

FACULTY SENATE
February 23, 2011
LEO JOHNSON 346
4:10 PM – 5:00 PM
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Minutes

Members Present: Caton (COB), Eitle (Soc/Anthro), Fisher (PPSP), Gerlach (ChBE), Jacobsen (Extension), Kaiser (EE), Lansverk (English), Lawrence (Biochem), Lynch (Psych), Martin (MLL), Neumeier (Physics), Reidy (Hist & Phil), Rossmann (Libraries), Schachman (Nursing), Sobek (IE), Sowell (ARS), Walker for Cherry (Math), Zhu (CS)

Others Present: Joe Fedock, Hugo Schmidt (Physics), Paul Stoy (LRES)

Chair Lansverk called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM. A quorum was present.

Chair's Report – Chair Lansverk

Chair Lansverk thanked faculty who attended the Dennis Jones presentation and noted Bozeman's attendance was robust. The Faculty Senate Steering Committee will summarize the cogent issues discussed, as well as ongoing concerns about the data presented, and present to Faculty Senate and the BoR. Regarding Jones' efficiency/funding model, Lansverk commented that numbers compared to an FTE allocation model to move money across the MUS vs. dividing it in half and handing half to each CEO (Cruzado, Angstrom), are virtually the same. The Jones' presentation slides will be posted on the FS website.

Idaho's Faculty Senate (Pocatello) was given a "no confidence" vote by their president and the senate was subsequently dismissed.

The department of Film & Photography has undergone a name change. "The Motion Picture/Video Theatre Option" is being changed to "The Film Option."

Major Robinson has taken retired Janine Pease place on the BoR.

Budget Council - Doralyn Rossmann

The current macro-budget worksheets focus is on general operations, and the council is looking to increase transparency by including missing budget information from other departments. When more information is gathered, the council will conduct a macro-budget analysis based on more complete data. The council is also brainstorming on how to allocate and better manage one-time revenue infusion. The accreditation report requires a report on salaries, and the council is finding strategic ways to work with the provost to address this issue.

Planning Council – John Neumeier

The council is working core themes, which have two functions. One is ongoing, and the themes are meant to help in strategic planning; the other addresses the accreditation report.

New Business

Faculty Senate Processes –FS might be shifting its focus to curriculum and academic approval, although to what extent is not clear. A FS member stated that committees that are in place to review and approve courses (Undergrad Committee, e.g.) work well and are efficient and shifting course approval to FS would excessively burden the senate and move it away from other important issues. Joe Fedock asked FS whether they believed the present structure of course

approval is appropriate, as it was intended. He stated that committees approving courses are staffed by faculty. Lansverk queried whether faculty involvement in curriculum approval is optimal and ended the discussion saying that the concept will continue to evolve.

Lansverk spoke of how the three-member Nominating Committee would function better with more members. Lansverk would like a broader participation of faculty on university committees. The Faculty Senate Steering Committee proposed that each FS member suggest two members from their departments to participate in helping the Nominating Committee recruit qualified volunteers. Faculty Senate members who populate committees they are interested in, have a positive influence on committee activities. It was suggested that FS Alternates be one of the two contacts for departments. Finally, Lansverk suggested that a grid of university vacancies be given to each FS rep to canvas their department for volunteers so that a pool of faculty would be ready to participate on a committee at a moment's notice.

Faculty Senate has been asked to evaluate how it would function in relation to other councils, and how this relationship would impact the frequency of Faculty Senate meetings. It was decided that if FS had no business to discuss, then the Chair would cancel the week's meeting.

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

Signature

Marvin Lansverk, Chair

Signature

Gale R. Gough, Secretary