

FACULTY SENATE  
JANUARY 30, 2013  
346 LEON JOHNSON  
4:10 PM – 5:00 PM  
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA  
Minutes

**Members Present:** Bolte (Music), Brown (Chem BE), Cantalupo (Ag Ext), Codd (MIE), Durham (COB), Gerlach (BCE), Gibson (NTT), Greenwood (Math), Harney (Music), Hendrixx (Earth Sciences), Igo (Ag Ed), Kaiser (ECE), Karczewska (Arch), Larson (M&IE), Letiecq (HHD), Lynch (Psych), Martin (Mod Lang), Mokwa (CE), Neumeier (Physics), Olson (ARS), O'Neill (Arch), Ricciardelli (Film & Photo), Reidy (Hist & Phil), Rossmann (Library), Schachman (Nursing), Swinford (Soc/Anthro), Wiedenheft (IMID), Zhu (CS)

**Others Present:** Robert Arnold, Larry Carucci, Scott Davis, Paul Stoy, Gary Brester, Ron Larsen, Linda Young, Robert Maher

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

Draft Academic Items for Consideration Posted on FS Website – Chair Neumeier

- Financial Engineering – new undergraduate major and minor
- BIOH 4445: “Introduction to Pharmacology”
- HSTR 436: “Armed Conflict in Modern Latin America”

Discussion of How to Strengthen Faculty Senate - Chair Neumeier

- Three main discussion points brought forward by Chair Neumeier are:
  - Empowering senators – improve feedback to the senate via actions of senators
  - Examine representation of the senate
  - Evaluate a weekly meeting format – what business is conducted in senate each week
- Senator discussion points:
  - What is the role of faculty senate as set out by the constitution, bylaws and faculty handbook?
    - Faculty Senate Bylaws and Section 220.00 in the FH will be brought back to senate for discussion next week; links are on the FS website.
  - Presentations from other constituencies often hamper senate meetings.
  - The union and senate should be discussed in the context of collaboration.
  - Senate should conduct 1-2 meetings/month for the sole purpose of senator, alternate and dept head attendance/discussions.
  - Course material discussions might be scheduled at the latter part of the meeting. Comments about the courses along the approval process should be made available through some medium.
  - Faculty has a union concerned with salaries, benefits, working conditions. Therefore, FS should be charged with addressing, as a group and for all faculty, issues that are primarily academic in nature.
  - Parking, building placement, green space, etc., might be of concern to faculty. Meeting once a month might take place to address those kinds of concerns to discuss, formulate resolutions and send to the Provost and President for action. Chair-elect Mokwa stated that FS might revisit the Advisory Executive Steering Committee, its role in discussing faculty concerns, and deciding whether the issues should come to the senate, or not.
  - Senate should not be used as a clearing house.
  - Identify the role of senate and actualize it. What are the mechanisms to achieve what we represent?
  - Each senator represents a large body of faculty. There should be mutual discussions between administration and faculty. Messages from faculty, as a whole, should be directed to administrators and a feedback loop realized.
  - Reinvigorate senate with regards to its active membership. Recruit senators only after their three-year retention review.
  - FS might inform or ask administrators how faculty are to be involved in the university’s vision.
  - The mechanism for senator nominations is not consistent. Some faculty do not want to become engaged by becoming a member of senate. How do you change that?
  - The perceived marginalization of senate might be because of issues and resolutions often, after leaving the senate, are stalled, to no fault of senate.
  - A monthly meeting between each senator/dean would improve communications and help to move issues forward. Faculty should remember that department heads are faculty, too, and a team approach with them and deans would be beneficial.
  - Senate meetings should be structured so that the specific issues to be taken to president and provost are clearly articulated, creating a direct pipeline, and that colleagues are aware of that process.
  - Devote one meeting a month, or more, for discussions about campus issues which could then be brought forward to leadership meetings.

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

*Signature,*  
*John Neumeier, Chair*

*Signature*  
*Robert Mokwa, Chair-elect*

*Minutes were transcribed by Gale R. Gough, Administrative Associate, Faculty Senate.*