Call to Order and Minutes. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:31 pm. A motion to approve the minutes (Dezzani/Wiest) passed unanimously.

Chair’s Report.
- The chair expressed his thanks to Vice Chair Terry Grieb for covering the last senate meeting in the chair’s absence.
- Senators are reminded that selection of senators to fill open terms must be completed and reported to the faculty secretary by April 15, 2019.
- Petitions requesting further consideration of items in General Curriculum Report 295 are due to aaronj@uidaho.edu by February 22, 2019.
- University Honors Program will host a Remembrance Gathering for Tom Bitterwolf on February 20 at 5:00 p.m. in the Living and Learning Center.
- The Jazz Festival is February 22-23. Senators are encouraged to attend. The chair especially noted the UI’s international jazz collection on display at the Lionel Hampton School of Music.
- The Denton Darrington Lecture on Law and Government will be on February 27, 2019. The lecture, entitled “Civility, Humility and Interbranch Relations,” will be given by Chief Justice Charles T. Canady, Florida Supreme Court at 4:00 p.m. PST/5:00 p.m. MST. The lecture will be live in Boise at the Idaho State Capitol Building, Lincoln Auditorium and also will be livestreamed in Moscow at the College of Law Courtroom.

A senator commented that the Jazz Festival is still in need of volunteers and asked that a last minute announcement could be included in the Talking Points.

Provost Report. The provost also reminded senators of the upcoming Jazz Festival. In addition, the provost called senators’ attention to and expressed his appreciation for the recent panel discussion on hazing sponsored by Student Affairs and Fraternity and Sorority Life. The event, held on February 12, included parents who have lost children to deaths related to hazing was sponsored by the organization Parents United to Stop Hazing. Finally, the provost reminded senators that the annual evaluation process is coming to a close and encouraged all those with responsibility for annual evaluations to complete their work in a timely fashion.

University Curriculum Committee (UCC)(vote)
- FS-19-059 (UCC-19-026b) – Regulation H – Final Examinations. Registrar Dwaine Hubbard presented the proposed changes to Regulation H. The changes provide that students with more than two finals in one day can re-schedule the final in the lowest enrollment class. A senator commented that it would be helpful if the registrar could digitally check for schedule conflicts and alert affected students early in the semester or even at the time of registration. Hubbard responded that the registrar’s office has begun to track which classes have a scheduled final in an effort to provide such information in the future. Another senator suggested that the scheduled exam time be included with each course listing at the time of registration. Another senator pointed out that the proposed policy language is ambiguous as to whether an instructor would be required to offer an alternative exam if the student requested the change after the
deadline and the professor and student could not arrive at an accommodation. An editorial change was suggested to eliminate the ambiguity. After the editorial change, the proposed policy provides:

“Students with more than two finals in one day may have the excess final(s) rescheduled. Students who need to have a final rescheduled should make arrangements as early in the semester as possible, but no later than two weeks prior to the start of final examination week. Requests submitted after this date are left to the discretion of the instructors. If voluntary accommodation is not achieved, the instructor of the class with the lowest enrollment will offer an alternative exam. The rescheduled exam will take place during one of the designated conflict exam periods or as arranged with the course instructor. Requests submitted after this date the deadline are left to the discretion of the instructors.”

The proposal including the editorial revision passed unanimously. The chair reminded senators that the body had previously approved an amendment to Regulation H. Because of ambiguities in the first approved proposal the faculty secretary asked the University Curriculum Committee to re-consider the proposal. It was moved (Jeffrey/Chopin) that the version of Regulation H passed at this meeting be substituted for the previously approved version of Regulation H. The motion to substitute passed unanimously.

- **FS-19-060** (UCC-19-040) – Patricia Colberg from the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, presented the proposal to change the name of the minor in Geological Engineering to Geological and Mining Engineering. She explained that the minor has been restructured and that the name change will be helpful to students seeking careers in mining. A senator asked whether the credits listed for the elective courses of 7-12 should be 9-12. Professor Colberg confirmed and accepted this as a friendly edit. The proposed change as amended passed unanimously.

- **FS-19-061** (UCC-19-050) – Concurrent Degrees and Subsequent Baccalaureate Degrees. Registrar Hubbard presented the proposed revision to clarify that the provisions regarding subsequent degrees do not apply to students pursuing concurrent degrees. The proposal passed unanimously.

The chair introduced Cynthia Castro, Director of Student Success Initiatives, to discuss the outlook for advising. Director Castro explained that she over-sees UI’s Academic Support Programs including Student Support Service TRIO, Student Athlete Support Services and Tutoring and College Success (tutoring, academic coaching, and Supplemental Instruction). She has also been asked to take on the projects of spear-heading UI’s new advising structure. Recently three lead advisor positions have been created that report to Castro. Loosely, these three lead positions have responsibility for STEM programs, Liberal Arts and Retention Initiatives. Two of the positions have recently been filled through internal searches. Michael Hammes will fill the Retention Initiatives Lead Advisor position and Shawna Bertlin will fill the Lead Advisor position in Liberal Arts. These lead advisors will focus on improvising advising practices based on research, analysis, data and assessment. They also will work with VandalStar and with the Student Success Coordinator.

Currently there are a number of vacant positions in advising. A national search is underway for STEM Lead Advisor, with a March 8, 2019 first consideration date. Hammes’s move to lead advisor has created an opening in the College of Science. The VandalStar Coordinator position is also vacant. Castro is working to update the position description so a search to fill this position can begin. There also is a vacant advising position in the Honors Program. Castro is working with Sandra Reineke, Director of the Honors Program, to update the position description and begin the hiring process for this position. As with the other open positions, Castro is working on updating the position description so a hiring process can begin. She explained that the UI is working to develop a uniform position description for academic advisors across disciplines. Castro also indicated that three new advisors have recently been hired. She is working to
ensure that these three new hires are ready to assist with advising once UIdaho Bound (UIB) begins or shortly after.

