

FACULTY SENATE
October 24, 2007
REID HALL 104
4:10 AM – 5:00 PM
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Minutes

Members Present: Amin, Ashley, Bailey, Becker, Bandyopadhyay, Christopher, Dyer, Fleck, Gerlach, Gipp, Jacobs, Leech, Livingston, Longcope, Lynch, Marshall for D. Weaver, Mokwa, Prawdzienski, Starkey for Zhu, Taylor, T. Weaver

Members Absent: Ag/ED/AOT, Bangert, Bennett, Chem/Biochem, Cherry, Jackson, Johnson, Lei, M. McClure, Neeley, Nursing On-Campus, Peed, Pinet, Political Science, Watson

Others Present: Sheryl Dettman, Dave Dooley, Marvin Lansverk, Alex Rebane, Robert Swenson

Chair Shannon Taylor called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM. A quorum was present.

TRANSFER – Chair Taylor

- COHE Shelia Stearns is moving forward with the transfer initiatives, as legislature has set aside \$1.4M to solve the problem. Students from smaller MUS campuses would like specific classes taken to count when they transfer to another MUS campus e.g., Accounting I and Accounting II, Anatomy & Physiology. It is a difficult conundrum, as MSU is accredited and other MUS campuses are not. If core courses are completed at other campuses, they will transfer to MSU, however. There is support for common course numbering where transferring is on a one-to-one basis. Courses being examined, first, include:
 - Anatomy & Physiology
 - Accounting I and Accounting II
 - Algebra
 - Freshman Composition

OTHER – Chair Shannon Taylor

- Havre is experiencing a drop in attendance (from 1600 to 800) and a deficit of about \$150,000.00. Demographics in that area have changed, and there is no new infusion of students into the school. It has yet to be determined how this will be resolved.

WHO MAY BECOME A PI?

- Governmental granting entities (e.g., NIH, NSF) require policy to guarantee that the technical requirements and the day-to-day administration, as well as financial management, of a project are the responsibility of the Principal Investigator (PI). A general discussion about who may become a PI, essentially the overseer of a grant, ensued.
 - Why are some groups referenced in the policy as eligible to become PI's and others not?
 - According to some Faculty Senate members, there is not a clear delineation in the document wording about who can and who cannot become a PI.
 - Some FS members believe post docs should not be excluded from being PI's, as grant writing prepares them to teach at universities and colleges.
 - The President of the Association of Emeritus Faculty, Robert Swenson, noted that the old Faculty Handbook Section 900.00 Project Management policy allowed emeritus faculty members to become PI's; this new policy does not. Other institutions have clauses in their policies that automatically allow emeritus faculty members to become a PI. FS members stated that there may be a question of accountability should a grant not be completed by an emeritus faculty member PI. Tenure track faculty can be held accountable, as they are directly employed by the university whereas, an emeritus faculty member is not.
 - Provost Dooley iterated that emeritus, hiring, retention, promotion, tenure and post-tenure review are all faculty driven processes.
 - Some FS members believed the document was appropriate, and that oversight of grants is needed. Additionally, the last paragraph allows exception to anyone on the campus to become a PI, and wording should be left as it is.

- Provost Dooley stated that once a grant is signed off, we are institutionally obligated to provide space and resources. It is a strategic decision that must be made carefully, and by those people signing off. There have been departmental inconsistencies in the past with respect to grant writing, and the current PI document would eliminate that.
- FS members questioned the document and how it targets specific individuals who are able to sign off on grants and how that signature guarantees that space and resources will be available.
- Is “additional” space a required commitment of a grant?
- It was noted that there are long-term adjuncts that have had a successful grant writing career at the university.
- What about research scientists who are temporarily 0 FTE because they are between grants?

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM, as there was no other business.

Signature

Shannon Taylor, Chair

Signature

Gale R. Gough, Secretary