

**FACULTY SENATE
NOVEMBER 9, 2011
LEO JOHNSON 346
4:10 PM – 5:00 PM
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Minutes**

Members Present: Caton (Business), Dougher (PSPP), Engel (LRES), Gerlach (Chem & BE), Greenwood (Math), Herbeck (Ed), Hostetler (Gallatin College), Kaiser (EE), Lansverk (Eng), Lawrence (Biochem), Larson for Sobek (M&IE), Lynch (Psych), Myers for Eitle (Soc/Anthro), Neumeier (Physics), Newhouse (Art), Rossmann (Library), Schachman (Nursing), Zhu (CS)

Others Present: Russ Walker, Martha Potvin, Terry Leist, Colin Shaw, Richard Smith, Hugo Schmidt

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

Announcements:

Chair's Report – Marvin Lansverk reported briefly on the Dean's Council meeting and indicated that the information presented by the Provost at today's Faculty Senate meeting had been presented at the Dean's Council meeting the previous day.

New Business:

Budget Discussions – Provost Potvin – The Provost provided a handout of "Proposed Funding Concept: Fall 2011" as presented at Dean's Council for the proposed distribution of funds currently in the Provost's budget. She found that, in the past, the provost's budget was not as transparent as would be ideal. These funds were managed well, but they were difficult to understand. So, this handout and discussion are part of an effort to make the budget process in the Provost's office more transparent.

The crux of the proposed budget is to make all aspects of Academic Affairs in charge of their own budgets and where the funds are used. These funds will not be held back in the Provost's office.

Some of these funds would use a Resource Allocation Model (RAM) based on a comparison of colleges at MSU to Delaware data (also included on the handout). Under this model, each college could potentially receive portions of: \$400,000 RAM (already been distributed to base budgets), \$400,000 RAM distributed one-time-only, \$400,000 to base budgets based on Delaware benchmark data, \$374,300 based on CORE Student Credit Hour formula base budgets, \$221,000 for Freshman Seminars to base, or \$507,037 for Extra Sessions to base. In sum, \$1.9 million dollars would be additional fall 2011 distribution for a total of \$2.3 million dollars allocated across college budgets. The Deans are considering the funding concept and will discuss approval at the next Dean's Council meeting.

In the long run, the goal is to increase base budgets rather than rely on continuous one-time-funding allocations. This proposed model gives more power and flexibility to Deans for managing college budgets. Each Dean has to give a budget plan to both the Provost and to the faculty/department heads and then ideas from the colleges can flow to the top.

Some questions raised by attendees included:

Who are our peers in the Delaware data?

-Institutions which are Very High Research or High Research in the Carnegie Classifications.

How does MSU reward colleges for growth and deal with programs which shrink?

-Those are issues for the Budget Council, for the Deans to manage, and for the Board of Regents to address as we move forward with our Strategic Planning. The Budget Council currently has a sub-group (including the Faculty Senate representative, Doralyn Rossmann) working on clarifying the annual resource request process for funding beyond what colleges have available in their budgets.

Why are we “aiming” for 75% of our peers funding?

-That is not our aim, it’s a starting point. We can’t reach 100% in one year with bringing our funding in line with peers, so the 75% percent was what was realistic with our current budget.

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

Signature

Marvin Lansverk, Chair

John Neumeier, Chair-elect