

**FACULTY SENATE**  
**February 25, 2015**  
**346 LEON JOHNSON**  
**4:10 PM – 5:00 PM**  
**MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BOZEMAN, MONTANA**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Adams for DeWeese (Art), Babbitt (Chair-elect), Babcock (Psychology), Berry (CE), Branch (Eng), Bolte (Music), Brester (Ag Econ), Brown (JJCBE), Davis (Math), Eggert (Emeritus), Gannon (Chem Eng), Greenwood (Math), Hendrixx (Earth Sci), Herbeck (Ed), Herman (NAS), Hostetler (GC), Kaiser (ECE), Larson (M&IE), Lawrence (Chem & Biochem), Martin (Mod Lang), Reidy (Chair), Qiu (Physics), Ricciardelli (Film & Photo), Seright (Nursing), A. Smith (HHD), Swinford (Soc/Anthro), Waller (Hist & Phil), Wilmer (Poli Sci), Wiedenheft (IMID), Zabinski (LRES)

**Others Present:** Susan Dana, Leslie Taylor, Seth Urick, Ron Larsen, Martha Potvin, Karlene Hoo, Matt Caires, Leila Serman, Larry Carucci, Terry Leist, George Haynes, Peter Fields

Call to Order – Chair-elect Babbitt

- Chair Reidy called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm, and a quorum was present. Minutes from February 18, 2015 were unanimously approved.

Announcements – Chair-elect Babbitt

- Courses and Programs
  - Five undergraduate courses are posted on the FS web site for consideration and will be voted on at the March 16, 2015 Steering Committee meeting, if no concerns are raised.
  - Proposed policies from Graduate Council will be posted on their new web site and be linked from the Faculty Senate web site. After feedback has been collected and written into the document, it will be brought back to UGC, and senate, if appropriate. The UGC has college representation and as part of their charge, members bring the policies to their colleges constituents for discussion. The Graduate School also hosts a monthly “Coffee Talk” session. These informal meetings for faculty and staff of degree granting departments are a time to discuss new items, ask questions and talk about graduate education on campus.
  - Business Certificate:
    - It is 18 credits; five courses plus one (1) elective certificate that passed CPC. There are very few pre-requisite requirements other than some mathematics courses: Requests from CPC were added to the proposal:
      - A pre-requisite chart;
      - A listing of other related programs, distinct from the certificate;
      - Verbiage stating the minimum grade of C- or better is required in all courses used for the certificate, as that is consistent with all other programs and courses at MSU, as well as BoR policy.
    - Larson: His colleagues questioned whether MSU, a degree granting institution, should be in the business of granting minor/minors? Currently, MSU grants three certificates, and there could be many more to follow. Is this the business we should be in? Babbitt stated that this is a discussion that will be taking place in CPC as well as Faculty Senate. If we are to have a flood of certificates, we need standards. MSU has two (2) undergraduate certificates. It is not known whether one may receive an undergraduate certificate without obtaining a BS.
    - Faculty Affairs is researching a template and baseline standards for minor/minors.
    - The BoR has a brief description about what a certificate should be; BOR does not approve certificates, but are notified and can object. OCHE is notified and they

