

FACULTY SENATE
SEPTEMBER 4, 2013
346 LEON JOHNSON
4:10 PM – 5:00 PM
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Minutes

Members Present: Babbitt (Physics), Bennett (English), Bolte (Music), Bonnard (Library), Branch (English), Burrows (Ext), Cantalupo (Ext), Chen (Res Centr), Christopher (HHD); Codd (MIE), Dougher (PSPP), Durham (COB), Franklin (Micro), Gannon (Chem & Bio Eng), Gibson (NTT), Greenwood (Math), Hendrixx (Earth Sciences), Herbeck (Ed), Herman (NAS), Hostetler (GC), Kaiser (ECE), Kohler (Chem & Biochem), Larson (M&IE), Lynch (Psych), Martin (Mod Lang), McMahon (Ecology), Miller (CE), Moreaux (ARS), Newhouse (Art), O'Neill (Arch), Reidy (Hist & Phil), Ricciardelli (Film & Photo), Swinford (Soc/Anthro), Waller (Hist & Phil), Wiedenheft (IMID), Wilmer (Poli Sci), Zabinski (LRES)

Others Present: Anne Camper, Robert Mokwa, Martha Potvin, Terry Leist, Ron Larsen, Paul Gore, Wendy Stock, Leila Sterman, Chris Fastnow, John Neumeier, Gail Schontzler, Leslie Schmidt, Leslie Taylor, Glenn Duff, Tracy Sterling, John Sherwood, David Singel, Thomas Hughes, Nicol Rae, Robin Gerlach, Larry Carucci, Aleks Rebane, Robert Maher, Brett Walker, Robert Arnold, Mark Quinn, Ryan Anderson, Mary Cloninger, Mary Murphy,

Chair Mokwa called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm, and a quorum was present. The minutes of August 28, 2013 were unanimously approved.

Announcements – Chair Mokwa

- September 11, 2013 – An MSU open house and conversation for the campus community in SUB Ballroom A will be held with ongoing sessions throughout the day. Senate will speak at 1:30 pm. Commissioner Christian will be in attendance, as well. There will be a senate meeting following the open house where George Haynes, representing the University Athletics Committee, will present the annual report. Senate will also discuss the credit hour policy.
- September 18, 19, Chair Mokwa and Chair-elect Reidy will attend the BoR. Senate will not meet that week.
- September 25 – Senate will discuss the transition from CBA to the Interim Faculty Personnel Policy, and how to move forward.
- Chair Mokwa introduced the new Dean of Agriculture, Glenn Duff.

Senator Responsibilities – Chair Mokwa

- To accomplish the shared governance vision, Chair Mokwa requested that senators attend meetings, participate, and engage the department they represent, on a regular basis, about what senate is working on and to encourage feedback. To facilitate dissemination of information, a monthly summary of senate activities will be produced and distributed.
- Chair Mokwa requested that as each senator speaks, they identify themselves and announce the department they are from.
- Chair Mokwa encouraged regular communication with the faculty representatives on the university councils (Budget, Planning, Research and University) and to continue monthly meetings with the deans.
- Chair Mokwa pointed members to the FS website:
<http://www2.montana.edu/facultysenate/>

Dr. Anne Camper – Interim VP of Research, CA & IT

- Incentive Program for Researchers (new compensation plan)
 - The new incentive plan for researchers was enacted to replace the previous additional compensation plan, and is based on time and effort.
 - Time and Effort may be written into a grant, money is placed into a pool, and the faculty member may draw from the pool for compensation.

- The funds are for federal and federal pass-through funding through the state. Funding for the IRP comes from displaced salary that the state recoups.
- For private grants faculty may request and receive ad comp. It was noted that there is a new ad comp policy.
- Discussion Points:
 - The maximum supplemental salary compensation of 25% may not exceed the faculty's base salary; seventy-five percent (75%) is drawn from a pool used as reserve capacity to compensate those faculty who are not able to write in extra time, as is the case with NIH grants.
 - NSF grants do not allow faculty AY buy-outs. In general, it is difficult to decipher what fraction of PI or material funding that may be permitted for buy-outs. Recently, NSF proposed a 2/9 buy-out that may be spread over the AY.
 - NIH has modular budgets that are flexible and faculty may specify their salary requirements.
 - The payment is a lump sum, is a salary recovery from a state account, and is charged as part of the faculty's total salary (which includes benefits).
 - Total dollar amounts are not known at this time, but as the AY progresses, more information will be forthcoming.
 - It was noted that if matches are not met by the applicant, then the university will try to find those matches.
- Fiscal Planning
 - Research activity is down because of the end of the one-time funding era, sequestration (affecting universities nationwide), fewer people writing grants, amount of money from grants are about half of what they were two years ago, and some grant-writing faculty have left MSU. All resulted in decrease in F&A (Facilities & Administrative) accumulations with the VPR's office used to reinvest in MSU's research endeavors, to pay down debt and for leases, to name a few. It also culminated in the hiring of 40+ new faculty with \$2.7M in start-up packages this AY, and a projected \$2.9M next AY. Taken together, these have caused a budget shortfall of \$2.5M for the office of the VPR.
 - The provost is working with deans and dept heads to support their research with \$1M by investigating other resources and reserved funds.
 - Overall, the funding for research is down by 25%.
 - It is hopeful that the IRP will encourage faculty to write grants and to publish more.
 - VPR is meeting regularly to strategize how to proceed.
- Discussion Points:
 - Faculty will be involved in decision making processes, but the timeline is tight. Discussions with senate leadership have transpired, however, on how to involve faculty.
 - Strategies for implementing the IRP are still in the planning stage. All distribution models and scenarios are being investigated.
 - Scholarship & Creativity grants have already been awarded but may not be funded at 100%.
 - Departmental accounts (IDC's/F&A's) that pay graduate students or to buy equipment might be considered as a funding source. Faculty noted that Memos of Understanding were used as contractual agreements for some of these specific accounts, and maintaining their integrity is integral to the morale and trust of the faculty, as well as the well-being of the research program.
 - There is a faculty assumption that those who do the actual research are having their funding reduced and they would like to hear about strategies for reducing IDC's that cover other entities of the university and how they might be more evenly be distributed across campus. Faculty suggested the use of university reserve funds to pay for one-time costs such as start-ups.

- Workshops for grant-writing are being conducted through the Center for Faculty Excellence.
- Faculty asked how MSU is to maintain its Carnegie research standing as a result of budget shortfalls. Dr. Camper stated that Carnegie guidelines are nebulous and that other Carnegie institutions are facing the same challenges as MSU.
- Faculty suggested posting a budget as a means of providing transparency. In the meantime, Chair-elect Reidy suggested senators bring questions to him and Chair Mokwa, as they meet regularly with VPR and VPRF.
- Provost Potvin clarified that the 25% reduction in departmental infusions is a result of reduced expenditures from last year.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:26 pm.

Signature,
Robert Mokwa, Chair

Signature
Michael Reidy, Chair-elect

Minutes were transcribed by Gale R. Gough, Administrative Associate, Faculty Senate.