

Earl mentioned that the Utah Council of Faculty Senate Leaders is stepping back and allowing student leaders to organize the rally. The rally could be a “thank you” to the Legislature, pending the Governor’s budget and the Legislature’s reaction to it. Faculty participation is entirely voluntary, although all other schools in the USHE system plan to send faculty to participate. Some faculty and departments on the SUU Campus have objected to participation, and Earl mentioned that this should not be a divisive issue among the faculty.

### VI. President-elect

VII. No report.

### VIII. Treasurer

The University account has \$965.20, and the Credit Union account has \$11,627.17. Of this, \$1,150 will go to scholarships.

## **IX. Old Business**

### **X. Due Process/Grievance Policy (Postponed).**

Michael Carter, Assistant Attorney General, is continuing his review. The policy will then go back to Rob Behunin and his committee for revisions before it actually comes before the Faculty Senate. Les Jones expressed his view that the Senate pay careful attention to the policy, because the due process policy may become a critical document, particularly as the university goes through academic reorganization.

### **XI. LRT Policy Review Committee Report (Annual Review and Third-year Review).**

Earl turned the time over to Ben Davidson who presented the committee's findings concerning revision of the Third-year Review and Annual Review Policies. Senators made a few comments and suggested some changes in wording. The Senate disagreed concerning several issues, and they recommended that the policies be referred back to the committee. Ben also distributed a proposed major revision of the LRT policy and asked Senators to take it back to their departments. The revision reduces the number of categories for evaluating non-tenured faculty from five to three.

## **XII. New Business**

### **XIII. Salary Equity.**

Earl proposed forming an Ad Hoc Committee on Salary Equity to explore issues related to salary equity on the SUU Campus. The Committee is to report their findings to the Faculty Senate by March 23, 2000. Committee members were selected as follows:

BTC: Morris Brown

EDU: Rick Lambson

HSS: Luciane Berg

PVA: Brian Hoover

SCI: Jim Cotts

ATL: Bonnie Bishop

Ex Officio: David McGuire, Human Resource Director

MOTION was made by Tom Cunningham to approve the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee on Salary Equity and to nominate committee membership as listed. SECONDED by Greg Powell. PASSED 21-0-1.

### **XIV. Academic Reorganization.**

Peter Smith asked to address the Senate. He expressed his concerns about the process followed in devising the reorganization plans. The question was raised about closed meetings and a possible violation of the "Sunshine Law" (Open Meetings Law). The Faculty Senate Executive Committee will review the relevant policies and report back to the full Senate. Some faculty members have expressed satisfaction

with the reorganization proposal, while others have been quite vociferous in complaining about both the reorganization plan itself and the process through which the proposal has been devised.

**XV. Executive Session:** None.

**XVI. Motion for Executive Session**

MOTION for executive session at the next meeting was made by LaMar Jordan.  
SECONDED by Ann Barnes. PASSED unanimously.

**XVII. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Elise Leahy at 5:25 P.M..