

FACULTY SENATE
October 29, 2008
REID HALL 101
4:10 PM – 5:00 PM
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Minutes

Members Present: Catoira, Cherry, Eitle, Fields, Fischer, Gerlach, Gipp for Sowell, Jacobs, Lansverk, Larson, Livingston, Maskiell, C. McClure, Lynch, Mokwa, Neumeier, Prawdzienski, Snider for Becker, Versaevel, Watson, D. Weaver, Wisner, Wojtowicz

Members Absent: Amin Bangert, Bennett, Fleck, Gee, HHD, Igo, Jackson, Jacobsen, Lei, Political Science, Varricchio, T. Weaver, Zhu

Others Present: Shannon Taylor

Chair Wes Lynch called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM. A quorum was present. The October 15, 2008 minutes were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

and OTHER ISSUES OF CONCERN TO FACULTY MEMBERS - Chair Lynch, Past-chair Taylor

- The Transfer Initiative learning outcomes are due October 31, 2008. If FS members have questions, please communicate with Bill Macgregor in the Commissioner of Higher Education's office. Please consult the Faculty Senate webpage for the link to the BOR page with up-to-date information.
- The Association of Shared Governance Leaders (ASGL) document will be reviewed by Faculty Affairs. Upon approval, FS will vote on accepting the document. How the document is to be incorporated into FS bylaws has yet to be determined. It may be viewed on the Faculty Senate web site
- Tom McCoy will be speaking to FS on F&A redistribution, November 5, 2008. In the spirit of shared governance, FS is proposing Faculty Senate representation on the VP of Research's advisory committee.
- Streamline Bus System - Shannon Taylor is a member of an UPBAC subcommittee charged to find a \$100,000 sustainable revenue stream for MSU's contribution in support of the Streamline Bus System (SBS). Students have been helping to subsidize it, in addition to a major federal grant which precludes charging ridership fees. The student fees are not enough and cannot sustain the system indefinitely. Private businesses in Gallatin County are contributing small amounts of money. This year, President Gamble contributed \$85,000, \$25,000 of which came from parking. About 50% of those riding the bus are from the community and have no affiliation with MSU. Past-chair Taylor suggests taxing all MSU employees (sliding scale according to salary) for 2-3 years. At the end of three years, the community might take it over, subsidizing the system via a mill levy. Chair Lynch would like to see data on ridership and line-item information. Input from FS members may be directed to: staylor@montana.edu
 - FS member Marvin Lansverk stated that the bus system is a city and county system and should be supported by them, through existing taxing authority.
 - FS member Priscilla Wisner stated that if faculty are asked to subsidize this endeavor, what will they be asked to subsidize in the future "for the good of the university?"
- Motion to nominate Priscilla Wisner to the Debt Planning and Management Committee, representing Faculty Senate → seconded → all in favor → unanimous. Dr. Wisner's name will be forwarded to President Gamble for appointment.

P&T IMPLEMENTATION DOCUMENT – Chair of FA, Taylor, Chair-elect Lansverk

- **Demonstration of Effectiveness, Accomplishment and Excellence (633.04)**
 - FS queried whether the list in Section 633.04 is to be accomplished *in toto* or in part. Chair Taylor stated that the list provided suggested requirements.
 - Comments from FS noted that the list should include mentoring research assistants.
- **Responsibility of the Candidate to Submit Dossier (812.00)**
 - "In-depth assessment of teaching" is a phrase that will no longer be used in the document. .

- Regarding “Required elements for teaching portfolio,” Extension and library representatives are crafting language idiosyncratic to their specific disciplines. Language placement in the P&T document is yet to be determined.
- FS members stated that the wording in #5 (“Required elements for the teaching portfolio for faculty going up under teaching), “four different course offerings” should be changed to “four class (rubric) offerings” as many faculty do not teach four different courses.
- A FS member queried the Classroom Observation validity, since professors are arranging the experience themselves. Chair-elect Lansverk justified this method. Timing of the classroom observations that are arranged by the P&T Committee may be a problem, as the candidate may not be teaching in the semester of tenure review.
- FS members noted that outside reviews of teaching are difficult to perform. It was suggested that perhaps it wasn’t possible to make the external reviews for teaching and research exactly parallel.
- FS noted that there were no national criteria in either teaching or research.
- Increasing the required and requested elements for the teaching portfolio is intended to lessen the reliance on SNEFS (Student Numerical Evaluation Forms).
- A FS member questioned the requirements for the teaching portfolio. It was noted that if the P&T document lists the minimum standards by which faculty are to abide, some faculty may only be required to achieve the minimum, while others may be asked by their department or college to include other scholarly activities and products in addition to the minimum requirements.
- FS members questioned the balance of what is expected in teaching versus research. Chair-elect Lansverk stated that the P&T document does not include teaching without a research component and research without a teaching component. The effectiveness standard in a non-chosen area is itself a high bar and weighted heavily when going up for tenure.
- Some FS members queried whether the six (6) elements were rigorous enough, and that they should be written more precisely.
- **Excellence (633.03)**
 - For full professor in research and teaching, FS members voted to reinsert the word “substantial” as a modifier of national recognition, as in “substantial national recognition.”
- FS suggested changes to the P&T document should be emailed to either gough@montana.edu or wlynch@montana.edu

The Faculty Senate meeting ended at 5:00 PM, as there was no further business.

Signature

Wes Lynch, Chair

Signature

Gale R. Gough, Secretary