



FACULTY SENATE 2024-2025

**ISU Faculty Senate
Official Minutes
Monday, March 31, 2025 4:00-6:00 p.m.**

Location: Shirley Sargent Family Boardroom, 3rd floor Pond Student Union Building, Pocatello Campus

Or join via Zoom:

<https://www.google.com/url?q=https://isu.zoom.us/j/82564053789?pwd%3DyTfcgB4rvqpHpqqg2j4Ul4H18F0u0T.1&sa=D&source=calendar&ust=1736613822007763&usg=AOvVaw2D6qG6abTriV-luRNPurLz>

Meeting ID: 825 6405 3789

Passcode: 174961

In Attendance: Amanda Zink, Colden Baxter, Nikyra Capson, Donna Delparte, Mikle Ellis, Cara-Lee Esplin, Caryn Evilia, Tony Forest, Elaine Foster, John Holmes, Bob Houghton, Dan Hudock, Spencer Jardine, Duane Rawlings, Dave Smith, Paul Yeates

Attending by ZOOM: Samantha Blatt, Carmen Febles, Dave Hanneman, Amanda Henscheid, George Lake (proxy for Michael Kobus), Daniel LaBrier, Marin Laufenberg, Diane Ogiela

Absent but Excused: Suzanne Beasterfield

Absent: Dave Bagley

Ex Officio/Guests: Mel Anderson, Adam Bradford, Matt Daily, Jenn Steele, Jennifer Vidales, President Wagner

Ex Officio/Guests Attending by ZOOM: Laura Ahola-Young, Jeehoon Kim, Veronica Garcia

Recording Secretary: Lisa Hunt

1) Chair Call Meeting to Order and Welcome Remarks – Amanda Zink – 2:15

2) Reading of Tribal Land Acknowledgement – Spencer Jardine – 3:20

3) Open Forum – 4:00

- a) Mikle Ellis
- i) Concern for the widening salary gap between faculty, staff and administrators

4) Announcements (please review and feel free to ask questions) - 6:30

Senators: Please remind your constituents that **'Open Forum'** is for faculty to make a statement, express a concern, or ask the Senate to consider an issue they feel is important.



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- a) **A faculty list was received from Academic Affairs and apportionment is confirmed. There is no change in number of representatives for any college.**
- b) **The Staff Years of Service Celebration will now include Faculty!** Staff Council will be hosting events on all campuses. They need Senate volunteers to act as greeters, gift distributors and to assist with other tasks to make these events fun and successful! Please click [here](#) to volunteer. The schedule is: Pocatello Main Campus, Thurs., Apr. 3, 3:00p-5:00p in the ICCU Bengal Alumni Center; Meridian Campus, Tues., Apr. 1, 2:00p-4:00p, Rm 681-682; Idaho Falls Campus, Fri., Apr. 4, 2:00p-4:00p in the Bennion SUB Multipurpose Room.
- c) **The State Board of Education Resolutions and Guidance** regarding DEI and the Legislature are [here](#).
 - i) A new legislative bill has been introduced in the Senate regarding DEI. The number is 1198
- d) **Yes! It's that time again! Time for Spring elections for the 2025-2026 term!** The council and committee seats that are up for election (or re-election, if eligible) for the 2025-2026 term are listed below (**New terms end in 2028 unless otherwise indicated**):

i) Faculty Senate

- (1) CAL – Fine Arts and Humanities
 - (a) Paul Yeates
- (2) CAL – FAH or SBS
 - (a) Replacing Carmen Febles – special election – new term to end 2027
- (3) College of Business
 - (a) Bob Houghton
- (4) CoSE – Math/Engineering/Physics/Comp Sci
 - (a) Mickle Ellis
- (5) CoSE – Bio Sci/Chem/Geo Sci
 - (a) Caryn Evilia
- (6) College of Pharmacy
 - (a) John Holmes
- (7) Library
 - (a) Spencer Jardine
- (8) Idaho Falls At – Large
 - (a) Daniel LaBrier
- (9) Meridian At – Large
 - (a) Dave Hanneman – special election – new term to end 2026
 - (b) Diane Ogiela

ii) Academic Integrity Council (AIC)

- (1) College of Education
 - (a) Brenda Jacobsen
- (2) CoSE
 - (a) Taher Deemyad
- (3) College of Pharmacy
 - (a) Brooke Buffat

iii) Academic Standards Council (ASC)

