



# FACULTY SENATE 2024-2025

## ISU Faculty Senate Official Minutes Monday, April 14, 2025 4:00-6:00 p.m.

**Location:** Shirley Sargent Family Boardroom, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Pond Student Union Building, Pocatello Campus

Or join via Zoom:

<https://www.google.com/url?q=https://isu.zoom.us/j/82564053789?pwd%3DyTfcgB4rvqpHpqpg2j4Ul4H18F0u0T.1&sa=D&source=calendar&ust=1736613822007763&usg=AOvVaw2D6qG6abTriV-luRNPurLz>

Meeting ID: 825 6405 3789

Passcode: 174961

**In Attendance:** Amanda Zink, Colden Baxter, Suzanne Beasterfield, Nikyra Capson, Mikle Ellis, Caryn Evilia, Tony Forest, Elaine Foster, Bob Houghton, Dan Hudock, Spencer Jardine, Michael Kobus, Dave Smith

**Attending by ZOOM:** Samantha Blatt, Donna Delparte, Cara-Lee Esplin, Dave Hanneman, Amanda Henscheid, John Holmes, Daniel LaBrier, Marin Laufenberg, Diane Ogiela, Paul Yeates

**Absent but Excused:** Carmen Febles, Duane Rawlings

**Absent:** Dave Bagley

**Ex Officio/Guests:** Laura Ahola-Young, Mel Anderson, Adam Bradford, Ryan Sargent

**Ex Officio/Guests Attending by ZOOM:** Mohammed Alqurashi, Veronica Garcia, Jena Lords

**Recording Secretary:** Lisa Hunt

**1) Chair Call Meeting to Order and Welcome Remarks – Amanda Zink - 0:00**

**2) Reading of Tribal Land Acknowledgement – Bob Houghton - 0:10**

**3) Open Forum – 3:30**

- a) Bob Houghton
- i) Reminder regarding Tax Day

**4) Announcements (please review and feel free to ask questions) – 0:50**

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.

- a) **Statement on Senate Decorum**



# FACULTY SENATE 2024-2025

b) **Faculty Senate and Councils spring elections** for the **2025-2026 term** are in full swing! The 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) Carmen Febles – special election – new term to end 2027
- (3) College of Business
  - (a) Bob Houghton
- (4) CoSE – Math/Engineering/Physics/Comp Sci
  - (a) Mikle 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
- (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



# FACULTY SENATE 2024-2025

(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

(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 – April 14, 2025 – 2:30

**ACTION** – agenda approved by unanimous consent



# FACULTY SENATE 2024-2025

## 6) Faculty Senate Minutes Approval – [March 10, 2025](#) – 2:40

**ACTION** – minutes approved by unanimous consent

## 7) Consent Agenda – Approve council or committee actions/decisions (Click link(s) below for document(s)) – 3:00

- a) [AAB Official Minutes February 6, 2025](#)
- b) [AAB Official Minutes March 6, 2025](#)
- c) [ASC Official Minutes March 21, 2025](#)
- d) [FPPC Official Minutes March 5, 2025](#)
- e) [FPPC Official Minutes March 19, 2025](#)
- f) [RC Official Minutes March 14, 2025](#)

**ACTION** – Consent Agenda items approved by unanimous consent

## Motion to adjust order of the FS Agenda – 6:00

**ACTION** – Bob Houghton motioned to adjust the order (as we are waiting on presenters to arrive) and address items 11 and 12 in the interim

Dave Smith seconded

Motion carried unanimously

## 8) Report from the President's Office – Ryan Sargent – 20:30

- a) ISU was held harmless by the Legislature
- b) Funding requests
  - i) Permanent Building Fund
    - (1) Request for \$14 mil for Life Sciences building and other money for maintenance
  - ii) Two funding bills
    - (1) Base budget passed by JFAC
    - (2) Enhancement trailer bill failed – including acquiring ICOM
    - (3) Additional \$15 mill proposed by the governor's office failed
    - (4) Enhancement trailer bill included ISU to acquire ICOM
- c) Medical Education bill – manage medical education undergrad programs through the SBOE
- d) SB1198 Higher Education, DEI bill passed and signed by the Governor
- e) Other bills passed impacting education
  - i) House bill 59 – Medical ethics defense act (impact for students)
  - ii) House bill 93 – Idaho parental Choice tax credit (vouchers for K-12)
  - iii) Campus Free Speech bill

