

FACULTY SENATE
March 26, 2014
346 LEON JOHNSON
4:10 PM – 5:00 PM
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Minutes

Members Present: Babbitt (Physics), Brester (Ag Econ), Bonnard (Library), Cantalupo (Ext), Christopher (HHD), Davis for Greenwood (Math), DeWeese for Newhouse (Art), Durham (JJCBE), Gannon (Bio & Chem Eng), Herbeck (Ed), Hostetler (GC), Kaiser (ECE), Kohler (Chem & Biochem), Larson (M&IE), Lu (PSPP), Lynch (Psych), Martin (Mod Lang), Miller (CE), Olson for Moreaux (ARS), Reidy (Hist, Phil & Religious Stds), Rossmann (Library), Swinford (Soc), Waller (Hist, Phil & Religious Stds), Wiedenheft (Micro & Immuno), Zabinski (LRES)

Others Present: Matt Caires, Larry Carucci, Helen Melland, Robert Mokwa, Ron Larsen, Chris Fastnow, David Singel, Martha Potvin

Chair Mokwa called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm, and a quorum was present.

Senate Business and Announcements – Chair Mokwa

- The minutes from March 19, 2014 were unanimously approved.
- Announcements:
 - Chair Mokwa announced that the VPR has a call out for research proposals due on April 30, 2014.
 - The VP of Student Success candidates are on campus; the next session is tomorrow at 11:15 am, SUB 174. Chair Mokwa encouraged senators/alternates to attend the discussions.
- On April 2, 2014, 8:30 am, SUB 233, University Council will meet. Topics to be discussed are the two aspects of the new compliance hotline – a policy for the hotline and the reporting system. Input from faculty about the hotline was provided to Internal Equity, and others, and were implemented. The policy will be posted on the Legal Counsel website for public comment.
- On April 16, 2014, 10-noon, a joint council meeting in the SUB will include reports from Budget Council, Deans' Council, IT Council, Outreach & Engagement Council, Research Council, University Council. It is an open meeting.
- Chair-elect Reidy distributed information about a new center: [The Center for Mental Health Research and Recovery – BoR Proposal Level II](#). Chair Mokwa would like senators to read the proposal and provide input at the April 2, 2014 Faculty Senate meeting, where Frances Lefcort will be in attendance to speak about it and answer any questions. The proposal involves a new research center (rather than an academic program); consequently, this review by Faculty Senate constitutes the primary mechanism for faculty review before the proposal advances to the BOR on May 22, for a first reading. A review by Dean's Council is occurring congruently with the Faculty Senate review.

This Center will combine the best basic, translational and clinical science and be centered at Montana State University with collaborating institutions and organizations statewide including outreach/public awareness groups and clinical mental health care units. The Center is congruent with the mission of the Montana Office of Rural Health (MORH) which was established at Montana State University in 1987.

Emails with questions or comments about the center to Chair Mokwa before the next FS meeting are encouraged.

Performance Based Funding Update – Chair Mokwa

- Faculty and staff have been asked to design incentive- and outcome-based metrics for allocating a portion of state funding, Performance Based Funding, for the next legislative funding cycle beginning on January 15, 2015. Chair Mokwa asked senators to actively contribute to the development of metrics that align with our campus mission and emphasize MSU's high quality education by attending one of the two charettes: Monday, March 31, 2014, 1-4 pm, SUB 235; Thursday, April 3, 2014, 1-4 pm, SUB Ballroom B.
- The metrics have four (4) categories; 1. Base metrics which all institutions will have; 2. Institutional specific metrics that fit into the mission of each institution; 3. Quality assurance metrics that track and insure there are no unintended consequences. These metrics may not be measureable, on a system level and of which the other three metrics must have; and, 4. Discarded items. Funding for these metrics will be allocated. The last budget cycle saw 5% of 1/3 of university funding go towards PBF. Future allocations are not known.
- History - A statewide task force composed of faculty and administrators from different campuses have been working together for 18 mos and have formulated a short-term model for PBF with draft metrics. These potential draft metrics, as well as other links, are embedded in the email sent to the campus community.

