

**PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL MEETING  
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
WEDNESDAY May 27, 2009  
Procrastinator Theatre Loft  
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM**

**Members Present:** Julie Tatarka, Sheryl Dettmann, Erika Swanson, Chris Bauer, Matt Rognlie, Betsey Pitts, Jeff Butler, Nancy Blake, Patty Inskeep, Stacey Scott, Elizabeth Brock for Carolyn Plumb, Nancy Filbin

Stacey Scott has been elected the new chair-elect for Professional Council, 2009-2010.

***Meeting with President Gamble – Chair Dettmann***

- If the BOR does not increase tuition, MSU will have a \$2-3M gap, each year for the next biennium.
- The president stated that if he were to enact a furlough, it would begin with the higher admin first and work its way down to other employees.
- Jeff Adams is the interim assistant vice provost, and Chair of the UPT committee.
- Jim Rimpau will be the chair for UPBAC.
- PC received a \$1500 budget for next year
  - Matt Rognlie will assist in developing the PC web site.
  - There are funds for a reception at the next November BOR meeting which will take place at MSU.

***Presidential Search Committee – Chair Dettmann***

- The committee is working on a prospectus, and it will be posted in the next couple of weeks. By the middle of July, all applications will be reviewed. In August, the committee will begin interviewing and by September, bring finalists on campus to make presentations.

***Visit by Governor Schweitzer – Sheryl Dettmann***

- Sheryl will report on his visit next Thursday and Friday. His talk will focus on student tuition increases or not.

***Committee Reports***

- UPBAC, Jeff Butler – Departmental budgeting is on hold and awaiting monetary distribution from the BOR.
- Fiscal year 2010-2011 – A University System Gap Summary report distributed to UPBAC members is based on the worst case revenue scenario. Since the BOR still needs to decide whether to raise tuition or not, this scenario will, most likely, change. The report also includes how money is finitely allocated within different departments.
- Discussions of raising tuition at MUS four-year institutions ensued, since four-year campuses carry all deficits of two-year sister campuses. Deficits could range anywhere from \$80,000 to \$2.4M.
- A market analysis shows that \$500 is the most MSU could raise out-of-state tuition before losing its market share.
- Joe Fedock is interim provost, which is a two-year appointment.
- If MSU adheres to the UPBAC philosophy (which espouses that MSU not spend money it does not have; plan realistically; keep it balanced) we will be in good stead.
- There is a 14% vacancy rate at MSU, and it is going down. As the number goes down, the “vacancy savings” goes down and this money is used to back fill other deficits.
- MSU has 72% retention from freshmen to sophomore year.
- Eighty percent (80%) of our budget goes towards personnel services.
- Tighter restrictions for the budget will be implemented after the next biennium when the \$18M stimulus has been exhausted.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM, as there was no other business.

*Signature*

Sheryl Dettmann, Chair

*Signature*

Gale Gough, Secretary