## 9) Academic Affairs/Provost report– Laura Ahola-Young/Adam Bradford – 39:30



# FACULTY SENATE 2024-2025

- a) The Provost offered assurances that the Office of Academic Affairs will be working with the SBOE to evaluate how to respond to the new SB1998 Legislation
- b) Provost will attend SBOE meeting tomorrow with other Provosts and General Counsel
- c) Institutions want to move in collective fashion and be unified as to their objectives
- d) Congratulations on Distinguished Faculty Awards
- e) Routine check of federal database to keep track of international students

## 10) GERC report – Ed Kammerer – 56:00

- a) Approval of courses and assessment plans
- b) Currently reviewing annual reports for Objectives 1-4 and 7-9; and the 5-year reports for Objectives 5 and 6
- c) Implementing an easier assessment process, including possible training for faculty
- d) Question of continued existence of Objective 9 – ‘Cultural Diversity’ and other objectives with DEI language
- e) ‘Durable skills’ – potential changes from the SBOE mandating Objectives 1-6 be assessed
- f) Possible implementation of themed or linked gen ed courses, surveying faculty for feedback
- g) Issue with some departments not turning in assessments and how to incentivize
- h) Ongoing challenge getting assessment specifics from ECP teachers (in the high schools) for gen ed data
- i) Potential change in GERC structure
  - i) Make into a council and have it report to FS directly instead of UCC
  - ii) Need long-term, consistent leadership for ease of reporting/assessment. Currently, chair position is a 1-year term
- j) GERC is considering limiting the number of gen eds with the same prefixes that a student can take in order to expand their Liberal Arts foundation

**ACTION** – Bob Houghton motioned for the FS to move GERC from under UCC, making it a separate council that reports directly to FS and asking GERC and UCC to update their bylaws

Suzanne Beasterfield seconded

Motion carried with 19 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention

## 11) Continuing Business – 6:45 and 1:11:45

- a) In response to Idaho Senate Bill 1198
  - i) Open discussion held regarding the potential to draft a statement in support of academic freedom
    - (1) Meeting with the Provost – discussed drafting a joint statement with Academic Affairs
    - (2) Discussion of statement being directed toward what kind of audience
      - (a) The SBOE - part of the Executive branch, they should maintain curriculum and curricular standards. The Legislature is overreaching into Executive Power
      - (b) The Governor - ask him to exercise his Executive Authority to rescind the bill and empower the SBOE to be the decision makers at the state level
    - (3) FS Chair meeting with faculty senate chairs of other Idaho institutions
      - (a) Discussion of releasing a joint statement
      - (b) Agreed to release statements from each institution independently
    - (4) Citing ISUPP 4040 – ‘Academic Freedom’
    - (5) Focus on highlighting the contradictory or problematic wording in the bill
    - (6) Question of meeting with other stakeholders (ASISU, Staff Council etc.) for feedback
  - ii) Create a statement in support of our International Faculty and Students
    - (1) FS suggested language for content, purpose and form and other parameters to draft
  - iii) Documents in GoogleDocs, open to all who want to assist with drafting these statements



# FACULTY SENATE 2024-2025

## 12) New Business – 1:41:00

- a) Nominations are now being accepted for the new FS Vice-Chair for the 2025-2026 term. FS will vote on this in the next FS meeting Apr. 28
- b) Update on the possibility of FS Chair stepping down from FS next term and FS voting for new Chair

## 13) Adjournment - 6:00p

**ACTION** - Bob Houghton motioned to adjourn  
Elaine Foster seconded  
Motion carried unanimously