Members Present: Jeff Butler, Matt Rognlie, Julie Pester, Sheryl Dettmann, Betsey Pitts, Patty Inskeep, Doralyn Rossmann, Nancy Blake, Rita Rozier, Stacey Scott

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM by Chair Matt Rognlie. A quorum was present. Minutes from November 8, 2007 were unanimously approved.

UPBAC – Doralyn Rossmann

- The budgetary surplus from the state, in the next biennium, has spurred subcommittees in UPBAC to prioritize where they believed money given to the university might go. The discussions were lively and Doralyn believes the last UPBAC meeting was infused with accomplishment.
- This year’s deficits have not been clearly articulated through UPBAC, yet.

REGENCY’S REPORT – Chair Rognlie, Chair-elect Dettmann

- BOR discussions:
  - Transferability; that is, common course numbering for courses within the MUS system that are similar in content and outcomes;
  - Provisional admissions for students with lower ACT test scores. Thirty-seven percent of Montana high school graduates do not meet the minimum math requirement for college math, and are enrolled in remedial classes. The BOR voted against those types of classes counting towards graduation, and MSU administration disagreed. They argue that remedial college mathematics classes are not the same as high school mathematics;
  - Recruitment & Retention was mentioned and plans are proceeding to answer the questions the legislature submitted to the COHE. A final report will be presented at the next BOR meeting in January.
- Governor Schweitzer spoke about energy research and focused on undergraduate students. He stated that our presence in the education virtual world should be state-of-the-art, or students will go elsewhere.
- Mark Young, College of Ag, gave a presentation about research and how and why it attracts undergraduate students.

SHARED GOVERNANCE STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT – Julie Pester

- The union is on campus talking to faculty. Their goal is to have 30% of faculty sign up and subsequently hold an election to decide whether their presence will be permanent or not.
- One advantage for having a union would be:
  - Advocacy and representation for faculty on campus.
- A major disadvantage would be:
  - Faculty Senate would not be involved in as many open discussions with administration as they are now.
- There is no mention of professionals unionizing.
- Faculty Senate is concerned that the new Conflict of Interest policy may be removed from the Faculty Handbook and placed in the Administrative Policy Manuel.
- ASMSU will vote on the fate of the SOB barn this evening at the ASMSU Senate meeting. Auxiliary Services is proposing to build ASMSU a new outdoor recreation building, and upgrade the SOB barn to accommodate office space. Currently, ASMSU is entertaining occupying the now defunct auto shop which would need more than $100,000 for renovation and continued payment of O&M costs. If, however, ASMSU were to vote in favor of moving into a new recreational building, they would only be responsible for O&M, which would be less expensive than the auto shop endeavor.

DISCUSSION OF PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE DATA REPORT – Chair Rognlie

- The original intent of this data collection was to find out who the professional constituency are.
- Chris Fastnow produced a report about professionals from data imported from BANNER. Information includes, but is not limited to, the average salary, maximum salary, average years since first hired, minimum age, maximum age, salary ranges, FTE, funding sources. There are 783 professionals. Chair Rognlie asked PC members to review the data and provide feedback. PC. Discussions ensued.
It was noted that some of the salary data in certain departments was not accurate.

It is not clear whether or not the breakout of employees is based on funding contributions.

Who, exactly, is counted in the report? Because professional classifications are not clearly defined, the report is not definitive.

Some PC members suggested that the report on distribution of the extra raise money would be an integral supplement to the report at hand.

The report is a reflection of 12 months, and most professionals are employed for 10.

Some additional fields for inclusion were suggested: Under what criteria were employees hired? BOR contracts? Letters of Appointment?

From the report it is not clear how many post-docs are faculty and/or professionals?

**OTHER – Chair Rognlie**

- The next meeting will be on December 13, 2007; no meeting on the 4th Thursday in December (27th) nor the second Thursday in January (10th). The first meeting in 2008 will be on January 24, 2008, and President Gamble will be speaking to PC.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM, as there was no other business.

**Signature**

Matt Rognlie
Chair, Professional Council

**Signature**

Gale Gough
Secretary, Professional Council