ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES
August 29, 2016

Call to Order
The regular meeting of the Academic Senate, held on August 29, 2016, was called to order at 3:03 pm by Xan Johnson, Senate President. The meeting was held in the College of Law Moot Courtroom.


Absent: Shundana Yusaf, Elena Asparouhova, Jeff Nielsen, Leticia Alvarez, Ning Lu, Avery Holton, Sean Lawson, Terry Kogan, Maureen Murtaugh, Robert Stephenson, Lynn Hollister, Linda Tyler, Baodong Liu, Aaron Kc Hsu

Ex-Officio: Bill Johnson, Robert Flores, Xan Johnson, Paul Mogren, Ruth Watkins, Amy Wildermuth, Bob Fujinami

Excused with Proxy: Tom Alberts for Yekaterina Epshten, Ming Wen for Wade Cole, J. Steven Ott for Lina Svedin

Excused: Olga Baker, Vivian Lee, Margaret Clayton, David Pershing, Nadja Durbach, Joel Brownstein

Others: Reva Rauk
Approval of Minutes
The minutes for May were approved with a motion by Karin Baumgartner. Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Calendar
The current list of appointments and resignations dated August 25, 2016 were approved with a motion by Randy Dryer and second by Joanne Yaffe. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Committee Report
Bill Johnson gave a brief update on the Executive Committee’s activities. He noted that everything discussed in the last two Executive Committee meetings is on the Senate agenda.

Request for New Business
No new business

Report from Administration
Ruth Watkins presented on behalf of the U administration. She noted that President Pershing is in South Korea at the University of Utah Asia campus to open a new building, built for the U by the Songdo campus. She also said that the U is happy to welcome a large group of new faculty this year; there have been several cluster-hiring efforts that are coming to fruition. There are approximately 40 new faculty members and 19 are underrepresented in their disciplines. She invited Senators to attend the new faculty welcome event, which will be held September 7 at 5:30 pm in the College of Law. The U is also welcoming several new leaders, including Andy Weyrich in the position of vice president for research and Darryl Butt as the new dean for the College of Mines and Earth Sciences. Dr. Watkins did not have exact numbers regarding this year’s student enrollment, but said that there is a large entering group of graduate students and a large, diverse, and academically prepared freshman class. There are also new programmatic developments on campus- the new Lassonde Studios houses 409 student residents from majors across campus, in the U’s effort to expand its residential footprint. Construction is bringing new things to campus, including the new OSH building, which will open in fall 2018. Randy Dryer asked about the Gardner Policy Institute and the new Thomas S. Monson Center. Dr. Watkins said that the Institute has been designed to be the U’s partnership with the business, economic, and education community of Salt Lake City and the surrounding region. The Gardner Policy Institute provides policy and data analysis around economic development, industry, education, and health. It is also another venue for events, conferences, etc. Dr. Watkins also answered a question regarding the next buildings slated for construction and/or renovations on campus; she said that the medical complex is the highest priority for this legislative session, as well as new buildings for the College of Science. She noted that the need is great, but a lot depends on donors and finding funding. Jim Anderson asked about the U’s new budget paradigm, and asked for future presentation to EC and Senate regarding this new paradigm. Dr. Watkins said that the new budget paradigm has relatively minor impacts at the present, but that it will include a new productivity model that includes majors, degrees, and student credit hours.
Report from ASUU
Jack Bender, the ASUU President, said that ASUU will be busy next month with its legislative cycle, and that there are several issues to be discussed. He also said that there have been many internal changes- four of five advisors have moved to other positions throughout the U, and three of the four positions have now been filled. Jack noted that the ASUU office is open and welcomes students to stop by the office and see the new office redesign.

Notice of Intent
No Items of Intent

Debate Calendar
Membership and leadership of the Senate standing and ad hoc committees for this year were put forth by Xan Johnson. Motion was made by Joanne Yaffe to approve the committees. Motion seconded by Jack Bender. Motion passed unanimously.

Adam Meirowitz, Tom Maloney, and Mark Parker presented their proposals for a new BS degree in Quantitative Analysis of Markets and Organizations with Emphases in (1) business economics and analytics and (2) finance, and a new Emphasis in business economics and analytics for the existing economics BA/BS, respectively. Adam said these proposals will help bring the U up to speed with its peer universities. The proposals emphasize quantitative reasoning, game theory, econometrics, and present a mathematical way to think about strategy. The proposals are also a way for the business school and economics department to collaborate and to work outside of their silos. Motion was made by Joanne Yaffe to approve the BS in Quantitative Analysis of Markets and related emphases and forward to the Board of Trustees. Motion seconded by Paul White. Motion passed unanimously. Motion was made by Joanne Yaffe to pass the emphasis in business economics and analytics for the economics BA/BS. Motion seconded by Randy Dryer. Motion passed unanimously.

