Present: Anderson, Barbour, Boschetti, Brandt, Brewick, Brown, Caplan, Couture (Boise), Crowley (w/o vote), Flores, Folwell, Godfrey (Coeur d’Alene), Hiromoto (Idaho Falls), Hrdlicka, Jeffery, LaPrath, Latrell, Mahoney, Murphy, Nicotra, St. Claire, Stoll, Teal, Stevenson for Wiencek (w/o vote), Wolf. Absent: Adams, Chung, Foster, Perret, Royer, Wiencek (w/o vote) Guests: 4.

The Chair called meeting #7 to order at 3:30 p.m. A motion (Folwell/Jeffrey) to approve the minutes for the October 6, 2015 meeting of the Faculty Senate passed without objection.

Chair’s report: Chair Teal reminded Senators that they should respond to the Benefits Advisory Group’s Survey, which is due on Oct. 21st. There is a faculty gathering on October 19th for the VIP Initiative at 4 p.m. in the Faculty-Staff Lounge. A reception will follow. He also announced that we will be looking for volunteers to test the training modules discussed by Brian Foisy last week. Ann will be sending out an email on this in the near future. The Bellwood Lecture series will be tomorrow 3:00 p.m. in the Pitman Center’s International Ballroom. The speaker will be Juan Guzmán who is the judge who presided over General Pinochet’s human rights trials. Vice Chair Brandt commented that Judge Guzmán should be quite compelling and also noted the very disturbing photography display relating to the Pinochet coup that is currently on display in the lobby of the law school.

Michael Murphy announced that this week is the 5th Annual Idaho Bach Festival. On Thursday at 12:30 p.m. in the Commons there will be student led performances of Bach in the Round. On Friday at 7:30 p.m. there will be a Gala concert featuring UI Music faculty and also this year’s Bach scholar Paul Max Tipton. On Saturday morning there will be lectures starting at 9:00 a.m. in the Lionel Hampton School of Music. The Festival will conclude Saturday night with a concert at 7:30 p.m. featuring Paul Max Tipton.

Provost’s Report: There was no Provost Report this week.

FS-16-008: FSH 3720-Sabbatical Leave. Professor Brandt explained that ConC was seeking to revise 3720 with regard to where a faculty member’s report should go at the end of the sabbatical. Previously these reports went to the chair of the Sabbatical Leave Evaluation Committee, but since these chairs change every year the suggestion is to send the reports to the provost’s office and the relevant dean and unit administrator.

There were questions asked about whether the provost’s office had agreed to this and whether there were any sanctions for not filing a report. Professor Brandt noted that ConC had consulted with the provost’s office and that the provost’s office provided most of the administrative support for this committee and thus was the logical place to maintain the post-sabbatical reports. She also pointed out that while there are no formal sanctions for not filing a report, the faculty member’s chair and dean were in the best position to take note of the failure to file a report. The proposed revision passed unanimously.

FS-16-009: FSH 1640.90-General Education Assessment Committee. This proposal is to slightly alter the composition of the newly created General Education Assessment Committee. Since there is no longer an Assistant Director of Institutional Research, ConC is recommending we change this to be the Director of Institutional Research, or designee. ConC also proposed to change the number of at-large faculty/staff from four to five, and to require that the majority of members be faculty. It was pointed out that in changing the number of faculty/staff members ConC had failed to adjust the total number of members
on the committee. A motion to amend (Wolf/Folwell) was introduced to correctly state the number of members on the committee. This amendment passed unanimously. The proposal as amended then passed unanimously.

Committee Appointments:

Scientific Misconduct Committee: Professor Brandt announced that Sanford Eigenbrode has agreed to serve on this committee.

General Education Assessment Committee: The list of faculty/staff who have agreed to serve on this committee are:

Kenton Bird, Dale Pietrzak, Diane Prorak, Beth Price, Dean Panttaja, Daniel Campbell, Helen Joyner, Katie Schiffelbein.

These appointments passed unanimously.

Conflicts of Interest/Consulting. Chair Teal introduced Casey Inge from the Research Office to discuss the need for changes to our conflict of interest policies due to some issues relating to federal law compliance. Mr. Inge joined us from Boise. Thanks to a troubled Scopia connection his comments were a bit difficult to hear, but he graciously provided the Faculty Secretary’s Office with his Power-Point summary.

Mr. Inge noted the significant changes in approaches to disclosure and management of conflicts of interest in recent years.

- Federal regulations governing sponsored research and procurement have changed.
- We have a need for clarity and consistency in the University’s conflict of interest policies.
- We also have a need for effective and efficient review and management of the process.
- A task force is being developed to address these compliance concerns and suggest revisions to appropriate FSH policies.

A Senator suggested that the task force looking at these issues note the difference between sponsored research and other types of potential conflicts. In particular, we should be concerned about issues related to requiring disclosures from part-time faculty who come to the University periodically.

Chair Teal asked about the estimated timeline for these changes. Mr. Inge stated that he would hope to have much of this done by early next year. The task force could suggest changes to the FSH and ConC might develop a new committee that would have oversight responsibilities. There was a brief discussion about making sure that the task force has appropriate membership to ensure proper understanding of the compliance issues. Chair Teal agreed to help to obtain appropriate faculty representation on the task force.

Adjournment: With no further business to conduct the Chair stated that he would entertain a motion to adjourn at the early time of 4:00 p.m. The motion (Brewick/Murphy) to adjourn passed unanimously and the Senators departed to enjoy what was left of this unusually warm October afternoon.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Crowley, Faculty Secretary
and Secretary to the Faculty Senate