- (1) CAL
 - (a) Curt Whitaker



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(2) College of Education

(a) Robin Lindbeck

(3) College of Pharmacy

(a) Jen Adams

iv) **Faculty Professional Policies Council (FPPC)**

(1) CAL – Social and Behavioral Science

(a) Jeehoon Kim

(2) College of Business

(a) Replacing Yan Chen (on sabbatical) – special election – one-year term 2026

(3) CoSE – Bio Sci/Chem/Geo Sci

(a) Brandon Peecook

(4) KDHS – Clinical/Non-Tenured

(a) LaVona Carson Andrew

(5) Lecturer At-Large

(a) Vacant

v) **Research Council (RC)**

(1) CAL – Fine Arts and Humanities

(a) David Lawrimore

(2) College of Business

(a) Tyler Burch

(3) CoSE – Math/Physics/Engineering/Comp Sci

(a) Dustin McNulty

(4) CoSE – Bio Sci/Chem/Geo Sci

(a) Replacing David Pearson (on sabbatical) – special election – one-year term 2026

(5) KDHS – Health Professions/Rehab/Comm Sci

(a) Tori Scharp

vi) **Undergraduate Curriculum Council (UCC)**

(1) College of Business

(a) Bob Houghton

(2) College of Education

(a) Ajit Bhattarai

(3) College of Technology

(a) Mona Doan

(4) KDHS

(a) Crystal Kanderis Lane

vii) **General Education Requirements Committee (GERC)**

(1) CAL – Fine Arts and Humanities

(a) Jim Skidmore

(2) CoSE - Biol/Chem/Geo Sci

(a) Anna Grinath

(3) College of Technology

(a) Elizabeth Quick

(4) KDHS – Pharmacy

(a) Steven Stubbs

viii) **Standing Appeals Panel (SAP)**

(1) College of Education

(a) Ali Mondt

(2) CoSE – Bio Sci/Chem/Geo Sci



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- (a) Caryn Evilia
- (3) CoSE - At-Large
 - (a) Bruce Finney
- (4) College of Technology
 - (a) Phoebe Greene
 - (b) Duane Rawlings
- ix) **Athletic Advisory Board (AAB)**
 - (a) One Representative, four-year term (2025-2029)
 - (i) Requirements for eligibility are linked [here](#)

5) Approve Today's Meeting Agenda - March 31, 2025 - 10:00

- a) Agenda revised - Evan Rodriguez added to the Consent Agenda 7b. as the nominee to the President's Charter Sustainability Committee to replace Mikle Ellis' Faculty Senate seat

ACTION - Mikle Ellis motioned to accept today's revised agenda
Caryn Evilia seconded
Motion carried unanimously

6) Faculty Senate Minutes Approval - [February 24, 2025](#) - 11:45

ACTION - Elaine Foster motioned to approve these minutes
Bob Houghton seconded

- a) Discussion
- b) Tony Forest - New Business, 17. b. - correction. Change minutes to full statement from emailed resolution.

ACTION - Bob Houghton motioned to accept the amended minutes
Caryn Evilia seconded

Return to the original motion
Motion carried unanimously

7) Consent Agenda - Approve council or committee actions/decisions (Click link(s) below for document(s)) - 11:30

- a) [RC Official Minutes February 28, 2025](#)
- b) Evan Rodriguez nominated to the Sustainability Committee FS seat

ACTION - Consent Agenda Items approved by unanimous consent

8) ASISU report - Jennifer Vidales [4:22-4:30] - 13:45

- a) ASISU election results for the 2025-2026 academic year
 - i) President - Sky Halter; Vice-President - Charles Medema
- b) Created spirit packs with ISU merch and gave to Meridian students



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- c) PIE week – Gen Z trivia game
- d) Week of Apr. 12 is COSGA – Conference of Student Government Association. Will take place at Texas A&M. One ASISU Senator had their workshop approved
- e) End of the year reports: what has been done this year, budgeting etc. (for next year's leadership)

9) Budget Optimization Initiation report - Jen Steele - 17:30

- a) **Budget Optimization Initiative Report**
- b) Report looked at university administrative trends and data
 - i) Methodology used was from CUPA-HR
 - ii) Reviewed 10-years of data, the report will now be updated annually

