

University Council Minutes
Wednesday, April 3, 2013

Waded Cruzado, Kiah Abbey, Daniel Adams, Kregg Aytes, Matt Caires, Tom Calcagni, Kari Cargill, Nancy Cornwell, Dennis Defa, Chris Fastnow, Brett Gunnink, Bob Hietala, Bob Lashaway, Terry Leist, Diane Letendre, Jim Limbaugh, Tom McCoy, Shelley McKamey, Helen Melland, Lindsay Murdock, John Neumeier, Kim Obbink, Sandy Osborne, Nicol Rae, Lynda Ransdell, Nora Smith, Leslie Taylor

I. Call to Order

President Cruzado called the meeting to order.

II. Approval of Minutes for March 6, 2013

The minutes were unanimously approved.

III. University Wide Information/ Announcements

President Cruzado updated the Council on recent announcements of an Udall and four Goldwater scholars at the university.

IV. New Items

A. Emergency Management Policy

Bob Lashaway, Associate Vice President, University Services

Associate Vice President Lashaway gave an overview of the revised emergency management policy.

Revisions would work to create continuity across campus with an institutional response group to convene during an emergency.

Associate VP Lashaway informed the Council that there will be ongoing planning during the summer to work towards an emergency exercise this fall.

President Cruzado commented that this group was put together to work through scenarios and the process of responding to emergencies. She thanked Sandy Osborne for bring additional ideas forward.

Faculty Senate Chair John Neumeier inquired about the size of the response team in a large disaster. Associate VP Lashaway indicated that there would be coordination between external response teams.

The President commented that the University wants to get to the point where everyone knows when and how to respond to emergencies.

V. Old Items

A. Student Trip Policy (See Attachments)
Leslie Taylor, Legal Counsel

Counselor Taylor informed the Council that there were no additional comments and sought input on the effective date and a communications strategy.

The Council discussed a blast email followed with Dean and Department head notification.

The motion passed unanimously.

B. Commemorative Tributes (See Attachment)
Leslie Taylor, Legal Counsel

Counselor Taylor indicated that there was only one comment to correct a title, which was corrected.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Information Items

A. Student Engagement Update with Benchmark Data
Kathy Tanner, Director, Office of Activities and Engagement

Director Tanner explain the Office of Activity and Engagement (OAE) and introduced her staff to the Council.

The OAE is capitalizing on new synergy that combines activities with engagement.

Director Tanner informed the Council of the America Reads program that has been a 15 year partnership to work with elementary students on reading skills.

The M restoration project has been a popular engagement project to improve and clean the M.

The office works with and supports non-profits on campus and in the community.

B. Strategic Plan Update: Discovery

Chris Fastnow, Director, Office of Planning & Analysis

Director Fastnow read the goal to the Council.

The Director explained the three objectives:

Elevate the research excellence and recognition of MSU faculty.

Enhance infrastructure in support of research, discovery and creative activities.

Expand the scale, breadth and quality of doctoral education.

Director Fastnow indicated that MSU was one of only three with high research, enrollment, and engagement. She explained we improved in STEM and Non-STEM, but post doctorates dropped.

VP of Research McCoy expressed concern of doctoral conferrals.

C. Bias Incident Reporting

Diane Letendre, Director, Office of Institutional Equity

Director Latendre introduced the new bias incident reporting program.

Program Coordinator Phenocia Bauerle explained the program and process to the Council. The reporting system was in part to inform the University of potential bias that exist and create a greater awareness on campus.

The new website is Montana.edu/biasreporting.

VII. Updates

The President acknowledged new ASMSU President Lindsay Murdock and honored the service of outgoing ASMSU President Kiah Abbey.

A. CHOICES re-enrollment

Lisa Buss, Payroll and Benefit Manager

Manager Buss explained that the new on-line CHOICES re-enrollment period begins April 15 and lasts through May 15th.

Buss asked that all employees re-enroll early and contact the office with questions.

VIII. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.