



Minutes

Conference Call Meeting
Wednesday, January 21, 2015 | 1P.M.

Present: Brett McKeachnie, Kathleen Briggs, Bruce Barclay, Sylvia Bradshaw, Mace Jacobson, Jack Freeman, Debbie Murphy, Andrea Brown, Debbie Millett, Sheri Butler, Holly , Jared Wilken, Butch Steffen, James Miller, Carol Jacobson, Todd Hugie, Michael Blain, Julia Ellis, Paul Peterson

Welcome and Roll Call

Dixie State University – Kathleen Briggs, Sylvia Bradshaw, Mace Jacobson, Andrea Brown, Jack Freeman, Debbie Millet, James Miller

Utah State University – Todd Hugie

Salt Lake Community College – Mike Blain, Butch Steffen, Julia Ellis

Utah State University – Eastern (no one)

Snow College – Carol Jacobson

Utah Valley University – Brett McKeachnie

Southern Utah University – Bruce Barclay, Sheri Butler, Jared Wilken

Weber State University – Debbie Murphy

University of Utah – Paul Peterson, Holly Biglow

Minutes

The minutes of the November 19, 2014 meeting were approved.

February and March meetings

At the July meeting it was decided to discontinue UHESA day at the capital. But Higher Education Day at the Capital is February 20, 2015. It was decided that the February meeting would again be a conference call on February 18. Then those who could participate on the 20th could do so, but that there would be less structure as a group and more personal contact with legislators.

The meeting at Dixie could then be moved to either March 20th or 27th. Brett will finalize the March date, gathering opinions including the pros and cons of meeting on same day as the Board of Regents.

Legislative Committee Report - Holly

Holly emphasized that our biggest priority this year is a 3% compensation increase with a 5% increase to cover health and dental insurance costs.

She then led a discussion about meeting on February 20th, saying this is a day we can make a pretty big impact, which should be communicated to the school staff associations. It was decided that there wouldn't be schedule speakers. Spencer may have other ideas, so Brett will work with him to find out if we can be recognized on the floor of each house. Holly will try to find a place to meet briefly to meet at 9:00, then go out to meet with the representatives.

Holly reminded us that 10 email messages are necessary to get the attention of a legislator and gave the following tips:

1. Try to make the wording be different from other peoples' messages.
2. Mention that you are their constituent or contact people you know, even if they aren't your constituent.
3. We should also be pushing the goals of our own institution. We want to come in as a united voice.
4. Keep the message consistent, but remember and make it clear that you represent yourself, not your institution.

Butch added that many people have put much work in the past to let our concerns be known, suggesting that we try not to let it go to waste. He said piggy-backing on Higher Ed day cuts down on confusion, but it needs to be organized carefully. The benefit is not only to lobby, but learn about the process.

Treasurer's Report

In his absence, Brett reported that Vern has been in contact with the USHE accounting office to get UHESA funds transferred from the University of Utah to USHE.

PR/Media Committee Report

No minutes have been posted. There has been progress made on new web site. It was successfully transferred off of the SUU servers.

Comparison Point Discussion: Legislative Issues

The group discussed that information sent in by school representatives.

We were encouraged to get the information from the correct resources on campuses and update it as more information comes in, sending it to Kathleen. She will then compile it into one file with tabbed sheets indicating the various topics, making it a valuable resource for all of the schools.

Next Month's Comparison Discussion Point: Wellness Plans and Initiatives

Next Meeting and Adjournment

February 18th, conference call at 1:00 pm