

FACULTY SENATE
September 19, 2007
REID HALL 104
4:10 AM – 5:00 PM
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Minutes

Members Present: Ashley, Bangert, Becker, Bandyopadhyay, Cherry, Christopher, Dyer, Fleck, Gipp, Jacobs, Leech, Lei, Longcope, Lynch, M. McClure, Mokwa, Prawdzienski, Starkey for Zhu, Lucy Marshall for D. Weaver, Wojtowicz

Members Absent: Ag/ED/AOT, Amin, Bailey, Bennett, Chem/Biochem, Ecology, Gerlach, HHD, Jackson, Johnson, Livingston, Neeley, Nursing On-Campus, Peed, Pinet, Political Science, Taylor, Watson

Others Present: Carl Fox, Lansverk

Chair elect Wes Lynch called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM. A quorum was present, and the meetings of September 12 and September 5, 2007 were approved.

DR. CARL FOX – Vice Provost of Graduate Education (Queries or comments from FS are in regular font; Responses are italicized)

- Vice Provost of Graduate Education, Dr. Carl Fox, addressed points in a memo from Faculty Senate Chair, Shannon Taylor. The memo requests:
 - That Graduate Council (GC) agendas be disseminated more widely before the council meets. *GC meetings are public. Certain informational areas of the web site are still under construction. The GC newsletter generated this fall informed the campus of our activities. Agendas and minutes are sent out to all graduate coordinators, and it is hopeful that they are disseminated in their departments.* A FS member suggested that instead of minutes, a short, concise statement about newly implemented policies be distributed to departmental reps. *Dr. Fox thought it to be a good idea, as he is always looking for ways to improve communications.* Some faculty believe they are not made aware of policies being implemented, e.g., the increase in the maximum # of credits from 30 to 60 for post-baccalaureates (18 of which must be dissertation credits for PhD's). *There are reps from all colleges on Graduate Council (GC is a faculty run council), and it is their job to disseminate information to their colleagues. Regarding the 60 credits, Dr. Fox stated that after examining institutions across the nation, the MSU 30 credit criteria were not competitive. National peer universities and colleges had nothing less than a 60 credit requirement.* Some departments have different graduate requirements. How will this 60 credit requirement be applied to them? *Graduate Education works closely with departments who have different graduate requirements.* How will tuition waivers work? *A draft is in place to regularize the way tuition waivers are awarded thus, making them purposeful and strategic. Currently, the GTA lines are within the state budget and predicated on historical allocation guidelines. There is no connection between GTA's and independent tuition waivers. GRA's, in-state and out-of-state, are written into the grants and contracts, however. MSU has a program that awards graduate students from all over the country 1.5 years' worth of tuition waivers and a stipend.*
 - Those representatives from FS have a vote on GC. *Such a request is challenging for a couple of reasons: All colleges are represented on the Graduate Council. The representative from FS would be from a particular college and that might be construed as one department having more voting representation than another. Dr. Fox asked for input from Faculty Senate on this conundrum.*
 - GC coordinate its efforts with the Academic Affairs Committee to ensure the Provost has time to review new proposals. *Proposals that require BOR actions should be collaborated with AAC. The BOR agenda has a sub memo of things coming. When are you required to report things coming up for their agenda to them? MSU informs the COHE of programs that may be in the pipeline. Then, if the program moves forward, the department wanting the new program presents it to the Graduate Council. If GC hands it to the Provost, then he decides if it should go to the BOR.*

- The Graduate Council is not a policy making body; rather it is a recommending body to Dr. Fox→Provost. Proposals do not become official policy until Dave Dooley approves them. The GC is a faculty representative body made up of faculty from each department. GC is in the process of examining its own structure, however. Changes made so far include having a faculty member as chair instead of someone from administration. GC is also trying to schedule regular meeting times. In the past, GC members were elected in the fall. GC is moving the election to the spring and members will have 1, 2 and 3 year terms so 1/3 of the council will rotate off each year instead of all at once.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Chair Elect Wes Lynch

- Pick-a-Prof – Lynch went to the senate meeting and made recommendations that with the money that would be spent on PAP, we could make our own website on campus. Waiting for Tegan to give update on the outcome of that.
- A Faculty Senate representative list was distributed, and it was noted that representation should be improved.
- Faculty Senate should have the opportunity to see the new funding model from UPBAC – One of the goals is that all departments receive budgetary cuts, among other issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM, as there was no other business.

Signature

Wes Lynch, Chair-elect

Signature

Gale R. Gough, Secretary