10) President Wagner report - 36:15

- a) Spring undergraduate enrollment was up over 11,000 students, 2.9% up from spring 2024 (highest spring enrollment since 2016), grad student numbers are mostly the same
- b) Report on the Idaho State Legislature
 - i) JFAC split budget into two parts: ISU's base budget was approved by JFAC, but the enhancement (trailer) budget is still pending
 - (1) JFAC is waiting until the end of the session to decide on budget
 - (2) Some controversy: a decision of whether or not to 'tax' (a one-time charge) the U of I and BSU for legal reasons is pending
 - ii) New DEI bill has been presented to the State Affairs Committee. Some changes have been made (from the original Sen. Toews bill) but it is still very problematic
 - (1) The definition of DEI is very concerning
 - (2) Private cause of action (anyone can report to the Attorney General's Office)
 - (3) The Preamble in the bill is long, accusatory and troubling but this is not the body of the policy, it is only editorial
- c) SBOE meeting in Moscow; tuition and fee proposals are considered and approved. ISU is asking for a 5% increase for undergrad students
 - i) ASISU President will attend and present also
- d) Events
 - i) Completed initiatives - Bold Path Forward listening sessions, Big Sky basketball event with Alumni, a successful Bengal Giving Day and the Bengal Success Center was launched
 - (1) Will launch a new round of listening sessions in the fall: separate sessions scheduled for faculty, staff and students
 - ii) 'Presidential Pop-Ups' launched in the fall – President Wagner will be visiting with the colleges and department
 - iii) Student NAS Pow-Wow Apr. 5 with Ft. Hall Business Association and Sho-Ban Tribal participation
 - (1) A ceremony will be held to permanently raise the Sho-Ban flag in front of the Admin Building
 - (2) In the final stages of the search for Director of Tribal Relations
 - iv) Distinguished Faculty Awards Apr. 9
 - v) Gem Legacy Dinner Apr. 10
 - vi) Years of Service event for faculty and staff
 - vii) CoSE dean search re-launched by President's Office – new finalists on campus in April
 - viii) Frank Church Symposium being held Apr. 3 and 4
 - (1) Launching the inaugural Presidential Panel
 - ix) ISU webpage isu.edu/impactful – reaffirmation of faculty work in research, creative works and teaching



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x) \$14mil for the Life Sciences building was approved through the Public Building and Finance Committee of the Legislature

11) Academic Affairs/Provost report- Laura Ahola-Young/Adam Bradford – 1:11:00

- a) Continuation of the discussion of the Legislature and the DEI bill
 - i) Confirmations of academic freedom in the language
 - ii) There is an exemption process – what the SBOE is empowered to do
- b) Distinguished Faculty Awards reception Apr. 9
- c) DPA presented revisions to the Workload Policy
- d) Professional Achievement Awards in May

12) Continuing Business (Click link(s) below for document(s)) – 1:19:30

- a) Discussion of and potential motion on resolution/revisions to ISUPP 4090 Workload Policy
 - i) [Resolution Clarifications 4090 - redline draft from DPA](#)
 - ii) Feedback from FS
 - (1) Questions regarding WUs and the use of indirects for class buyouts
 - iii) DPA will send policy with revision to 30-day review
- b) Discuss creating a policy governing the search, selection, and potential term limits for department chairs, division managers and unit heads assisted by the DPA and/or FPPC
 - i) BSU's [Policy 4500 – Search for and Selection of Department Chairs, Division Managers or Unit Heads](#) (for reference)
 - ii) Additional FPPC policy work for next year
 - (1) Promotion and Tenure Policy – waiting on SBOE to finish working on their P and T Policy and then DPA will resume crafting
 - (2) Faculty Student Relationship Policy nearing completion
 - (3) Faculty Awards Policy
 - (4) Potential revision to Sabbaticals Policy given the new centralized budget model

ACTION – Caryn Evilia motioned to initiate a policy regarding the selection of deans, department chairs and unit heads and send to FPPC

Mikel Ellis seconded

Motion carried unanimously

iii) Discussion

13) New Business (Click link(s) below for document(s)) – 1:46:30

- a) Discuss potential work group to create bylaws for the Standing Appeals Panel
 - i) [From ISUPP 4039 - Standing Appeals Panel](#)
 - ii) Timeline for a draft – begin in the fall, complete by the end of the semester



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- b) Discussion and potential motion to initiate or restore faculty 'benefits' such as rec center access, movies, cultural and sporting events, parking etc. - Paul Yeates
 - i) The Resolution is [here](#)
 - ii) Acts as an incentive and shows appreciation for the work faculty does
 - iii) This was originally in faculty contracts but was removed
 - iv) Possibility of including ASISU in the discussion (student fees were used to upgrade the rec center)
 - v) Faculty support of students

ACTION - Paul Yeates motioned to have FS work with administration to restore faculty benefits - as early as fall semester

Donna Delparte seconded

Motion carried unanimously

vi) Discussion

- c) Discuss potential FS statement affirming academic freedom, first amendment freedoms, and rights of international faculty and students
 - i) International Programs Office [memo](#)
 - ii) 'Academic Freedom in America Needs to be Defended' - *The Guardian* news article, linked [here](#)
 - iii) Representatives will review this for the next FS meeting

14) Adjournment - 6:12p

ACTION - Bob Houghton motioned to adjourn

Spencer Jardine seconded

Motion carried unanimously