September 9, 2019
4:00 p.m.
FS Conference Rm (Rendezvous 340), Meridian 680D, Idaho Falls Bennion Room 202B

Senators in Attendance: Richard Wagoner (Chair), Jerry Leffler (Vice Chair), Amanda Zink, Jasun Carr, James Stoutenborough, Alex Rose, Amanda Eller, Tania Harden, Curtis Anderson, Caryn Evilia, Colden Baxter, Mary Hofle, Paul Stonaha, Ryan Pitcher, John Baker, Darren Leavitt, Phoebe Green, Christine Hall, John Holmes, James Ralphs, Randy Astramovich, Kathy Eroschenkon, Marv Sparrell, Evan Papa, Amanda Eller

Excused: Lucas Christoffersen
Absent: Justin Lee, Sonja Launspach

Ex-Officio: Laura Ahola-Young, Laura Woodworth-Ney, Kris Clarkson, Camdon Kay

Guests: Dani Dunstan, Rebecca Robison, Stacey Gibson, Caroline Faure, Karen Wilson-Scott, Alan Franz, Kelle Kirkpatrick (FPPC Chair)

Open Forum – None

I. Welcome and Introductions
Wagoner welcomed Senators and guests. Wagoner said they will have an extra guest speaker but he didn’t have a chance to add to the agenda.

II. Guest Speaker – Stacey Gibson, Director, Office of Equity and Inclusion
Gibson provided a brief presentation on activities within her office (equity and marketing review completed, Native American Student Services now reports to her office, Indigenous Peoples’ Day on October 14). A request was made to have Gibson share her PowerPoint with the Senators.
ACTION: Gibson will forward her PowerPoint to Tillotson for distribution.

III. Guest Speaker – Caroline (Smitty) Faure – Faculty Athletics Representative
• Faure serves as the NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative. She is appointed by the President and reports to the President. She provides the President with annual report of her activities in this role. She shared the report with Faculty Senate and summarized highlights of the report.
• The Athletic Advisory Board (AAB) Bylaws are very outdated and have been updated. They have been submitted to the Faculty Senate for consideration. The Faculty Senate also provides recommendations to the President for faculty representation on the AAB.

IV. Guest Speakers – Karen Wilson Scott, Interim Dean, Graduate School
Wilson Scott said a Graduate Faculty meeting is scheduled for September 27. A handout was provided to the Senators. The meeting is to discuss the Bylaws of the Graduate Faculty and possibly entertain a motion to modify the representation so there is one representative from each of the colleges (more specifically colleges within the Division). Senators discussed the proposal and background of the request for additional representation. Wilson Scott said a decision will not be made on September 27 but the group will entertain motions and have discussions. A formal vote will be conducted later.
V. Consent Agenda
A. Faculty Senate Minutes August 26, 2019
Leffler requested a correction for his title of vice-president. It should be vice-chair.
B. Athletics Advisory Board Bylaws
The version posted in Box is not the most updated. The newer version will be uploaded and this agenda item will be added to the consent agenda for the next meeting.

Ralphs motion to accept the minutes; Baxter seconded. Motion carried.
ACTION: August 26, 2019 minutes approved with correction.

VI. Announcements and Updates
A. Announcements
• Wagoner said they are in the process of hiring a new assistant. He hopes to have a person hired for the next regular meeting. Connie Tillotson is helping out for now.
• Dunstan said the President has been in conversation with the Mayor of Pocatello to discuss a College Town Charter similar to what is done in other cities that have universities or colleges. The group will create a vision document to collaborate to create a college town atmosphere. They would like a faculty representative to serve and asked for volunteers. Carr agreed to serve until Betsy returned from China. Dunstan asked any interested Senator to see her after this meeting.
• Wagoner will update Box to include a Senate 101 document to clarify the roles of the councils and the relationship with Senate and Roberts Rules for parliamentary procedures.
• Wagoner had requested nominations for the Executive Committee at the last meeting. Requirements were discussed. Ralphs moved if nominations are received by Wednesday, Senators will vote electronically; seconded by Holmes. Wagoner asked for a motion to suspend the current motion in order for discussion. Ralphs moved; Rose seconded. A subsequent discussion asked for volunteers. Nominations for James Ralphs, Colden Baxter, and Amanda Zink were submitted. Rose motioned to accept the nominations; seconded by Holmes. A blanket vote was made. Motion accepted.
ACTION: Ralphs, Baxter, and Zink accepted as members of the Executive Committee.
Lefler said the Executive Committee meets on the off-week of Senate meetings at 4:00 pm in the Faculty Senate Office.

