



FACULTY SENATE 2024-2025

**ISU Faculty Senate
Official Minutes
Monday, February 3, 2025 4:00-6:00 p.m.**

Location: Shirley Sargent Family Boardroom, 3rd floor Pond Student Union Building, Pocatello Campus

Or join via Zoom:

<https://www.google.com/url?q=https://isu.zoom.us/j/82564053789?pwd%3DyTfcgB4rvqpHpqqg2j4Ul4H18F0u0T.1&sa=D&source=calendar&ust=1736613822007763&usg=AOvVaw2D6qG6abTriV-luRNPurLz>

Meeting ID: 825 6405 3789

Passcode: 174961

In Attendance: Amanda Zink, Colden Baxter, Suzanne Beasterfield, Samantha Blatt, Donna Delparte, Mikle Ellis, Cara-Lee Esplin, Caryn Evilia, Tony Forest, Elaine Foster, John Holmes, Bob Houghton, Dan Hudock, Spencer Jardine, Dave Smith

Attending by ZOOM: Dave Bagley, Carmen Febles, Dave Hanneman, Michael Kobus, Daniel LaBrier, Diane Ogiela, Paul Yeates

Absent but Excused: Amanda Henscheid

Absent: Duane Rawlings

Ex Officio/Guests: Laura Ahola-Young, Adam Bradford, Matt Daily, Daniel Moore, Sofia Peach (ASISU Director of PR), Jen Steele, President Wagner

Ex Officio/Guests Attending by ZOOM: Alex Bolinger, Iris Buder, Nikyra Capson, Kaywin Cottle, Dan Dale, Dallen Farmer, Elizabeth Fore, Alex Gantt-Howrey, Veronica Garcia, Cindy Hill, Jena Lords, Mary Nies, Liz Redd, Sonali Salunkhe, Ryan Sargent

Recording Secretary: Lisa Hunt

1) Chair Call Meeting to Order and Welcome Remarks – Amanda Zink - 3:05

2) Reading of Tribal Land Acknowledgement – Dave Smith – 4:20

3) Open Forum – 5:15

a) Bob Houghton

i) Concern regarding the ISU Counseling Dept. Facebook Page adding a plagiarized quote (without correct citing) from an 'HR Expert' regarding what DEI is – College of Business did not release this info

4) Announcements (please review and feel free to ask questions) – 7:20



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Senators: Please remind your constituents that **'Open Forum'** is for faculty to make a statement, express a concern, or ask the Senate to consider an issue they feel is important.

- a) The **State of the University Address** with President Wagner is tomorrow, Feb. 4. He will be covering many things, including the recent progress and accomplishments of ISU and the budget.
- b) Two senators are needed to replace Fredi Giesler and Elizabeth Fore on the **Employee Engagement Survey working group**. Asking for volunteers to fill these seats ASAP!
- c) The **Faculty Senate Executive Committee** also needs a nominee to fill Elizabeth Fore's seat. We meet on the Mondays opposite the Faculty Senate meetings from 4:00p to 6:00p in the Pond SUB Boardroom.
- d) Wednesday, Feb. 19, the Office for Research is holding the following meeting. All faculty are invited to attend.

Title: 2025 Carnegie Classification Updates and Potential Impact on ISU

Time: 3:00p to 4:00p

Location: Rendezvous Suite A. There will also be a ZOOM link for those who cannot attend in person

- e) Office for Research will be holding a **Town Hall** meeting on Monday, Feb. 24 on ZOOM.
Time: 2:00p to 3:00p
ZOOM: <https://isu.zoom.us/j/81029413097>
- f) Representatives are needed for the following positions (**New terms end in 2027 unless otherwise indicated**):
 - i) Faculty Senate
 - (1) CAL – Fine Arts and Humanities
 - (a) Replacing voting seat formerly occupied by Amanda Zink – special election – term ends May 2026
 - (2) CAL – Social and Behavioral Science
 - (a) Replacing Kellee Kirkpatrick – special election – term ends May 2027
 - ii) Undergraduate Curriculum Council (UCC)
 - (1) CAL – Social and Behavioral Science
 - (a) Replacing Jona Jacobson – special election – term ends 2027
 - iii) GERC - State-wide GEM Discipline Group Representatives
 - (1) Objective 6 – Anthropology, Economics, Education, History, Global Studies, Political Science, Psychology, Social Work, or Sociology
 - (a) One alternate representative

5) Approve Today's Meeting Agenda – February 3, 2025 – 8:15

ACTION – Tony Forest motioned to amend today's agenda by moving 14c to Continuing Business

Mikle Ellis seconded

Motion died with 3 yes, 11 no, 2 abstentions

- a) Discussion



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ACTION – Elaine Foster motioned to approve today’s agenda
Dave Smith seconded
Motion carried unanimously

6) Faculty Senate Minutes Approval – [December 9, 2024](#) and [January 13, 2025](#) – 13:30

ACTION – minutes approved by unanimous consent

7) Consent Agenda – Approve council or committee actions/decisions (Click link(s) below for document(s)) – 13:50

- a) [FPPC Official Minutes November 20, 2024](#)
- b) [FPPC Official Minutes December 4, 2024](#)
- c) [RC Official Minutes December 6, 2024](#)
- d) [APRVD UCC-2025-26-Proposal-060 COT-Agricultural Production AAS & BTC](#)

ACTION - minutes approved by unanimous consent

8) Bengal Giving Day - Daniel Moore, Office of Alumni Relations and Advancement Communications – 15:25