Honorary Degree Policy - Vote on Proposed Revisions – Larry Carucci

- John Carlsten, chair of the Honorary Degree Committee, asked that the language in the policy be modified thus, changing the recipient criteria.
- Do we want to award the HD to someone with a direct link to Montana or, do we want to open the policy to invite those with national and international prominence who may not have a direct link to Montana? Originally, the policy honored the recipient as someone having a direct connection to Montana either by birth, by being educated in the MUS, e.g.
- The aim of the newly modified language is to broaden the policy, opening it to those without a direct connection to Montana.
- The Honorary Degree Committee made recommendations to Faculty Affairs who reviewed the policy and made the changes.
- Discussions ensued:
 - Brester (Ag Econ) surveyed faculty in his department and most agree because MSU is a land grant university, criteria tying the recipient to Montana is important.
 - Wiedenheft asked what the HD purpose is if the potential HD recipient has no connection to Montana. Does MSU just want to become associated with someone who is famous?

- Melland informed senators that changes in the Honorary Degree Policy were, most likely, a result of the recent nominee, Dr. Donna Shalala, former Secretary of the US Department of Health and Human Services, who was not born in Montana or attended a MUS institution. She has, however, improved nursing in Montana and therefore has affected every one of its citizens.
- Mokwa noted that a recent recipient whose only criterion was that they were born in the state, received an honorary degree (HD). He asked senators whether having a Montana association is significant enough, whether it is necessary, and whether it is useful.
- Lynch asked about the seeming association between the HD and someone coming to MSU as a commencement speaker: Are we giving an HD to attract people to come to MSU? It doesn't seem as though someone of Donna Shalala's stature would come to MSU to speak at commencement to receive an HD. She should come whether she gets a degree or not, to speak at commencement if asked.
- Kohler believes MSU should have maximum ability to choose suitable individuals as HD candidates. MSU is working very hard to be a national research university; we have 40% out-of-state students, one of the highest in the country for a public institution, and a great reason to be national in our scope.
- Herbeck believes a national figure who might deliver a moving and memorable commencement speech to graduating students is a gift and bestowing an HD upon them would be a way of thanking them.
- Larson does not believe there should be an association between an HD recipient and a commencement speaker; MSU can get a great speaker whether we honor them with a degree or not. It may not be stated in the policy, as such, but it seems to be implied. He also queried whether we have proper jurisdiction to honor a national or international recipient just because they are someone of stature and have no ties to Montana whatsoever.
- Waller (History, Phil and Religious Studies) reported that faculty in her department prefer the Montana connection for recipients however, and in the case of offering more than one HD, at least one of the recipients should have a substantial connection to the state.
- Singel stated that when people accomplish major achievements in the fields of science and health, e.g., it affects all of us, whether the scientists are born in Montana or not and, it reflects favorably on all citizens.
- Babbitt asked if the current draft policy reflects the guidelines, in toto, for selecting an HD recipient and wanted confirmation that verbiage articulating preferences to those having a Montana connection had been deleted. Carucci concurred.
- Reidy stated that the Singel's reference to "reflecting favorably on Montana" is very different from a "direct connection to Montana," and with the new language in the policy, the direct connection to Montana has been negated. As currently stated and rather than the language being "either" "or," Reidy suggested modifying the policy to show preference, if there is more than one recipient, to one who has a direct connection to Montana and provide guidelines to the committee for such a preference.

- Hostetler relayed responses from students regarding commencement speakers who are not connected to Montana/MSU – they questioned the relevance and how the individual relates to them.
- Mokwa asked senators if they would like to incorporate both sets of language as suggested by Chair-elect Reidy into the policy and all concurred.

Budget Council Update – Doralyn Rossmann

- The Budget Council is researching a new university budget model that aligns better with the Strategic Plan. Other institutions have been examined and it will be, most likely, a hybrid model, fully vetted before it is implemented. The council's role has expanded and they are communicating with other departments about their budgets. Additionally, a more intentional budget process will now be part of the council's mission.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Signature,
Robert Mokwa, Chair

Signature
Michael Reidy, Chair-elect