MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
January 19, 2005
Montana State University-Bozeman
Strand Union 274
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Members Present: Diane Allen, Jim Manning, Jim Mitchell, Glenn Puffer, Sandy Rahn-Gibson, Kim Rehm, Doralyn Rossmann

Members Absent: Jeff Butler

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM. A quorum was present. The minutes from December 20, 2004 were approved.

Constitution and Bylaws – Chair Rahn-Gibson
- Gale to change portions of the constitution that were updated last year, but not made in the document itself.
- Professional Council web site will be updated with combined efforts from Gale, Pat Howard, and ITC. No one person is responsible for all web pages which has made any and all changes challenging to coordinate and expedite.
  - PC members will receive an updated version of the constitution and bylaws and email amongst themselves modifications/changes. PC members should be ready to discuss at the next Professional Council meeting, February 23, 2005.
- Changing the constitution requires a majority vote of all professional employees; changing bylaws requires a majority vote at PC meetings, provided a quorum is present.
- PC questioned why certain professional members on campus are not represented by PC or eligible to be on PC. If that is to stay as it is in the constitution, then there needs to be a rational why that is so. Specifically, Article Three: Section One of the Professional Council Constitution: The constituency represented by Professional Council are: non-faculty, non-classified employees on .25 or greater FTE appointments, appointed on a Board of Regents contract or Letter of Appointment to a non-tenurable, non-instructional, non-research position. Excluded are executives responsible for the direction and management of the institution as a whole or of academic colleges and departments, but included are assistant and associate deans and assistants to a dean.
  - Professionals defined by what they are not, rather than what they are.
  - Research appointments are excluded from the constitution/membership.
  - PC may want to confer with Corky Bush to get an explanation.
- Relationship with the BOR should be rejuvenated, as it is stated in the constitution, Section Four: Relation of Professional Council to the Board of Regents
  - The Board of Regents holds the ultimate authority in governance of Montana State University-Bozeman. Matters can be brought to the attention of the Board of Regents through presentations by University Governance Council officers at Board of Regents meetings, as well as through MSU - Bozeman administrative presentations.
  - Chair Rahn-Gibson still trying to get audience with commissioner. Will look on regents’ web site to see if professionals are slated to be on the agenda.
    - What issues that affect professionals, specifically, would we want to address?
    - At first, may just want to address who professionals are, what professionals are, and how professionals fit in on campus in their respective roles.
  - Further discussions revealed that PC members may not want to go to BOR, after all.
    - Questioning why Regent Mercer mentioned that professionals should contact the commissioner in the first place.
  - Unless we have a very strong agenda, we do not want to waste BOR time.
  - PC member suggested not to pursue at this time, but to meet with other campuses that do not have a Professional Council. We may want to help them to form one. Then, try to meet with the BOR with items to discuss.

Resource Directory – Member Glenn Puffer
• Glenn Puffer volunteered to head a subgroup to work independently on the directory and will get two additional participants.
• Refer to email from Corky Bush/Jim Manning from last year regarding evolution of this directory.

**MAP Supervisory Survey – Chair Rahn-Gibson**
• Survey is ready, but is being reviewed for the last time with Chris Fastnow. Should be released in February, 2005 via email.

**Leave Time for Professional Chair – Chair Rahn-Gibson**
• Should professionals have the same release time as Faculty Council chair?
  • May not be possible, as professional schedules differ and permission from a supervisor may be necessary.
  • Something to think about.

**Other**
• Jim Manning announced that he would be leaving the university, after 16.5 years, to head the Office of Public Outreach at the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, Maryland in March. This is his last term on Professional Council, in any event.
  • Council may want to begin elections in March.
• Agenda for February:
  • Constitution and bylaw review.
  • Glenn Puffer to report on Resource Directory task force progress.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM as there was no other business.

Signature

Sandy Rahn-Gibson
Chair, Professional Council

Signature

Gale R. Gough
Secretary