In addition to implementing the new structure and filling positions, the current challenges for advising include implementing effective outreach in response to early warning and mid-term grades, specifically from faculty advisors and preparing for UIB. The UI’s advising season officially begins on March 25. She is working collaboratively with college leadership to support training and onboarding of new advisors. Castro specifically mentioned collaborative work with the College of Natural Resources, College of Engineering and the College of Letters Arts and Social Sciences. In addition, both lead advisors (Hammes and Bertlin) will continue to support advising in their former positions while transitioning slowly into their new lead positions. Both will take a hiatus from their lead advisor positions to meet the needs for frontline advising this spring. Also, Director Rieneke and Emily Hill will support advising for the Honors Program.

Finally, the University Advising Services team will begin work on developing a structured training program for advisors that will also have a track for interested faculty advisors. She would like to identify faculty who would be interested in assisting with this project – in particular with coordination between faculty advisors and professional advisors. Her vision is that this training would begin with the onboarding process for new advisors and would include progressive modules to address various advising needs.

A senator asked how advising would support off-campus students. Castro responded that the first step of the new structure is to focus on organization on the Moscow campus. However, she stressed that she is coordinating with individual colleges to address unique college needs. The senator suggested that advising should be up-to-date on the articulation agreements between UI and various other institutions such as North Idaho College. Castro agreed that this would be an appropriate strategy. However, it is not currently part of her focus in building an effective advising team. Once the team is in place, additional issues can be addressed.

A senator asked whether transfer students are automatically assigned directly to a faculty advisor. Castro stated that such an assignment depends on the college. If there is a need for University Advising Services to step in and support a transfer student, they will do so. For example, Castro pointed out that the College of Business and Economics supports transfer students through their college advising program. Other colleges assign students directly to a faculty advisor. The senator suggested that it will be important to have a clear protocol for transfer students regarding the relationship between faculty and professional advising. He pointed out that if a transfer student receives weak advising, the student can lose a semester or even an entire year. He stressed the need to have well communicated transfer protocols.

A senator expressed concern that the College of Science appears to have a serious unmet need for advising with one open position and Michael Hammes’s move to lead advisor. Castro reminded the senator that Hammes is continuing to serve in his role as a front-line advisor while he slowly transfers to the lead position and that he will “take a pause” from a lead role during the peak advising season in order to ensure that the College of Science advising needs are met. The senator also noted that a number of the advisors were new and asked about support for them during this spring’s advising season. She noted that she has put in place a process to assist these new hires to ensure that students get appropriate support.

A senator asked whether Castro could review the role and function of the lead advisors. Castro responded that the STEM and Liberal Arts lead advisor positions are similar. These two positions will provide support for front-line advisors, serve as a liaison to college faculty and administration, and be available for complex or difficult advising matters. All three lead advisors will also focus on program development and implementation. For example, Castro will be relying on the lead advisors to assist in developing training. Other programmatic issues that must be addressed include developing university wide probation
programming, working on the professional advisor to faculty advisor handoff, and formalizing the role of advisors in student onboarding initiatives such as UIB. Her vision is that the lead advisors will coordinate project teams that will develop these programs.

A senator expressed concern that the new advising structure will not support career paths of students that cross disciplines, particularly in emerging areas. He pointed out, for example, that synergies are emerging between fields such as Geography and International Studies, Statistics and Natural Resources. He asked how adaptive the new advising system will be? The provost asked the senator whether the synergies were student driven or faculty driven? The faculty member responded that they were both student and faculty driven. Castro responded that the new structure will provide the opportunity for cross-training and communication to facilitate collaboration. Her vision with the training program is that there will be different levels of training available so that some advisors can develop specialized expertise across content areas and disciplines. She also responded that the new structure will support coordination and communication among advisors who will meet regularly. The senator responded that these approaches would likely not go far enough to facilitate the type of advising he envisioned. In his view, the expertise on these innovative career paths is within the different academic departments. He stated that better connections need to be formed with faculty advisors regarding unique mixes of courses. He is suspicious that the new hierarchy will not be consistent with this need.

A senator asked whether faculty advisors will have the same training as professional advisors. She indicated that her college has a shadowing approach to training that has not been efficient. Castro responded that while they have not built the training curriculum yet, she envisions that it will include tracks for both faculty and professional advisors. She would like to identify faculty who would be interested in helping to develop the training curriculum.

A senator pointed out issues with the titles of the new lead advisors – STEM and Liberal Arts. She is in a college that has been placed in the liberal arts category but that has significant STEM activities. Castro acknowledged issues with both the titles and the organization. Given the speed of developments, loose working titles were carried forward. The provost pointed out that other colleges such as CNR have similar issues. It was suggested that these should simply be labeled “Group 1” and “Group 2”. Castro stated that she is open to thoughts and ideas about how to address these sorts of organizational issues.

Castro concluded by stating that she is thankful that faculty are asking how to help advance the new advising structure. She stressed that faculty support is crucial to make advising a success. Her intent is to put students first in working through issues with the new structure. Castro welcomed questions and concerns. She especially encouraged faculty to participate in UIB advising on March 23 and March 30. Faculty presence contributes to the success of these events. Finally, in the long term, she encouraged faculty to participate in training opportunities regarding advising.

A senator commented that she has experienced gaps in advising for students who transfer to UI from North Idaho College. She stated that we are losing these students.

The chair thanked Castro for her presentation.

The agenda having been completed, a motion (Dezzani/Jeffery) to adjourn passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Liz Brandt, Faculty Secretary & Secretary to the Faculty Senate