

FACULTY SENATE
APRIL 17, 2013
346 LEON JOHNSON
4:10 PM – 5:00 PM
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Minutes

Members Present: Austin (Poli Sci), Cantalupo (Ag Ext), Durham (COB), Engel (LRES), Franklin (Micro), Gerlach (Chem & Bio Eng), Gibson (NTT), Greenwood (Math), Harney (Music), Herbeck (Ed), Hostetler (GCP), Igo (Ag Ed), Kaiser (ECE), Larson (M&IE), Lawrence (Biochem), Letiecq (HHD), Lynch (Psych), Martin (Mod Lang), Mokwa (CE), Moreaux (A&RS), Neumeier (Physics), Reidy (Hist & Phil), Ricciardelli (Film & Photo), Rossmann (Library), Swinford (Soc/Anthro), Wiedenheft (Immuno), Zhu (CS)

Others Present: Kregg Aytes, David Singel, Larry Carucci, Chris Fastnow, Terry Leist

Chair Neumeier called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm, and a quorum was present.

Announcements – Chair Neumeier

- The Alumni Foundation has hired a local research firm to conduct a faculty participation focus group 5:30 pm on Monday, April 22. Participants will receive fifty dollars; food will be provided. Chair Neumeier will send an email to senators to share with constituents.
- Chair Neumeier announced his resignation in September. Chair-elect Mokwa will assume the chair position for one year. Senators interested in becoming the chair-elect, a two-year term, please contact Drs. Mokwa or Neumeier.
 - Term limit language in the FH may have to be changed, but presently language states that the chair position is a two-year term.
- Chair Neumeier requested that senators review the four courses for consideration on the FS web site.

New Sabbatical Application Document – Faculty Affairs Chair, Larry Carucci

- FS will vote on the new application via email.
- Highlights of changes are italicized:
 - Under heading AGREEMENT, the third bullet point will read: “present the results of the sabbatical assignment in an on-campus forum within *ten months* of my return to the University.”
 - Under the heading DISTRIBUTION, it shall read: “Department Heads shall submit their letters of endorsement *and any external or internal letters of support for the applicants to sabbaticals@montana.edu*. Clearly label the submissions ‘*Department Head Endorsement for Sabbatical Applicant XXX*’”
 - Under the heading DISTRIBUTION, it shall read: “Deans shall submit their letters of endorsement *and any external or internal letters of support for the applicants to sabbaticals@montana.edu*.”
 - Under the heading NOTIFICATION, it shall read: “Deans shall submit their letters of endorsement *and any external or internal letters of support for the applicants to sabbaticals@montana.edu*. ”
 - Under the heading of PROJECT DESCRIPTION, (third bullet point under Scholarly Merit), it shall read: “How well qualified is the *applicant* to conduct the project?...”
- Under the heading of PROJECT DESCRIPTION, (applicant ranking wording), it shall read: “*Applicants will be ranked on a 5 point scale where: 1=Excellent, 2= Very Good, 3=Good, 4= Fair, 5= Poor (revise and resubmit next year). Applicants will receive a report from the Provost’s Office indicating their application’s rank on this scale as well as a summary page with feedback on their proposals.*”
- Under heading SUPPORTING ATTACHMENTS, items 4 and 5 shall read:
 - 4. REQUIRED Three letters of recommendation attesting to the significance of the project.
*(NOTE: At least **one** letter must be from an external source. The two remaining letters may be from external or internal sources. Internal and external reviewers are required to send their letters directly to the applicant’s Department Head, Campus Director or Dean as appropriate).*
 - 5. REQUIRED
 - *Endorsements from the applicant’s department head shall be submitted to sabbaticals@montana.edu no later than November 8, 2013. Department Head’s endorsements shall address the programmatic and financial impact to the department granting the sabbatical. The Department Head shall develop a clear written understanding with the faculty member who is going on sabbatical assignment concerning what is expected of them while on that assignment (e.g., manuscripts, progress reports).*
 - *Endorsements from the applicant’s Dean shall be submitted to sabbaticals@montana.edu no later than November 15, 2013. The Dean’s endorsements shall address the programmatic and financial impact to the College granting the sabbatical.*
- Motion is to retain the five (5) categories but rename them as follows: 1=*Excellent*, 2=*Very Good*, 3=*Good*, 4=*Fair*, 5=*Poor (revise and resubmit next year)* → seconded → all in favor → unanimously approved

Discussion of the Draft Document, *Growth at MSU* – Recommendations from Faculty Senate – Chair Neumeier

- Comments:
 - One author of the document reminded senators that the purpose of the paper was to summarize concerns that had arisen across for discussion about six weeks ago and at the behest of the senate. It is not a strategic plan document.
 - Data, instead of the anecdotal discussions, would strengthen the document.
 - There should be a recommendation for plan of action.
 - Regarding MSU's strategic plan, senators queried what the plans are for its implementation, time table, role for faculty and administrators.
 - Admin noted that the SP is an over arching plan to provide a structure for each entity on campus to develop greater specificity in order to move the broader issues forward. Strategies have been developed via charrette, meetings, etc., by taking 137 items and refining them into 7 major points. In the meantime, things have not been static. For example, 25 new faculty lines have been added for increased enrollment. Growth is spotty. There have been efforts to use data, consistent with the broad objectives that are in line with the current university plan.
 - Chair-elect Mokwa presented a graph of student faculty ratios, comparing number of students divided by full-time teaching, tenure track faculty, 2004 – 2019, from limited data resource extrapolation, illustrating as the student population has increased, the number of tenure-track faculty has remained stagnant.
 - David Singel remarked that the graph, as presented, only illustrates one teaching to student ratio component within a specified length of time. Many factors contribute to student faculty ratio increases/decrease metrics including, but not limited to, whether all faculty (IT, NTT, research graduates, TA's, etc.) who teach are being counted, where baseline numbers are taken from, etc. There were also a number of lines added this year.
 - It was suggested by a FS member that to accommodate the increase in students, it was suggested that metrics be developed in the strategic plan that interconnect all aspects of this phenomenon e.g., faculty, buildings, classroom space, lab space, etc., with student population increase.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:04 pm.

*Signature,
John Neumeier, Chair*

*Signature
Robert Mokwa, Chair-elect*

Minutes were compiled and transcribed by Gale R. Gough, Administrative Associate, Faculty Senate.