

**MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING NOTES  
November 17, 2004  
301 Reid Hall  
Montana State University-Bozeman  
4:10-5:00 PM**

**Members Present:** Becker, Cherry, Croy, Erickson, Gipp, Johns for Kommers, Levy, Lynes-Hayes, Mathenia, Metz, Neeley, Prawdzienski, Seymour, Taper, Taylor, Thompson

**Members Absent:** Ashley, Babcock, Bennett, Bradley, Conant, Giroux, HHD, Hoffman, Idzerda, Jackson, Jones, Knight, M. McClure, C. McClure, McDermott, Peed, Pratt, E. Schmidt, D. Weaver, D. J. Young, Zhu

**Others:** Bandyopadhyay, McLeod, Pauley

Chair Elect Shannon called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM.

A quorum was not present. Therefore, the minutes taken this meeting will be referred to as “Notes” and are not official. Minutes from November 3, 2004 Faculty Council were not approved.

There will be no Faculty Council meeting November 24, 2004. The next meeting will be on December 1, 2004.

***FACULTY AFFAIRS – Sandy Levy for Chair Marvin Lansverk***

- Corky Bush would like to change the wording in the faculty handbook with respect to support faculty (e.g., adjuncts). Simplification, such as bringing all scattered information together into a single policies and procedures manual, would be helpful.
  - In conjunction with this issue, Chair Elect Taylor stated that the three-year adjunct contract issue has been forwarded to OCHE.
- Faculty Affairs discussed the purchase of a software subscription service that would track plagiarized assignments. It was noted that most plagiarized papers are from internet subscription sources and difficult to track.

***ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – Chair Elect Taylor***

- Membership for this committee is almost complete – one member short. Clayton Marlow is recruiting.
- A committee member from the registrar’s office has volunteered, and Chair Elect Taylor would like Faculty Council to further discuss.

***HP&E FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER***

- Brenda Mathenia from the library will forward the name of a volunteer from her department to the Faculty Council administrative associate.

***BOR REPORT – Chair Elect Taylor***

- Chair Jones reported from Missoula that the transfer of courses/transfer of grades is on the BOR agenda.

- It was noted that MSU-Bozeman has been using a webpage that converts transferred classes. The system works very well and faculty have been using it for years.
- The BOR have directed this issue to be resolved by faculty and students.
- More data needs to be collected to determine whether or not a resolution is needed.

#### ***P&T REVIEW COMMITTEE – Chair Elect Taylor***

- Volunteers interested in serving on this committee should contact Warren Jones ([warren\\_j@erc.montana.edu](mailto:warren_j@erc.montana.edu)) or Shannon Taylor ([staylor@montana.edu](mailto:staylor@montana.edu))

#### ***ITC PORTAL SYSTEM – Randy Pauley***

- MSU acquired an internet/information portal two years ago.
- A portal is, foremost, a Web page that organizes and presents a wide variety of information resources to its user. It has three distinguishing characteristics:
  - First, it can be customized. You can specify many aspects of the way you'd like the page to look, which of its information offerings you want to see when you log in, and where you want them to appear on the screen.
  - The portal's second characteristic is that it is personalized. When you connect to the portal, you either identify yourself by logging in with a user ID and password, or the portal detects the presence of configuration information (a cookie, for example) on your PC and identifies you by that means. Knowing who you are, the portal server loads your customized configuration information, addresses you by name, and makes use of other personal information about you that it has stored in its database.
  - Third, the best portals are adaptive. As your role in an organization changes, for example, the portal can be tuned to detect that fact and alter accordingly the resources you are offered. A student, for example, is offered certain information – a Banner self-service login, a campus events calendar, information about clubs and intramural sports, for example. But when that student becomes a part-time employee, the portal can detect that fact in the Banner database and also offer the user access to her payroll information. A student who pledges a fraternity could be offered comprehensive information about Greek activities on campus. Or a staff member who leaves one department to join another could be given portal-based access to the new department's intranet without any intervention by the intranet manager.
- Portals have really caught on in higher education. The 2003 *Campus Computing Report* shows that over three-quarters of research universities have them. They've become a key resource in recruiting new students and in developing a network-based “sense of community” among existing students.
- The MSU Web Advisory Committee recommended in early 2003 that ITC look for opportunities to bring portal functionality to MSU's Webspaces. Accordingly, that summer, ITC applied for and received a grant to begin development of the Oracle portal product through a third party named CampusEAI, an outgrowth of the portal development team at Case Western University. The University of Montana applied at the same time, and also received a grant. (The grant was for software licenses only; universities accepting it incur very significant financial obligations, as well.) After considerable debate, ITC and its advisory committees decided to reject the Oracle portal grant. (UM, however, chose to continue with its Oracle portal implementation.) Through the efforts of Craig Deaton and Pat Simmons of ITC, MSU was able to strike a financially superior deal with SCT Corporation, maker of Banner, for a basic implementation of SCT's Luminis portal product. Luminis has built-in connections to

both Banner and WebCT, the course management software that MSU–Bozeman has adopted as a campus standard. The Oracle product lacked these connections, but ITC and its advisory groups felt strongly that they would provide substantially more robust services to users.

- In December 2003 MSU purchased the Luminis product. The early stages of portal implementation are underway. The project will begin in earnest in July 2004 and will involve all four MSU campuses. Between now and then, ITC will be working to determine just what functionality the Bozeman campus wants; the options are staggering and many of them will require the very active participation of campus constituencies. Expect invitations to participate in these “discovery” activities between now and the July project kickoff.
- One school that has done an exemplary job of implementing Luminis is Drexel University. They offer a guest login to their portal at: <http://one.drexel.edu/cp/home/loginf>. If you'd like to try it out, you can login as “guest” with the same word as the password. The offerings Drexel provides to guests are very limited, but you can get a feel for the potential of the portal at this site.
- Faculty Council participation is encouraged. For input on how you would like this system set up, please contact Randy Pauley at [rrpauley@montana.edu](mailto:rrpauley@montana.edu)

A motion was made to adjourn as there was no further business. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

*Signature*

*Shannon V. Taylor, Chair Elect*

*Signature*

*Gale R. Gough, Secretary*