Present: Adekanmbi, Anderson (Mike), Anderson (Miranda), Barbour, Boschetti, Brandt, Brewick, Cannon (Boise), Caplan, Crowley (w/o vote), Donohoe, Fisher, Folwell, Foster, Godfrey (Coeur d’Alene), Hiromoto (Idaho Falls), Hrdlicka, Markuson, Morrison, Nicotra, Panttaja, Payant, Pregitzer, Sixtos, Stegner, Vella, Wiencek (w/o vote). Absent: Brown, Chung, Panttaja, Wolf. Guests: 7

The Chair called meeting #9 to order at 3:31. A motion (Folwell/Brewick) to approve the minutes for the October 11th meeting passed unanimously.

Chair’s Report: Chair Brandt announced that despite Ann Thompson’s temporary absence we would try to muddle through. Chair Brandt called everyone’s attention to the benefits enrollment period that runs through November 7th. Human Resources will be having several open meetings held in different locations. The exact time and place of these meetings can be found in the Daily Register. Chair Brandt also announced that she (as Faculty Senate Chair) will serve on the Institutional Planning and Effectiveness Committee.

The Chair asked for nominations for faculty to serve on the Program Prioritization Criteria Workgroup. This group will work on developing the criteria to be used in the next iteration of program prioritization. A Senator suggested that it was important to get faculty who have different perspectives on the role & mission of the University. He noted the need to have representation across the colleges. Chair Brandt responded that we do need to have people with different experiences but also people who are institutional thinkers. The workgroup’s role will be developing criteria for prioritization, not actually making decisions about programs. Provost Wiencek explained that he was looking for two groups. One group would have 15 faculty and five staff and would be working on criteria for academic programs, while the second group would have 15 staff and five faculty members and would work on the criteria for non-academic programs. Those serving on these workgroups would need to be able to devote a half day (or perhaps all day) for a retreat to be held just before the Thanksgiving break. He will get the details out soon but the workgroups need to be organized by November 1st.

Provost’s Report: Provost Wiencek announced that Dean Kahler, the new Vice Provost for Strategic Enrollment Management, has arrived on campus. The Provost encouraged the Senate to invite him to a meeting after he has had a chance to get oriented. With the new Vice Provost’s arrival, Provost Wiencek will begin to formalize the reorganization of the Provost Office. Vice Provost Stevenson will be serving multiple roles until the search for a new Vice Provost for Academic Initiatives is completed. Ultimately, many of the direct reporting lines will be changed.

The Provost noted that a search for an interim Dean for the College of Art & Architecture has started. There will be open forums. Art and Architecture’s external advisory board is also being consulted. The VIP program will be continued this year. The program is designed to provide seed grants campus-wide. Proposals last year centered on the strategic goal “innovate”. This year the proposals should focus on “engage.” In particular, the President is encouraging new ideas on how to improve the “go-on” rate for high school students in Idaho. A Senator wondered about enrollment numbers. The Provost stated that the numbers should be out within the next week.

Benefits Advisory Group. Chair Brandt invited Brandy Terwilliger from Human Resources to discuss new developments on benefits.
Ms. Terwilliger noted that there will be 14 open meetings during the open enrollment period which runs through on November 7th. One meeting was already held, and was entirely devoted to the changes in the dental plans. That meeting has been recorded and posted on the HR website. Other important things to be aware of:

- There is no rate increase for medical plans.
- There is an increase in the HSA employee contribution limit.
- Vision Plan—Ameritas’ Vision Perfect is no longer a benefit option. This plan was a reimbursement plan and didn’t work well. There has been an expansion of options under VSP, which now includes Costco and Shopko.
- The out-of-pocket limits on the PPO prescription drug plan have increased.
- The orthodontist benefits on the Delta Dental Plus plan has increased.
- There is a new dental plan option: Willamette Dental. This is a co-pay based option which does not have a lifetime maximum. The number of providers under Willamette Dental is limited. Those selecting this option should make sure they have access to a provider.
- Part-time employees should make sure they actively enroll. Their benefits will not roll over. Any part-time employee who does not enroll will be deemed to have waived their coverage.