- respond whether it is approved or not.
      - Motion to accept the certificate→seconded→all in favor→unanimously approved.
- Interdisciplinary Activities – Dean Adams
  - Ad hoc workgroup has been engaged in interdisciplinary idea discussions within Arts, Architecture, Music and Engineering. As a result, a document about why MSU is positioned for better interdisciplinary experiences, how it meets the SP and what hurdles MSU must overcome to engage in interdisciplinary teaching has been produced. Questions have arisen during the process:
    - How do we adjust the P&T process to support interdisciplinary teaching?
    - How can we increase the number of interdisciplinary learning experiences that are offered at MSU as well as the number of interdisciplinary team teaching opportunities and research proposal projects?
  - Currently, MSU does not have a structure that acknowledges or rewards interdisciplinary teaching.
  - The project will require input from faculty to formulate solutions.
  - Administration has been given the document for input.
  - Adams is advocating for a new workgroup to continue examining the concept and document. It will be posted on the FS web site and any inquiries should be directed to Dean Adams – [deanadams@montana.edu](mailto:deanadams@montana.edu)
- Student Bill of Rights – Senate Discussion
  - Carucci – Faculty Affairs reviewed with the following comments:
    - Paragraph 1: “Equal members” language might be modified to say that students have a right to participate in a learning environment, because that is what all of us do and there are inequalities all across the board, including faculty. In that same Paragraph, the wording “personal insult” - some student take personal insult at trivial kinds of things and FA would like it changed as appropriate dialog and critique are important parts of how we work on issues of knowledge and that, in itself, might be insulting to students.
    - Paragraph 2 – There are just some minor rewording issues.
    - Paragraph 3 – Faculty Affairs free expression be related to course content and in certain large number of courses there are rules of evidence that may trump opinion as being what the course should be focused on.
    - Paragraph 4 – There is a blending of academic and on-campus residential rights in the same paragraph. It would clarify the document if the two issues were pulled out.
    - Paragraph 5 – Re: sanctions and misconduct. Rewording – to be protected from unfair or inappropriate kinds of things rather than the positive component of the language.
    - Paragraph 6 – Nothing of note.
    - Paragraph 7 – FA would like the wording reworked. Leslie Taylor found the language appropriate; however, if FS wants to modify it, she would welcome suggestions. BoR policy stipulates that tuition changes/course fees must be brought before ASMSU.
    - Paragraph 8: Wording changes in bullet #3: “Meet their classes regularly and at scheduled times or promptly notify students of cancellation in case of illness or emergency.” And bullet #5: “Outline their grading policies in the syllabus and be fair and prompt in these grading policies.” If the promptness is an implementation issue, there are reasons students might not understand why certain types of grading would take longer than others.
    - Paragraph 9: Suggests there is a right to appeal, but does not indicate what that process would be. Would the appeal go to the dean rather than the dept head?
    - Paragraph 10: “Students have the right to graduate.” FA believes students have the right to pursue a course of study that could lead to graduation.
  - Leslie Taylor – As an aside, Taylor remarked that JAGs is working on the FH to make changes

- in the interim policies. Some of these items are included in the conduct guidelines and procedures for students and have been for many years. Through the negotiation of the CBA, those provisions were put into the CBA, and are part of the interim policies. Concern: If these policies become part of the FH and if there are changes, they should be consistent.
- Other concerns (from communications with Chair Reidy):
    - Paragraph 8, bullet #4: “Make time available for student meetings, preferably through regularly scheduled office hours with the opportunity provided for prearranged appointments.” Faculty who have 100+ students might have a difficult time complying.
    - Paragraph 9, bullet #1: “Students have the right to anonymity when filing complaints.” Wording should be changed to say that there is protection against retaliation, but not anonymity.
  - Zabinski: Is this policy for grads or undergrads? Re: Paragraph X - There are sometimes thesis issues for grads with respect to graduating. Re: Paragraph IV – Does this apply to entering a graduate student’s office in that one must give them 24 hour notice before hand? This is not clear. Cairns: Student government represents both grads and undergrads although it is clear that this document was crafted by undergraduates, and they are concerned about underage drinking in residence halls rooms. Additionally, any graduate student in a college may run in that college for an ASMSU senate seat. However, none have.
  - Larson: Is this consistent with the grad student union documentation? Taylor: Haven’t checked and maybe we should get clarification.
  - Swinford: Paragraph 3: As someone who has taught very large classes, I’ve had students stand up advocating for political candidates during class and I want to know if I have the right to ask them to leave? Taylor: We should deal with classroom speech in a separate way.
  - Response to SB 143 – Chair Reidy
    - The bill was passed last legislative session and vetoed by the governor: All objections from the governor were answered.
    - OCHE have appeared and publically opposed the bill.
    - Should MSU coordinate with U of M to draft a letter?
    - Taylor reminded senators that if they want to email or write a letter advocating a certain piece of legislation, personal resources must be utilized; MSU resources may not be used.
  - Internships (Discussion) – Chair Reidy
    - Departments have different internship criteria. However, instituting a policy that brings a semblance of unity should be in place to avoid complications in the process.
    - Ron Larsen has crafted a broad policy that provides enough structure to the internship program to avoid pitfalls MSU has experienced in the past.
    - The policy is an academic matter and might go into the catalogue.
    - Faculty Affairs queried the 12-credits for an internship; six (6) credits seemed feasible.
    - With respect to the last paragraph, what was the rationale behind making students pay for the extra credits? Larsen stated there needs to be a connection between the student doing the internship and their representation of MSU in such a capacity. If the student comes back to MSU from a summer internship and writes a paper about the experience, credits may be applied to their fall course load.
    - Bolte – Architecture requires 12 credit hours for their accreditation requirement and licensure.
    - Babbitt - 45 hours per credit might be appropriate in some environments where the student is learning all the time on the job; but there are other instances a student is just working and not having a learning experience. Very few, if any, credits should be given for this type of work..
    - Bolte – In the field of music technology and working on five (5) concerts per summer,

