Present: Adekanmbi, Anderson (Mike), Anderson (Miranda), Berven, Boschetti, Brandt, Cannon (Boise), Caplan, Chung, Crowley (w/o vote), Donohoe, Fisher, Folwell, Godfrey (Coeur d’Alene), Ostrom (Idaho Falls), Hrdlicka, Johnson, Markuson, Morrison, Nicotra, Wilson, Payant, Pregitzer, Vella, Wiencek (w/o vote), Wright. Absent: Barbour, Brewick, Brown, Sixtos. Guests: 8

The Chair called meeting #16 to order at 3:31. A motion (Berven/Miranda Anderson) to approve the minutes from January 31st passed without objection.

Chair’s Report: Chair Brandt noted that we had failed to include a report on advancement from Vice President McFadden on the agenda. She proposed that the Senate add this to the agenda under special reports. A motion (Folwell/Donovan) to add the report on Advancement to the agenda passed unanimously. Chair Brandt reported that we are still looking for a Senator to serve on BAG (Benefits Advisory Group). BAG is an important group that has input on issues like health insurance policies. BAG only meets once a month so it should not be too time consuming. Chair Brandt commented on the brief presentation made last week by Professor Evans on immigration issues. As a follow-up, a small working group met to consider a possible resolution concerning University of Idaho (UI) policies that affect immigrants. She expects that this group will return to the Senate with this resolution in the near future.

Provost’s Report: Provost Wiencek commented on the Program Prioritization discussion from this morning’s President’s Leadership Breakfast. He expects that a video on Program Prioritization will be available in the next week. There will be numerous opportunities for comment. The Provost stated that this iteration of Program Prioritization would be different from past efforts. We will not be going down the path of program closure. Vacant positions will be used to generate discussions relating to the best use of these positions. These discussions will not be top down, but will be linked to faculty and staff decisions on what evaluation tools will be used. It will conform to expectations of the Board, while positioning us to invest in ourselves. Provost Wiencek reported on the search for a new Dean of the College of Science. He has received the report from the search committee and is conducting some further inquiries. He hopes that this search will result in a successful conclusion.

Navitas, a pathway provider for international students, was on campus last week. They have developed marketing materials and have begun to recruit international students for us. A Senator asked how the U.S. President’s recent executive order might affect our international recruitment? Provost Wiencek noted that this was a frequently asked question. They recognized that the executive order had created a great deal of uncertainty. He commented that the seven countries mentioned in the order did not generate a great deal of students. Navitas is hoping to attract around a hundred students. Provost Wiencek noted that the UI is one of the most research intensive universities that Navitas is involved with and the only university with a law school. Navitas is optimistic that they will be able to recruit well for the UI.

Faculty Affairs (FAC) – Survey of Annual Evaluation (FSH 3320) and Position Description (FSH 3050). Chair Brandt introduced Professor Brian Ellison as Chair of FAC to discuss the survey that will be used to gain faculty perspectives on the new narrative annual evaluation form. Chair Brandt noted that Senate approved the narrative form as a pilot form last year. At that time, Faculty Senate Senators also requested that a survey be conducted to determine faculty reactions to the new form. Professor Ellison noted that he had originally been more ambitious, but ultimately settled on a short survey. A Senator asked when the survey would go out? Professor Ellison thought this was up to the Senate. Chair Brandt stated that she thought the survey should go out soon after the evaluation process is over. A Senator noted that the survey switches from asking about the new evaluation form to asking about position descriptions between questions seven and eight. Professor Ellison agreed that they should put a short statement between questions seven and eight highlighting that the survey was switching its focus to the position description. It was also suggested that a broader range of options could be given, when asking how often a position description should be changed. There was also a question asked about the use of the word “easily” in question six. No action was taken on this word choice. In a similar vein, a Senator wondered whether the word “fairly” or “accurately” should be used in question three. A motion (Berven/Johnson) was made to replace the word “fairly” with the word
“accurately” in question three. This motion passed 10-7. The vote to approve the survey as amended passed unanimously.

**FS-17-034 (UCC-17-051a)-CALS-Food Science-New Program in Fermentation Science.** Professor Gulhan Unlu came forward to answer any questions on the new program. A Senator noted that there was a mistake in the proposal regarding the number of Chemistry classes required. It was moved (Hrdlicka/Folwell) to amend this section to say “two chemistry classes” for a total of at least four credits. The proposal as amended passed unanimously.

**FS-17-035 (UCC-17-023a)-Business—Minor in Business Analytics.** Senator Chung spoke briefly in favor of the new minor. This is a new minor in Business Analytics. All courses are already being taught. Demand for students with a background in business analytics has been growing. The proposal was approved unanimously.

**FS-17-036 (UCC-17-023b) Business—New program in Marketing Analytics.**

Professor Steve Shook was asked to speak about the proposal. He noted that this was a proposal for a new area of emphasis within the marketing degree. Professor Shook stated that there was a difference between business analytics and marketing analytics. He noted that there was both student demand and a growing job market for such an emphasis. This proposal passed unanimously.

**University Advancement:** Chair Brandt introduced Vice President Mary Kay McFadden to provide an overview of university advancement. V.P. McFadden noted that the first time she had been in Brink Hall was when she was a student in 1980. She was happy to be back working on university advancement. She stressed that her office strives to provide resources to the UI. These resources can come in various forms. The most typical resource they are involved with providing is fund-raising. Fund-raising at the UI is somewhat centralized-decentralized in that there is a core advancement office at the university and then each college has a smaller advancement unit. Their goal for this year is to raise $31 million for the university. V.P. McFadden shared with the Senate a handout on the progress they have made this year towards achieving this goal. As of December 31st we are 64% of the way towards obtaining our goal. The alumni participation rate thus far this year is about 6% and she expects this to reach 10% by the end of the year. She stated that 10% would be above average for a land grant university. A Senator asked how unit goals were determined? Ms. McFadden answered that the goals are set by the deans in consultation with her office, and are based on historical averages.

She discussed a few new fund-raising projects such as WWAMI. Although UI students participate in WWAMI, it was considered a University of Washington program. As such, we had not focused on raising money for WWAMI. A Senator asked about the cost of raising these funds. V.P. McFadden was not sure, but expressed confidence that our costs were fairly low, suggesting 10-12%. A Senator asked if the change in athletic conferences had affected fund-raising for athletics. She stated that the Athletic Department was about $200,000 behind previous years. She acknowledged that some very large donors were not happy with the conference change, although there were others who are pleased. She commented that her office tries to match the passions of the donor with the priorities of the university. A Senator expressed the need to invest more money into advancement because of the payoff for future students.

Vice President McFadden briefly discussed plans for the new Idaho Arena. This is a proposal for a $30 million arena next to the Kibbie Dome. She felt this project would help our indoor court sports as well as provide space for other events and concerts on campus. The expected capacity is 4,700 people and the plan is for it to be a signature wood building. With the assistance of Dean Pregitzer, the UI is reaching out to the wood products industry to help with this project. The ASUI has also pledged funds for this arena. The target date to begin the project is 2019.

Ms. McFadden closed her remarks by stressing the importance of faculty in the fund-raising process. Former students reflecting back on their experience at the UI become important donors. Faculty can help connect development officers with these former students. Faculty and staff are also important donors.

**Adjournment:** With no other items on the agenda, Chair Brandt accepted a motion (Folwell/Chung) to adjourn at 4:29. This motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Don Crowley, Faculty Secretary & Secretary to the Faculty Senate