

PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
WEDNESDAY October 26, 2009
Reid Hall Room 415
11:00 am – Noon

Members Present: Erika Swanson, Betsey Pitts, Stacey Scott, Carolyn Plumb, Chris Bauer, Adam Edelman, Nancy Filbin, Sheryl Dettmann, Woody Cranston, Julie Tatarka

Others present: Pat Lane, Susan Hansen

Chair Pitts called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. There was a quorum.

PC Website Update: We reviewed the audience & objectives of the PC website. Adam will see where on the MSU server our site sits & try to get some usage stats. Woody suggested we include some information on Professional Benefits including rules for using sick and vacation. As an alternative it was suggested we link to the information on the HR & other sites & include contact phone numbers so we don't have to maintain it. It will be very important to have a plan & resources to maintain the links. Betsey will investigate who maintains our site now. Some existing links are wrong & need corrected.

Visitors at PC meetings: More guests are attending PC meetings and it was decided that the first item on all agendas will be introductions & public comment.

November Board of Regents meeting: Nov 18-20. Nancy Filbin will further investigate having a Professional Employee hospitality room with very light refreshments on Thursday. The intention is to have a place for Professionals to network and encourage them to participate in the BOR meeting. It was suggested to have a guest book and possibly butcher paper with questions like, "What is your most pressing issue as a professional employee at MSU?" to generate interaction & communication. We will also review the agenda when available and make suggestions on parts of the meeting that might be most interesting to professionals.

PC "mission" statement: The group decided that emails coming from Professional Council would include the following description. Professional Council supports the mission of Montana State University by facilitating communication between professional staff and administration and contributing to policy formation to accomplish the long range goals of the university.

Letter to the new President: It was mentioned that other organizations/entities on campus had been directed to craft letters to President Cruzado. Professional Council should consider crafting one as well describing who we are, what we do, and what we see as the needs of Professionals at MSU. An Internal Communications Director at MSU was one suggestion.

UPBAC Report: Betsey will forward an UPBAC report from Jeff Butler to PC.

The meeting adjourned at noon, as there was no other business.

Signature
Betsey Pitts, Chair

Signature
Stacey Scott, Chair-elect