

FACULTY SENATE
January 28, 2009
REID HALL 104
4:10 PM – 5:00 PM
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Minutes

Members Present: Amin, Becker, Cherry, Eitle, Fields, Fischer, Jacobs, Lansverk, Livingston, Lynch, Marshall for D. Weaver, Mokwa, Neumeier, Osborne, Prawdzienski, Simpson, Sowell, Varricchio, Versaevel, Watson, Wojtowicz, Zhu

Members Absent: Bangert, Bennett, Fleck, Gee, Gerlach, Igo, Jackson, Jacobsen, Larson, Lei, Maskiell, C. McClure, Political Science, T. Weaver, Wisner

Others Present: Joe Fedock, Ahmed Al-kaisy, S. Taylor

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

Announcements – Wes Lynch

- FS Meetings:
 - February 4, 2009 - Glenn Puffer, Associate Dean, Student Affairs, will speak about the new academic misconduct appeals process. Marilyn Lockhart, Associate Professor, Education will speak about the new Teaching Help Desk/faculty teaching and learning exchange.
 - February 11, 2009 – Campus sustainability/energy systems savings will be discussed by David Klem and cliff Montagne.
- HB87 (resolution to increase the ORP percentage by 1%) will be voted out of committee on Friday, January 30, 2009.
- Administrative reviews/VP reviews will be forthcoming next week. Department Heads are reviewed every year; deans are reviewed every other year.
- February 18, 2009 – The union forum will take place in SUB 235, 4:10 – 6:00 pm. A retired faculty member has been asked to be the moderator, and Chair Lynch is still awaiting his acceptance. Questions for the forum should be either sent to Chair Lynch or Gale Gough.

Strategic Planning Committee – Committee Member, Dr. Ahmed Al-kaisy

- Mission of the SPC
 - Advise and assist UPBAC in maintaining the five year horizon on the institution's strategic plans.
 - Evaluate the outcomes of strategic initiatives and tactics related to the institution's five year vision and report those outcomes to UPBAC.
 - Evaluate new strategic initiatives and make recommendations to UPBAC.
 - Monitor environmental factors that might impact the five-year plan and recommend to UPBAC changes to the plan.
- SPC's Two Objectives This Year
 - Update the current five year vision document.
(<http://www.montana.edu/vision/current/index.html>) developed by the Strategic Planning Committee and approved by the University Budget, Planning and Analysis Committee and the President.
 - Continue to develop the high level document that may be used as a guide for administration, alumni, stakeholders and friends of the university. The four categories of this document relate to each of the four points of the MSU Mission Statement. Because this document will be discussed at the next SPC meeting on March 12, 2009 input from faculty is important.
 - A Strategic Planning Committee brochure provides summary information about objectives and values of MSU and may be used for students, prospective students and stakeholders.
- The Five Year Vision document is continually evolving. Presently, the years it encompasses are FY 08-FY13 and will soon change to FY 09 – FY 14.
 - Composition of the document includes the mission of MSU, followed by six objectives which are a mixture of core values, priorities, strategies and tactics.
- Discussion:

- Has anyone reported on the document's effectiveness since its inception? *There has not been a comprehensive assessment.*
- In the Vision statement it states that "MSU will be the university of choice in the Rocky Mountain Region." Do we use the other universities in the Rocky Mountain settings as comparables? *Some, but not all schools.*
- Dr. Fedock stated that the high level document was prepared in concert as a part of some initial planning with the Comprehensive Campaign and therefore, the pedagogy is different than the actual Five Year Vision. He stated that it was important to keep the two concepts separate. He suggested that FS members read Standard 1 of the accreditation report which provides a contextual basis within which to look at the Five Year Vision.
- Within the context of the Five Year Vision, if a program is to be funded, is it understood that, or if such an undertaking is consistent with what UPBAC does? *Yes.*
- Does the BOR weigh in on the Mission of the University? *Dr. Fedock stated that it is a requirement of the accreditation to have a formalized process and as yet we do not.*

January 2009 BOR Update – Chair-elect Marvin Lansverk

- Chair-elect Lansverk met with the Commissioner of Higher Education, and other deputy commissioners, to discuss transferability and the possibility of modifying BOR policy language which guarantees equivalency of classes at all campuses. The language modification would negate this equivalency. The BOR encouraged campus reps to send them different language.
- Much of the BOR dialog focused on the upcoming legislature.
- Of the top 12 bills of interest, HB87 (the 1% increase in ORP) was included.
- Discussions of what federal stimulus money will be available for Montana ensued.
- Chair-elect Lansverk is concerned about private citizenry representation of the universities on the BOR.
- According to Regent Buchanan, the governor's reduced budget could be reduced more by utilizing university resources differently rather than raising tuition. He stated that universities should also monitor the growth of their budgets.
- The state 43% contribution to higher education might be reduced. It is not known by how much, however.
- U of M would like a larger budget allocation to accommodate higher enrollment.
- It was noted that the BOR need to consider quality of education and not just cost cutting by reducing student population.
- Unnecessary duplication of resources in the system should be examined. For example, MSU's Ph.D. American Studies program might be a duplication of a similar program at U of M. Whether administration is paying attention to these programs before it gets to the BOR level was questioned. Regent Buchanan would like to review board policies and procedures on decision-making. He advocates a "no net gain" policy whereby a department getting new program should cut one not being fully utilized.
- MUSFAR was an agenda item, as BOR wanted to discuss improving communications with faculty.
- Every other month will be a BOR meeting and in between, there will be a conference call.

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

Signature

Wes Lynch, Chair

Signature

Gale R. Gough, Secretary