- obtaining 45hours is difficult as many of the audio engineering tasks are repetitive.
- Reidy would like to see good departmental policies. JAGs will review and formulate a final draft and bring back to senate for vote.
- Potvin stated that it is policy that students must register and then take the credits after doing so.
- Athletics Report – George Haynes, Peter Fields
  - Academics:
    - The Academic Progress Rate (APR) rating system measures the academic achievement of all teams at Division I member institutions. The total points earned by a team each academic year is divided by the total points possible and multiplied by 1000 to determine the team’s APR for that year. Most MSU teams are approaching 1000; basketball program is low at 935, as the threshold is 930; Women’s teams are all close to 1000.
    - Graduation success rate - In comparison to the all-division graduation rate of 82%, MSU’s is 85%. Additionally, and on the federal level, MSU is not penalized when students leave or transfer into the institution.
    - GPA across all teams are 3.2%; Women’s tennis team is 3.5%; men’s football is 2.8%.
  - There have been no major violations.
  - Integrated one of student athletes into the senior staff – Jackie Elliott, former basketball player.
  - Data show that minority student athletes are not having as positive an athletic or scholastic experience as non-minority students.
  - Athletics is beginning their four-year athletics review with the NCAA, and the three areas of focus will be health, safety and inclusion.
  - NCAA changes:
    - The Big Five Conference (ACC, Big 12, Big Ten, Pac-12, SEC) passed their own legislation, which involved voting by the 65 schools, 15 player representatives, and the conferences themselves. The new set of rules represents the most substantive change of rules in the history of the organization. Bigger schools will have more power than ever to determine how they operate, which will at some point mean increased benefits for players. Some autonomy questions and what it means for your team and the future of the sport are listed below:
      - Schools can now offer scholarships that cover the full cost of attending the university. (Of 65 power schools, 64 voted in favor. Boston College was the lone dissent.)
      - Coaches can no longer pull scholarships from athletes for athletics-only reasons.
      - Athletes can now borrow against their future earnings when obtaining loss-of-value insurance.
      - Schools made a vague pledge to limit the time athletes spend on their sports.
    - The power conferences can make their own rules, but those changes will also be available to smaller schools. This would make sure strong programs in those conferences would not be in a recruiting disadvantage. But it would also ensure smaller schools that cannot afford these benefits do not have to pay them.
    - However, there will also be rules that are passed by all of Division I that will live outside of the autonomous structure, including rules regarding scholarship limits, time demands, and athlete health. At MSU, for example:
      - Cost of Attendance is the difference between what MSU gives as a full scholarship (room, board, tuition fees, books) and travel and incidentals -

\$3333.00. Larger schools are giving scholarships across the board; some in just specific sports. MSU as a school or conference is not certain how they will implement the new policy.

- Concussions – New policy states that medical staff must determine whether an athlete plays in their sport, or not. MSU has always subscribed to this philosophy – “Grades First.”
- Athletes have the right to purchase insurance on their future earnings. MSU has few student athletes in that position. MSU focuses on athletes getting a degree, as attrition rate in the professional sports is three years.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

*Signature,*  
*Michael Reidy, Chair*

*Signature*  
*Randy Babbitt, Chair-elect*