Sneha Kasera presented the proposal for the new Master’s degree in Software Engineering. He explained that the degree is for non-computer science majors, which represents a currently-untapped demographic. There is a strong demand for software engineers in the state and the US economy; software is a major part of all industries, so it is important that this program prepare people to meet this demand. It is an 18-month program. Sneha clarified that there is not a bachelor’s degree in software engineering at the U, and that the degree will require 40 credit hours. It is also different from other master’s degrees in that students move as a cohort and it is an immersive program. Motion was made by Jim Anderson to approve the proposal and forward to the Board of Trustees. Motion seconded by Joanne Yaffe. Motion passed unanimously.

Denise Dearing, chair of the biology department, presented the proposal for combined BS/MS degrees in microbiology. The department consulted with industry reps from biotechnology to ensure that the proposal prepares graduates for the workforce. The proposal is a 4+1 program- the first four years are undergraduate study, including research, and the final year is to finish the master’s degree. Denise noted that the industry needs more master’s degree-prepared job candidates, and this proposal will help fill that need. Joanne Yaffe raised questions about whether these degrees are intended to be named as biology generally, or more specifically as molecular biology. The answer given was that the degrees are in molecular biology. There was
discussion about revising the proposal to use the name molecular biology, and if there is such a
revision then the proposal must go back through Undergraduate Council and Graduate Council
with the corrected name prior to going to the Board of Trustees. *Motion was made by Joanne
Yaffe to approve the proposal on condition that the proposal be revised with the correct name for
the degrees (presumably “molecular biology”) that the Undergraduate Council and Graduate
Council approve the revised version prior to moving to the Board of Trustees. Motion seconded
by Randy Dryer. Motion passed unanimously.*

Luke Dorlac presented the proposal for a new Minor in joint military leadership. The proposal is
designed to create a graduate- an officer of the Air Force or a civilian student alike- who is more
versed with military understanding. The proposal requires two credit hours during the student’s
first two years, then four credit hours the next two years. The proposal will give students more
experience with the Army and Navy, as well as a better business background. *Motion was made
by Jim Anderson to approve the proposal and forward to the Board of Trustees. Motion
seconded by Adam Meirowitz. Motion passed unanimously.*

Zhou Yu presented the proposal for a new undergraduate Certificate in Financial Planning. The
new certificate will allow students from other departments to get this certificate and sit for the
Certified Financial Planner (CFP) examination. *Motion was made by Joanne Yaffe to approve the
proposal and forward to the Board of Trustees. Motion seconded by [unclear]. Motion passed
unanimously.*

Tom Cova presented a proposal for the discontinuation of the existing Geography MA degree.
There have been no students for at least 12 years, so the discontinuation is due to lack of student
interest. *Motion was made by Joanne Yaffe to approve the proposal and forward to the Board of
Trustees. Motion seconded by Sarah Hinners. Motion passed unanimously.*

Information and Recommendations Calendar
The following items were presented for the information and recommendations of the Academic
Senate:

- Liz Winter, interim general counsel, welcomed Sherrie Hayashi as the new director of the
  Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action (OEO/AA). Sherrie previously held
  the position of Labor Commissioner for the State of Utah. Sherrie said that she is getting
  up to speed on issues across campus, and that there will be small organizational changes
  in the OEO/AA and streamlining of processes. Liz discussed that there are more than 200
  colleges and universities that are being reviewed by the federal Office of Civil Rights to
determine whether campuses are complying with Title IX. The U is one of those
  universities, due to the fact that a victim of sexual violence at the U complained that the
  U’s investigative process took too long. The investigation requires that the U provide
  information related to every allegation of sexual harassment, discrimination, and violence
  in the past three years. This includes every email between a university representative and
  complainant and between a university representative and respondent. The Office of Civil
  Rights may be on campus this semester or next semester- they will have office hours and
  welcome people to come in and talk about issues on campus. There will be more
  information to come. Prompted by the investigation, the U will streamline its process for
handling reports of sexual misconduct. For example, if a faculty member is the respondent, the process will go directly to the Senate Consolidated Hearing Committee.