**Animal Control Task Force.** The Chair invited Dan Ewart, Vice President for Infrastructure, to discuss the recommendations of the task force on animal control. Vice President Ewart began his overview by stating that the UI is not currently trapping or euthanizing animals and he acknowledged that the University did not follow its own policies this summer. President Staben established the task force to clarify the facts around what has happened, to review communications, to review our policies and to analyze what is necessary for animal management.

V.P. Ewart noted that the UI has many state-wide facilities where contact with animals occurs and we also conduct animal research. Research issues were not part of what was considered by this task force. He praised the work of the task force and stated that they presented their findings to the President on September 30th. The task force made 13 recommendations, although he doesn’t expect all of them to be accepted. The recommendations were:

- The University needs a general statement on nuisance animal management that emphasizes the University’s primary goal to protect its employees, students, guests and property from injury, damage, and disease caused by animals. It should emphasize that all control measures be implemented in an efficient, compliant, and humane way.
- All animal control policies should be reviewed to clarify language and remove any conflicts. We need to make sure all employees understand these policies.
- The various policies on animal control should be combined into one policy for the Administrative Policy Manual (APM). V.P. Ewart wasn’t sure this recommendation would be accepted since it is a big challenge, given our statewide nature.
- The development of an integrated pest management program. Pests can be animals but also could be weeds.
- The current policy (APM 40.22) was considered mostly adequate but could be clarified with regard to the UI’s interactions with outside agencies.
- Any animal control policy should include all UI property.
- Every facility across the state should designate an employee in charge of a nuisance animal management process. Challenges might be different at the various UI properties but someone knowlegable with all policies and laws should be at every site. Every campus will have its own plans to best manage activities.
- Local regulatory agencies need to be consulted more frequently on issues and we must make sure the UI follows all municipal codes.
- It was suggested that non-routine animal control be reviewed by the Institutional Animal Care and Use committee. V.P. Ewart doesn’t believe this will be accepted. This committee is primarily concerned with research animals and he doesn’t think they want to combine these functions.
- A report on non-research animal management by every campus will be sent to him every year. V.P. Ewart will be in charge of reviewing these reports.
- Information will be provided to the entire campus. This will include including our policies on pets and feral animals.
- All owners of on-campus pets should obtain an ID tag for their pets. (The University has purchased a chip scanner).

Vice President Ewart emphasized that these were recommendations and the task force would be working on deciding which proposals to address and implement. These recommendations were reviewed by officials from the City of Moscow and the Humane Society. V.P. Ewart felt this was a good conversation that also covered the capabilities of each of these institutions. He noted that the Humane Society would be trying to develop a list of places that captured animals could go. He realized this was an important issue and not something the task force wanted to rush into. He stated that it was our responsibility to have an efficient and humane way to deal with animals on campus. He hoped to have a plan in place in the near future and would come back to the Senate and report on the progress in January. V.P. Ewart (along with General Counsell) has met with the City and has a better understanding of our responsibility in following municipal code. We have a better understanding of the capabilities of the Humane Society and where they will be able to help. He believes these will be good partnerships.

A Senator asked if we would be sending a press release to the Daily News. V.P. Ewart stated that he didn’t have an answer at this moment but thought this was a good suggestion. Another Senator asked about the extent of euthanasia and if we weren’t doing this anymore how were these animals being housed? He stated that we had used euthanasia but were not anymore. If there isn’t an immediate issue of safety we are leaving the situation alone if there is an issue, we are calling the Moscow Police Department. This does not include issues related to animal research. A Senator wondered about our ability to fine students who abandon animals when they leave school. V.P. Ewart stated they haven’t had that discussion but would follow municipal code. APM 40.22 B-2 was referred to and it was noted that the policy was pretty clear that live trapping was allowed only if animal control or the Humane Society of the Palouse officials are notified and install the traps. The Vice President acknowledged that this policy and the Moscow municipal code were not followed during the previous summer. This is something they will fix in the future. Asked why the press was charged a fee when they requested records, V.P. Ewart stated that this is a requirement of state public records law. Since gathering these records takes time and uses university resources, we can charge for that time. Chair Brandt thanked the Vice President for his time and stated that we will look forward to his report.

Adjournment: With no other business on the agenda, a motion (Foster/Cannon) to adjourn passed unanimously at 4:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Crowley, Faculty Secretary &
Secretary to the Faculty Senate