Present: Brandt (w/o vote), Benedum, Bridges, Cannon (Boise), Caplan, Chopin, Dezanni, DeAngelis, Ellison, Grieb (Vice Chair), Jeffery, Johnson (Chair), Keim, Kern (Coeur d’Alene), King, Kirchmeier, Laggis, Lawrence (for Wieneck w/o vote), Lee, Lee-Painter, Luckhart, McKellar (Idaho Falls), Morgan, Raja, Seamon, Tibbals, Vella, Wilson (for Morgan, w/o vote), Wiest. Absent: Lambeth, Schwarzlaender, Wieneck. Guests: 6

Call to Order and Minutes. The chair called the meeting to order at 4:20 pm. A motion to approve the minutes (Lee-Painter/Dezanni) passed unanimously.

Chair’s Report.
- The chair announced that our much loved and respected support staff, Anna Thompson is retiring at the end of the fiscal year. He praised her amazing institutional knowledge, heart and passion for the institution and for the faculty senate. She will be greatly missed.
- Meetings with presidential candidates and faculty senate will continue through the remainder of the week at 3:30 p.m. in the Paul J. Joyce Lounge.
- Faculty senators whose terms are expiring are reminded to ensure their college elects new senators and report to the Faculty Secretary April 15th.
- The State Board of Education (SBOE) has launched a Data Dashboard with information about K-12 and higher education in Idaho.
- UIdaho Bound is coming up on the Moscow campus on March 23 and 30. UIdaho Bound events will be held off campus during May. UIdaho Bound is an opportunity to showcase the UI to prospective students who have already express strong interest in attending. The chair encouraged faculty to participate in this important recruitment effort.
- The Women’s Centers at UI and Washington State University will be co-hosting a Women’s Leadership conference on April 3, 2019. The theme of the conference is “Finding Your Power: Cultivating Authentic Leadership.” Registration is currently open to faculty, staff and students.

A senator thanked the chair for his strong endorsement of the quality of UI students at a meeting with one of the UI presidential candidates that preceded the senate meeting. Another senator emphasized that UI’s students throughout the state are also outstanding.

Provost Report. Vice Provost for Faculty Torrey Lawrence gave the provost’s report in the absence of the provost. Lawrence conveyed the happy news that registrations for the two Moscow UIdaho Bound events are on track to exceed last year’s registrations. This bodes well for freshman enrollment in the coming year.

FS-19-063 – FSH 3320 C Administrator Evaluation. Liz Brandt, the Faculty Secretary, gave the report for the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) chair Mary Ytreberg, who was unable to attend. Brandt explained that the revised policy for evaluation of administrators was passed by Senate early in the fall semester (FS-19-001). At the time, although several concerns were expressed, the policy passed so that it could be implemented by spring 2019. The concerns were that the language in the policy regarding confidentiality of evaluations needed to be clarified and that the policy did not contain a mechanism by which faculty could trigger review of an administrator. After discussions with VP Lawrence, it was determined that there was no need to implement the policy in spring 2019. The Faculty Affairs Committee thus took the opportunity to address senate’s concerns. The present proposal is a substitute for the revision previously passed.

A senator asked whether the office of Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation (IEA) which collects the confidential evaluations, communicates the names of the evaluators. VP Lawrence explained that this past year, he tried to partially implement the new approach to evaluation using an electronic survey tool to collect evaluations. However, because the revised policy had not be passed, he was obligated to utilize the form that was actually part of the old policy. Pursuant to the old form, evaluators were asked for their names on an optional basis and those names were passed on to the supervisor who was conducting the administrator’s evaluation. Under the new policy, the form has been eliminated and names would not be passed on. Nonetheless senators expressed concern that the confidentiality of evaluators would not be adequately protected.
A senator asked whether the percentage of faculty voting to trigger the review of an administrator would be confidential. Both Brandt and Lawrence (who had participated in the FAC deliberations) indicated that the committee had not considered the voting percentage. Several senators expressed the view that the percentage should be confidential along with the names of those signing a petition for review.

A senator asked why staff were not included in the process for triggering a review of an administrator. Brandt responded that the reviews in question are of faculty administrators and generally staff do not vote on reviews of faculty. However she acknowledged that review of an administrator is different. A set number of those eligible to sign a petition is needed so that the threshold of 50% can be determined. She also expressed the concern that many staff might feel uncomfortable participating in such a process as they do not have the protection of tenure or academic freedom.

It was moved (Chopin/Dezanni) that the proposal be remanded to FAC to consider the concerns raised by senate. The motion passed unanimously.

**FS-19-064 – FSH 3720.** The Sabbatical Committee report was presented by VP Lawrence in the absence of the chair, Prof. Tara MacDonald, who was unable to attend due to class. The committee recommended that the form incorporated into the policy be eliminated. In addition, the committee recommended deleting the term “leave” to refer to sabbatical. This term implies that faculty on sabbatical are taking a leave from employment when, in fact, they remain full time employees. Finally, the committee recommended additional minor edits.

A faculty member asked whether it was still the case that faculty on sabbatical are not eligible for disability insurance. The faculty secretary responded that this was still the case. However, she added that Human Resources is working with the university’s disability insurer to negotiate coverage during sabbatical. She is hopeful that such insurance will be available in the future. A senator asked whether the lack of coverage was true for faculty on a one semester sabbatical who are still receiving full compensation. Secretary Brandt responded that she believes disability is not available even for one semester sabbaticals. A senator asked whether faculty on sabbatical were still paying disability premiums. Brandt did not know the answer to this question. The proposed revisions passed unanimously. [N.B. Human Resources clarified that disability is NOT affected for one semester sabbaticals of six (6) months or less. Also, members do not pay for coverage when they are not eligible for the benefit.]

**FS-19-065 – Regulation J-3-f.** Associate Registrar Rebecca Frost gave the report for the committee. Frost explained that the regulation is being revised to add additional course options to the American Diversity and International requirements in the core curriculum. The proposal passed unanimously.

**FS 19-066 – Geological Sciences B.S.** Professor Leslie Baker from the Department of Geology presented the proposal. She explained that the department is working to simplify its curriculum. The six options previously available were not being utilized and added unnecessary complexity. Two options are being eliminated, two are being combined into one, and one is being renamed. The proposal passed unanimously.

**FS 19-062—FSH 1640.08 – Admissions Committee.** Professor Ralph Neuhaus gave the report for the committee. He explained that the admissions committee hears appeals from applicants who do not meet UI’s normal standards for admission. These applicants will often be “at risk” students. The committee believes the advice of a professional advisor will assist it in evaluating appeals. The new committee member will serve ex officio and without vote. The proposal passed unanimously.

**FS-19-058 – FSH 1640.91 – UCC Structure Change.** Secretary Brandt gave the report of the committee. The structure of the committee is being added to include a College of Law representative. This proposal appeared prematurely on the last senate agenda before it had been approved by the Committee on Committees. The proposal passed unanimously.

The agenda having been completed, a motion (Tibbals/Dezanni) to adjourn passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

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