

FACULTY SENATE
March 18, 2015
346 LEON JOHNSON
4:10 PM – 5:00 PM
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Minutes

Members Present: DeWeese (Art), Babbitt (Chair-elect), Babcock (Psych), Berry (CE), Bolte (Music), Brester (Ag Econ), Brown (JJCBE), Burrows (Ext), Engel for Zabinski (LRES), Eggert (Emeritus), Gannon (Chem Eng), Greenwood (Math), Herbeck (Ed), Herman (NAS), Hostetler (GC), Larson (M&IE), Lawrence (Chem & Biochem), McMahon (Ecology), Martin (Mod Lang), Meyer for Waller (Hist & Phil), O'Neill (Arch), Qiu (Physics), Rossmann (Library), Seright (Nursing), A. Smith (HHD), Swinford (Soc/Anthro), Wilmer (Poli Sci)

Others Present: Brian Kassar, Karlene Hoo, Martha Potvin, Terry Leist, Larry Carucci, David Singel, Ron Larsen, Seth Ulrich, Chris Fastnow, Leslie Taylor, Ilse-Mari Lee, Leila Serman, Renee Reijo-Pera

Call to Order – Chair-elect Babbitt

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

Announcements – Chair-elect Babbitt

- Courses and Programs
 - All undergraduate courses on the FS web site will be voted on at the Faculty Senate Steering Committee meeting on March 30, 2105. Comments may be addressed to Chair-elect Babbitt.
 - Please note that there is new language in Courseleaf for FRCH 105 articulating more clearly its purpose.
- Suicide Prevention – Brian Kassar
 - Thirteen hundred students (1300) visited the Counseling Center last year and of that number approximately 20% (260) had suicidal thoughts. National statistics show that 1 in 10 college students have such thoughts throughout their college career.
 - Students who are struggling will often confide in faculty/staff. To broadly address how to handle such situations, a suicide prevention training open to all at MSU will be taking place Thursday, March 26, 2015 in the Procrastinator Theatre. Discussions about basic skills to help you recognize someone who might be suicidal and what to do are available throughout the day during these times: 9 – 10 am, 12 noon – 1 pm, 4 pm – 5 pm. More specific direction may be obtained by hosting Kassar and members of the Counseling Center to speak to small groups or a department.
 - Kassar is able to link other MUS campuses with offsite professionals who may be able to speak to those campuses. MSU-Bozeman also has videoconferencing capabilities.
 - A recent award of a federal grant will assist the task force in suicide prevention training.
 - The Counseling Center is available, free, for all students to come for help or for faculty/staff who are concerned about a student who may need help.

- Chair-elect of Faculty Senate
 - Babbitt announced that any faculty who are interested in becoming the Faculty Senate Chair-elect, to please contact him or Chair Michael Reidy. A compensation component is awarded to the faculty member who is interested.

Faculty Handbook – Chair-elect Babbitt

- Appointment of Tenurable Faculty (Third Reading)
- 210.00 - Terminal degree.
 - Babbitt presented the following edited paragraph as a result of FS discussions last week and JAG's input to senators for discussion:
 - “A terminal degree in an area appropriate to the discipline and demonstrated potential to carry out responsibilities for instruction, research, or creative activities relevant to the appointment, as articulated in the discipline’s Role and Scope document, are normally required for the appointment of tenurable faculty. Different degrees may be designated as "terminal" for different specialties within a discipline, as articulated in the department’s Role and Scope document. In exceptional circumstances, candidates that lack the terminal degree or minimum preparation requirements articulated in a discipline’s Role and Scope document, but who are outstanding scholars of national or international repute with exceptional experience and demonstrated potential to carry out responsibilities relevant to the appointment, may be appointed as tenurable faculty.”
 - The paragraph addresses three (3) parts: Normal terminal degree; Different disciplines may define what a terminal degree is in their discipline; and Exceptional circumstances.
 - The "terminal" for different specialties within a discipline” should be spelled out in the departmental Role and Scope. There was consensus that the language covered the practices in Music and Engineering.
 - Larsen – Suggested removing the first reference to Role and Scope as departmental R&S is not usually that specific in its application to an appointee and that is not usually in R&S. The second reference to R&S is appropriate as it applies to everything in a department. There was general concurrence.
 - Singel spoke of the “demonstrated potential” language. At the end of the paragraph, verbiage elaborates on the “exceptions.” Since there are no minimum preparation requirements, but simply demonstrated potential, it is not necessary to talk about lacking minimum preparation but having demonstrated potential. Therefore, Singel suggested removing the following “or minimum Preparation.” There was general concurrence.
 - Motion to accept entire document with new language and the above mentioned edits → seconded → all in favor → unanimously approved.
- Consulting (Second Reading):
 - “Private consultants” have now been changed to just read “consultants.” The second paragraph under the heading, CONSULTING, has been changed to read: “Faculty members are encouraged to write for scientific and technical periodicals, to write books in their professional fields, and to engage in other creative and professional activities as part of their duties. Such scholarly activities will not be considered consulting and will not be subject to this policy. External professional activities that reflect normal and expected public service activities of faculty and that do not entail compensation beyond reimbursement for expenses and/or a nominal honorarium will

