

UHESA Meeting #36
UHESA Day at the Capitol
February 7, 2008
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

WELCOME and BUSINESS ITEMS.....Clint Moser

Meeting called to order at 1:05 pm.

College of Eastern Utah:	No one in attendance
Dixie State College:	No one in attendance
Salt Lake Community College:	Butch Steffen
Snow College:	Mike Jorgensen & Jeff Serrine
Southern Utah University:	Casey Bowns, Barbara Rodriguez and Bruce Tebbs
University of Utah:	No one in attendance
Utah State University:	Jill Ballard, Karen Hoffman & Craig Miller
Utah Valley State College:	Clint Moser
Weber State University:	Carol Lapine

BUSINESS ITEMS.....Clint Moser

Meeting called to order at 10:40.

There were employees from every institution on hand except for CEU and UofU.
CEU was planning on attending but didn't because of the weather. SLCC had over 30 attend.

UHESA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.....Butch Steffen

Butch thanked everyone for being there. The Board of Regents priorities for this year are Teachers Pay and retention of teachers. There is an issue of science and math teachers. There is a bill out there to give them an extra \$5000 to help retain them. The second priority for the board of reagents is the SLCC/SL-Tooele merger. There was an education committee meeting and about 1/2 are for it and about 1/2 are against it. The committee decided to move on to the next agenda item and there has been no vote taken. If the committee votes in favor of it, it will go to the house. The 3rd priority is the reagents scholarship program. This bill is being sponsored by Senator Lyle Hillyard. One time 50 million appropriation and goes into an account and they have requested 7.5 million ongoing funds. Through a stipulation of performance and achievement for 8th graders they will be given a scholarship when they graduate from High School. The money is used exclusively for tuition for higher education. Commissioner Kendall, who has recently retired from the commission, was concerned that there seems to be a gap in 18-34 year olds as far as getting them into the higher education system. They are hoping that by giving them some kind of incentive, they will have money to get them started their 1st year. The bill is Senate bill 180.

Bills that UHESA that we would like to support today are:

Senate Bill 180, which is talked about above.

Senate 103 which is sponsored by Senator Stowell is called a higher education enhancement

Bill. 20 Million dollar appropriation and the money will be divvied up among the 9 colleges and universities through the board of regents.

House bill 284 sponsored by Representative Holdaway is the SLCC/SL-Tooele merger.

One bill that we opposed the last couple of years is House bill 241 sponsored by Representative Donaldson. This bill repeals the undocumented children that have gone through high school and qualify for in state tuition at higher education.

You will meet with the Legislators in the capitol. We can ask them to come to room W010 and meet with us if you would like. The tour will be at 1:00 and you will need to meet on the bottom floor on the east side of the building by the door. There will be someone there to meet us. They will probably have to divide us up into two groups. Butch encouraged us to go and fill out the cards and to meet with the legislators in our area. Take the UHESA cards and take them to the legislators and also take them back to your institutions and give them to employees and have them contact their legislators and let them know what our priorities are. Cost of living increase was 4.1% last year and this year is probably higher. We need to let the legislators know that it is going up. Utah is #1 in the country in producing jobs. If we are producing jobs that means there is revenue coming in. There is close to a 400 million dollar general fund surplus. The Higher Education Appropriations Committee members are having their final meeting today at 2:00 in room W020. It is okay if you would like to talk to the legislators about your own institution priorities along with UHESA's. It was brought up that UHESA day is only one day. We can keep in contact with our Legislators after today and still have an impact. We can continue to communicate with them via email or letters.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS.....Committee

Clint asked if there were any issues that anyone would like to talk about that we could address at our next meeting. One of the suggestions was Publication of salaries. The salaries are public information and it is a state policy. If there are enough people that are concerned about it we can look into it. The information is not always accurate. Some of it is outdated, the base salary is reported and overtime and other issues are not added into it. Each institution may report it differently so it isn't accurate when you try and compare them.

Another issue that was brought up was the some states are not at will. You can fire at will. How can we change that? In a union you have to have a reason to fire and here it is fired at will and you don't have to have a reason. Some schools have a policy that there has to be a reason to fire someone.

It was asked if UHESA has a strategic plan and a mission statement. Clint pulled the information off of our website and gave them the information. It was brought up that we meet monthly and that anyone can go to their staff Presidents and they can bring up issues that they would like us to look into.

Butch brought up that we start working with the legislators in September and continue to work with them until UHESA day. UHESA will only be as strong as the people who represent us. The institutions lean on each other and what works for one may work for another one. The representative from each institution bring things up and see what is going on at other institutions and if it is working for them they will take it back to their institution and see if they can make it work there too. There is over 24,000 plus members of UHESA. It was brought up that a lot of the

people in attendance, which are not on the board, don't ever hear anything about UHESA or what we are doing. Butch brought up we are only as strong as our leadership and it needs to be sold on individual campuses. Each institutions staff presidents are invited to our monthly meeting and it is their job to get the information out to the staff at their institution and to keep them informed of what we are doing.

It was asked if we could do some sort of poll to see what way staff association election are handled at each school. For example if someone was running for staff association president what are the rules at each institution? At SLCC you still have to have the Approval of your supervisor. And is someone would like to run for election that sometimes gets in the way. He would like to know if there are any rules in place at each institution for running for office. He would like to know if there is a statement about supporting the staff associations from the Presidents of the institution. There is a statement for serving with the state board of regents for staff. We will look into this and bring it up at our next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, March 13, 2008

Via conference call