- a) This year’s Bengal Giving Day event will be March 18 and 19
- b) Crowd-funding initiative: bengalgivingday.com
- c) Opportunity for employees to give for the first time and hopefully renew their commitment in the future years
- d) May choose a specific area to support
- e) Many ways to give including a payroll deduction option
- f) Contact info: giving@isu.edu, or extension x1113

9) Legislative Session update – President Wagner and Ryan Sargent via ZOOM – 19:15

- a) Anti-DEI bill update
 - i) Currently in draft form and written by Sen. Ben Toews (R-Cd’A), a member of the DEI Taskforce established by the Speaker of the House and the Senate Pro Tem. The taskforce was asked to look into DEI initiatives that were happening in colleges/universities
 - (1) This committee had no clear understanding of their role. Sen. Toews drafted a bill to address a ‘perceived’ problem in regards to DEI
 - ii) Pres. Wagner and Ryan Sargent are working with SBOE to address this
 - iii) ISU is well-positioned politically with good relationships with members of the Legislature
- b) Another proposed bill (still in a work group) reaches into curriculum including censorship of what words can be said in classes
- c) Unknown what problem the legislature has with this vague and contradictory policy
- d) Pres. Wagner was the only university president that sat down with the legislature regarding this issue, his concerns were addressed
- e) Ryan Sargent is at the Capitol full-time now during the legislative session
- f) Life Science Bld. - \$14 mill (gov. office and the Building Fund Advisory Council recommended, JFAC will follow)



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- g) CEC – Gov. office recommended 5% increase for state employees - JFAC still considering
- i) Budget projections are not in yet, many ambitious projects to be funded
- h) Higher Ed week went very well for ISU
- i) Title IX moved under the Pres. Office and Senate is happy
- j) State of University Address tomorrow! (Challenging things will be addressed)

10) Budget report - Jen Steele – 56:30

- a) Multi-year deficit reduction plan
 - i) Started out the fiscal year with \$6.5mil deficit in central funds; additional \$3mil will be cut due to increased enrollment and tuition revenue and continued conservative spending
- b) Fiscal year 2026 will present a balanced budget one year ahead of schedule
 - i) Maintain enrollment gains
 - ii) Proposing tuition increases
 - iii) Governor’s budget recommendation includes \$900,000 in operational capacity enhancement
 - iv) Added \$1mil increase for enrollment workload adjustment (state funding formula)
 - v) Merit and across the board raises (CEC)
- c) Budget Optimization Initiatives
 - i) Four more projects to be implemented with the University Administration Group reviewing data
- d) OAR core personnel model has been implemented
- e) BAG will continue meeting - moving toward maintenance and assessment, data sets and decision support
- f) Budget Town Hall by ZOOM Mar. 13, opportunity to submit questions in advance

11) Student Affairs report – Matt Daily – 1:07:45

- a) Introduction of Sofia Peach, Director of public relations for ASISU
- b) Gatsby event was very successful with a lot of student participation
- c) Budget – reaching out to ASISU/AA regarding the funding model to possibly redistribute student fees
- d) Developing an ISU ‘Hazing’ Policy to comply with federal mandate by June
- e) Recently, a student passed away; Peer Team is working with students
 - i) A form will be available to share students’ concerns
- f) Book Bundle issues to be addressed such as student accessibility
- g) Mindful approach and resources for student concerns regarding ICE issue

12) Academic Affairs report – Adam Bradford – 1:21:55

- a) Statement of support for ISU

13) Continuing Business – 1:24:15

- a) Ratification of newly elected representatives of the Councils/Committees
 - i) Faculty Senate College of Health representative Dan Hudock (replacing Elizabeth Fore)
 - ii) FPPC College of Science and Engineering representative Leslie Kerby
 - iii) Standing Appeals Panel College of Health representative Melissa Ray (replacing Gabe Bargaen)

ACTION – Bob Houghton motioned to accept the newly elected representatives
Suzanne Beasterfield seconded



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Motion carried with 19 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention

- b) Update from the Faculty Evaluations working group – Suzanne Beasterfield
 - i) Making plans for Town Halls for meetings with the chairs
 - ii) Rolling out proposed changes in the new academic year
 - iii) Engaging with Doug McGee regarding assessment and the development of the new Teaching and Learning Center
 - (1) Document teaching effective pedagogical practices, data and effectiveness in regard to annual evaluations
- c) Formation of the Tech/Curriculum working group – Bob Houghton
 - i) Need volunteers to serve on this committee
 - ii) The committee will make recommendations to FS on how to incorporate curriculum and technology, integrate LMS (CANVAS), create tutorials etc.
- d) Faculty Voting Procedure update – Michael Kobus
 - i) System is in place from the Enterprise Resource Group that will provide access for voting through BANNER. The data for elections will be provided by FS Bylaws and Constitution
 - ii) Test Pilot in CAL (halted due to the divisions within the college)
- e) Update from the Bylaws working group: edits to sections IV, V and VI - Michael Kobus
 - i) Proposed edits and additions
 - ii) This Work Group consists of Michael Kobus, Samantha Blatt, Colden Baxter and Bob Houghton

14) New Business

- ~~a) Open discussion of DEI~~
- ~~b) Open discussion regarding international faculty/staff/students~~
- ~~c) Proposed motion to forward recommendations regarding revision of Workload Policy 4090 to the new Provost – Tony Forest~~
 - i) [Workload Policy Recommendations email](#)

15) Adjournment - 6:07p

ACTION – Mickle Ellis motioned to adjourn
Bob Houghton seconded
Motion approved by unanimous consent