not be considered consulting for purposes of this policy. These activities include service to governmental agencies and boards such as peer review panels and advisory bodies to other universities; presentations to either professional or public audiences in such forums as professional societies, libraries, and other universities; and peer review activities undertaken for either for-profit or nonprofit publishers.” The part about “but may be subject to the conflict of interest policy if such activity interferes with the assigned duties of the faculty member.” has been deleted, since that is covered by last paragraph stating “All consulting assignments are also subject to the [conflict of interest policy](#).”

- It was suggested “These activities include service. . .” should be changed to “These external professional activities include service . . .”. There was general concurrence.
- Motion to approve entire document, with new language and above change→seconded→all in favor→unanimously approved.
- Corrective Action & Discipline (Second Reading):
 - Because senate is not able, at this time, to change Board of Regents language (bolded text), senators were asked to review F-K.
 - “Plagiarism” and “falsification” were separated into two separate lines, referencing two separate instances.
 - “Insert Link” in “I” is the Profession and Ethics Standards link (senate passed the policy last year) that Taylor will insert.
 - Motion was made to approve entire document→seconded→all in favor→unanimously approved.

Prioritization Document (PD) Discussion– Chair-elect Babbitt

- Implementation of the Document
 - Babbitt began discussions by referencing the 2013 FS document, “Assessment of Departmental Needs” posted on the FS web site. Because it has been two years, perhaps an update might be in order to assess what needs have been met and new needs that have arisen. If a senator’s department is not in the “departmental needs” document, they could consider being included. Is this the document senators want to reference, for now, with respect to the PD?
 - Brester reminded senators how the PD references departmental trade-offs and questions whether should new programs, expansions, etc., be continually adopted by MSU. To maintain our Carnegie Tier 1 status, departments should have budget oversight for more entrepreneurial endeavors and to hire faculty in those areas that are burgeoning with new students.
 - A senator suggested that the list of priorities be prioritized.
 - Babbitt updated senators on the status of the Mapping Document. Senate leadership is meeting with Planning & Analysis and Terry Leist to formulate how to define ratios as hard numbers. While hard numbers are easier to track, it should be remembered that the goal is quality education that comes from the ability to have quality interactions between students and faculty.
 - Larson commented that the student/faculty ratio in the PD is an average of the overall campus. Specific departments reveal something different - College of Eng has a 43/1 ratio and some other departments are 50/1. More discussion should transpire to define what the correct ratio should be. Every department is not judged the same and has their own specific criteria – it is a question of balance and difficult decisions. Babbitt: Some departments provide service teaching, and may have low major to faculty ratios

but high credit hour to faculty ratios. The PD addresses the average goal, but each department is unique in its teaching, research, and service expectation. It is the jobs of the Provost, Deans, Heads, and Faculty to make decisions at the college and departmental levels.

- Babbitt: MSU needs more departmental and college planning. Departments need to know their future FTE trajectories in order to plan for and deliver quality of education to their students.

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

Signature

Michael Reidy, Chair

Signature

Randy Babbitt, Chair-elect