B. Update from ASISU
Kay said ASISU is on working on several bills. One of the bills is to request an ASISU student representative at the Meridian campus. A student has requested a resolution to encourage professors to use closed-caption video for online classes. Ralphs said ITRC can assist the student/professor with captioning. Zink suggested the Diversity and Resource Center.

C. Update from Student Affairs
Clarkson said there are several events taking place: September is Cholesterol Awareness month and there are a few sites for screening, Wellness Fairs is September 18, see the Counseling and Testing Services (CATS) website for CATS Connection and other resources for students, another RESPOND training is being offered again. Flyers were provided.

D. Senate Chair’s Report
• President’s Council – Wagoner said it will meet on Wednesday. Nothing to report.
• Deans’ Council – nothing to report.
• **IEAC** – The Provost said the IEAC is in the process of being restructured. Additional details will be shared at a later date.

• **SBOE Update** – The State Board of Education meeting was held at ISU on August 28-29. The Provost said the 3-year plan was approved by the Board. She'll share with the Senators. Dunstan said the President provided his annual report to the Board. The Board also approved using capital reserves to upgrade housing issues. Peer institution discussion has been rescheduled to the December SBOE meeting.

E. **Update from Academic Affairs**
   The Provost said the Post-Semester Faculty Activity reports are no longer required. Deans will work with chairs on faculty workload assignments and if the Board asks for information on workload the chairs can provide information.

VII. **New Business**

A. **Exigency Plan**
   Wagoner said they received a concern from a constituent member to explore an exigency policy. Wagoner said this topic has some complexity since it affects all employees not only faculty. He has been in communication with Academic Affairs, HR, and the President’s Office. Dunstan said the Board has a policy that applies to all institutions but some institutions have supplemental policies that outline the process in great detail. Wagoner tabled this topic until the next meeting.

B. **Five-Year Review Policy and Other Policies**
   Wagoner said they received an inquiry from a constituent member on the Five-Year Review Policy. This policy is already under review by Senate and FPPC, Academic Affairs, and the President’s Office. FPPC will evaluate policies and will provide updates to any policies revisited to Senate. The Policy on Policies is also slated for review and discussion on the policy process. Wagoner introduced Becky Robinson (Policy Manager). She will work with FPPC on policies that directly affect faculty. Kirkpatrick is the chair of the FPPC. She provided an updated from the FPPC and the policies they are reviewing. She asked Senate for their approval to conduct a one-time survey to faculty of what faculty would like FPPC to work on and also to have an open survey for future input from faculty. Stoutenborough moved for FPPC to send out a one-time survey to faculty and keep an ongoing open survey for future comments; seconded by Zink. Motion approved. Wagoner suggested the survey to include policies currently under review and poll faculty to request what policies they would like to see reviewed.

   **ACTION:** FPPC has approval to conduct a one-time survey and keep an open-ended survey available.

VIII. **Continuing Business**

PERSI and Optional Retirement Plan (Leavitt)
Leavitt provided an update on information related to this topic. A meeting is scheduled this Wednesday with Brian (HR) to address the Optional Retirement Plan and PERSI. Leavitt has discussed this topic with the President. Any changes will require SBOE support and subsequent submission to Legislation. Leavitt will provide an update at the next meeting. Discussion on historical background, legislative action, and what other colleges/institutions do. Wagoner plans to contact the Faculty Senate Chairs for BSU and UI on status of their position. The Provost said UI did approach the Board with this topic a few years ago and began the vetting process. If approved, the State would be required to cover the PERSI contribution. This is the piece Legislators may be reluctant to approve. Leavitt will provide an update at the next meeting of the Wednesday meeting with HR.
IX. Future Agenda Items.

X. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned 6:12 p.m.

Approved by Faculty Senate: September 23, 2019