- David Hill reported on behalf of the Senate Personnel and Elections Committee. Last year, the committee focused its efforts on recruiting more faculty, stressing the importance of committee service, and targeted communication to various departments; the result was more interest and greater response to the annual survey. This year, David wants to continue similar efforts and focus more on how to refine the committee survey to target areas where there is more specific need for participation, as well as how to disseminate information about committee vacancies earlier in the academic year.

- Hank Liese and Randy Dryer presented updates regarding the Senate ad hoc Career-Line Faculty Task Force Project. Hank gave a history of the task force- it began in 2010 with an ad hoc committee on auxiliary faculty. The first thing the committee achieved was a change in nomenclature from auxiliary/regular faculty to career-line/tenure-line faculty. Later, the task force was formed and, in 2013, achieved representation of career-line faculty on the Academic Senate and all Senate committees. At the end of spring 2016, five working groups were formed on the following topics: history and background; progress at the university level regarding shared governance; unit-level progress toward shared governance; career-line survey analysis and presentation of data; and future issues and recommendations for moving the work forward. A final report will be released this semester, which will include additional recommendations that will come before the Academic Senate. There was a question about the creation of a template for college Statements regarding reappointment and promotion decisions for career-line faculty; the template does exist and parallels the RPT template for tenure-line faculty. Bob Flores may be contacted for access to the template for Career-Line Statements.

- Kate Charipar presented the Office of Athletics Compliance Report. The office is responsible for complying with NCAA rules and regulations; its primary activities include rules education, maintaining policies and procedures, running audits, and investigating all alleged NCAA rule violations. The report shows that the majority of the U’s NCAA rule violations are level 3 and 4. Only one investigation resulted in an NCAA rules infraction this year. Most rule violations occur within football, but football is also the sport with the most student-athletes and staff. Kate also discussed the new NCAA academic misconduct legislation. The NCAA wants to take a tougher stance regarding academic misconduct related to student-athletes, and will thus be holding staff members and student-athletes more accountable for their actions, rather than universities as a whole. The prior rule was confusing and vague, and led to problems with finding cause in investigations, as was seen at universities such as UNC and Syracuse. The new rule broadens the definition of academic misconduct, identifies specific activities that may be considered misconduct, and defines who institutional staff members are and what their responsibilities are regarding athletes and academic misconduct. With respect to the new rule, the U will observe how the NCAA implements it in institutional investigations this year, to see if other changes at the U are necessary. The Office of Athletics Compliance is already looking at whether the U should adjust its policies related to courses such as independent study, directed readings, and online courses.

- Amy Wildermuth presented recently developed guidelines for management of sit-in protests occurring in campus buildings. Many universities are now providing guidance to their communities about the protocol if there is a sit-in on campus. Administration will
respond to each instance individually, but the guidelines will be in place for general
guidance. Michael Chikinda asked about the protocol if sit-ins affect classes; Amy
specified that classes are considered normal business operations of the university, and
thus sit-ins interfering with such activities will not be tolerated. There were also questions
regarding buildings that conduct healthcare activities, childcare activities, and buildings
that are privately owned and partially utilized by the U; Amy responded that further
specification about such buildings will be included in the guidelines. Tom Richmond
asked how the document can be found, once it is finalized; Bob Flores responded that the
document may be found on the U’s regulation website, linked within the University
Speech Policy.

- Sarah Projansky presented the College for Fine Arts College Council Charter revisions
  (which has received the final approval of the Senate Executive Committee, as required by
  Policy). Staff numbers within the College for Fine Arts have shifted, which led to the
  need for some of the revisions within the charter. Additionally, due to some academic
  appeals cases within the college, further detail in the charter was necessary.
- Brian Codding presented the new Emphases in human ecology and archaeological
  science (which have received the final approvals of the Undergraduate Council, as
  required by Policy). They have been requested by students and simply require a
  reorganization of coursework; there is no additional financial burden for the creation of
  the emphases.
- Revision of Rule 5-200B PTO accrual for part-time UUHC staff
- Revision of Policy 3-300 Environmental Health and Safety, and the accompanying
  Guideline on Tobacco-Free Campus
- Seven-year program review reports from the Graduate Council, for the College of Law,
  Educational Psychology, Linguistics, and Political Science
- Senate Advisory Committee on Library Policy annual report
- Senate Advisory Committee on Academic Policy annual report
- University Teaching Committee annual report

New Business
No new business

Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 4:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Maddy Oritt