After a delay due to the inability to link to our off-site Senators, who were all patiently waiting, Chair Teal called meeting #14 to order at 3:37. (Note: We were unable to develop a satisfactory connection to our other sites). A motion (Folwell/St. Claire) to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2015 meeting passed unanimously.

Chair’s Report: Chair Teal announced that the next faculty gathering will be in the Vandal Ballroom from 4-6 on Monday, December 14th. It will be jointly hosted by the College of Business and the College of Art and Architecture. Chair Teal also shared a message from Senator Hrdlicka, who could not attend today, regarding last week’s report on the benefits survey. Senator Hrdlicka’s message suggested that the results of the survey were not shared because BAG was not confident in the integrity of the survey and they didn’t want people to base their expectations on the survey. Other factors besides the survey would go into determining benefits.

Chair Teal used the rest of his report to bring Senators up-to-date on various issues in which the Senate has expressed interest.

- There will be a memo coming out from Brian Foisy regarding internal hiring and there are also some changes being developed for People Admin.
- Liz Brandt and Don Crowley have been working with a task force to make some adjustments to the student disciplinary process.
- FAC has been working on the leave policy and hopes to have some proposed changes to the Senate by late January.
- UBFC has been working on a new budget process.
- Chair Teal has talked to the Provost about possible changes to Banner which would allow easier access to departmental budgets.
- Senate Leadership and FAC have been working with the Provost’s Office on possible changes to the annual faculty evaluation to make it a more meaningful process.
- The student evaluation forms will be back to us soon and the Provost has encouraged him to develop a Sli.Do poll to gauge interest in plus-minus grades.
- Senate Leadership will encourage IT and Distance Education to develop budget proposals to address the issues raised in the Senate meeting several weeks ago.

Provost’s Report: Vice Provost Jeanne Stevenson noted that Provost Wiencek was in Idaho Falls for a Town Hall gathering and sent his greetings. This was the last of the Town Halls and a working draft of the Strategic Plan should be available for comments soon. The goal is still to have it ready for a presentation to the State Board in April. There was a short discussion of whether a current draft was available for comment on Yellow Dig. Several people suggested that there was a draft of the plan available.

ASUI Resolutions: Chair Teal recognized Senator LaPrath who introduced several resolutions recently passed by ASUI. The first two resolutions honored Dr. Corinne Mantle-Bromley Dean of the College of Education and Dr. Jack McIver Vice President of Research and Economic Development for their significant
contributions to the University. Both are retiring in the coming year. The third resolution called upon University of Idaho professors to post grades on Blackboard. The discussion focused on the latter resolution. A variety of questions were raised.

- *Is Blackboard secure enough to avoid FERPA issues?* Senator LaPrath stated that some methods might be more secure than others but that the distance education office was working on providing different options to professors that would be secure.

- *Is the problem whether students are getting timely feedback from professors or is there a real desire for grades to be posted on BB Learn? Will every class need to do this?* Senator LaPrath suggested that not every class would need to use BB Learn but that students would like at least the important documents like a syllabus and grades posted.

- Several Senators suggested that such a move might lead to unintended consequences such as removing opportunities for students to have conversations with professors about how they are doing in the class.

- There were also some concerns about whether posting raw scores might miss some of the nuances of how final grades are determined.

**FS-16-025 (UCC-16-020a): Law—L.L.M.:** Senator Adams in his capacity as Dean of the College of Law discussed the proposal to create a new Master of Law (L.L.M). This new degree is aimed at attracting international lawyers. Most all of the courses required to offer this degree to international students are currently offered. The goal of the program is to strengthen a foreign lawyer’s knowledge of American law. There were no concerns raised and the proposal passed without objection (17-0-1).

**FS-16-019 (UCC-16-022a): CLASS—General Studies:** Professor Traci Craig (Associate Dean of CLASS) came forward to present a variety of proposals from CLASS. The first proposal seeks to obtain approval for delivering the current General Studies degree fully available via distance education. Although the program was already available online, it is thought that obtaining this formal approval will aid in the accreditation process and also help in marketing the program to a broader population of students.

A Senator expressed concern about whether there are exit strategies when we develop distance programs given some of the problems the University is currently experiencing with its distance delivery capability. Professor Craig noted that most of the courses required are online courses and do not rely heavily on technology. The proposal passed 16-1-1.

**FS-16-020 (UCC-16-022b): CLASS—Sociology-Criminology:** This proposal also seeks approval to offer the Criminology major through distance education. It will require creating some online courses that are not currently offered. The proposal passed 16-0-2.

**FS-16-021 (UCC-16-022c): CLASS—History:** The History department is currently close to being able to offer its program online; but, will have to create a senior experience course online. The proposal passed 16-0-2.

**FS-16-022 (UCC-16-022d): CLASS—Organizational Science:** This program was originally developed for off-campus students and this proposal will make it capable of being offered fully online. The proposal passed 16-0-2.

**FS-16-023 (UCC-16-022e): CLASS—Psychology:** Within CLASS the Psychology program has the most experience with online courses. With a small change in curriculum it can now be offered fully online. The proposal passed 16-0-1.
FS-16-024 (UCC-16-022f): CLASS—Masters in Public Administration: This proposal seeks to make the current MPA capable of reaching students from rural areas in the state. The proposal does seek to obtain new resources to offer this program fully online. The proposal passed 17-0-1.

Sabbatical Leave 2017-18. The list of faculty who have been approved for sabbatical leave for 2017-18 was presented to the Senate. With the exception of an off the record question about covering classes, there were no questions raised and the list passed without objection.

FS-16-017: FSH 3710—Leave Policy: Crowley explained that ten years ago the Faculty Senate had tried to amend FSH 3710 to include domestic partners. At the time, Senate was told that such a change would not be accepted because it would violate the recently passed amendment to the Idaho Constitution which stated: “a marriage between a man and a woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid.” In response, the Senate approved a footnote in FSH 3710 A-3 which reflected Senate’s desire to include domestic partners. Given the decision last June by the U.S. Supreme Court stating that states could not prohibit same sex marriages, the footnote in FSH 3710 is no longer necessary.

A Senator suggested that the word “including” be added to the parenthetical reference to adoption or foster arrangement. This was accepted as a friendly amendment. A Senator asked whether a partner was included in the new language. Professor Crowley stated that was the intention of the change. The changes passed without objection.

FS-16-013: FSH 5300—Copyright, Protectable Discoveries and Other Intellectual Property Rights. Chair Teal welcomed Vice-President Jack McIver to speak to the proposed changes in the Copyright policy in FSH 5300 (due to the problems with Scopia we were unable to connect to Casey Inge from General Counsel’s Office who had intended to present the changes and address questions). Dr. McIver noted that this version of FSH 5300 had been edited to reflect the concerns raised by Faculty Senate earlier this semester. Chair Teal added that Vice Chair Brandt, unable to be at the Senate today, had endorsed the changes saying they fully addressed her earlier concerns. Dr. McIver noted that changes sought to clarify the scope of UI sponsored material in B-2b and how that relates to the retention of rights by faculty in B-2a. A Senator asked about the reference to “resources related to the public.” Dr. McIver responded that this reference was to general resources like the library. A motion (St. Claire/Wolf) to accept the proposed changes to FSH 5300 passed unanimously.

Adjournment: With no new business on the agenda a motion (Mahoney/St. Claire) to adjourn passed unanimously at 4:40.

Don Crowley,
Secretary to Faculty Senate and Faculty Secretary