

FACULTY SENATE
August 31, 2011
LEO JOHNSON 346
4:10 PM – 5:00 PM
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Minutes

Members Present: Biber (Music), Burrows (PSPP - Extension), Donahue (Libraries), Dougher (PSPP), Eiger (Cell Bio/Neuro), Eitle (Soc/Anthro), Engel (LRES), Franklin (Microbiology), Greenwood (Math), Herbeck (Education), Hostetler (Gallatin College), Igo (AgEd), Kaiser (EE), Lansverk (English), Larson (M&IE), Lawrence (Biochem), Letiecq (HHD), Liu (Earth Sciences), Lynch (Psych), Martin (Mod Lang), Mokwa (CE), Moreaux (ARNR), Neumeier (Physics), Reidy (Hist & Phil), Ricciardelli (Film & Photo), Rossmann (Libraries), Sarchet (Off-Campus Ext), Schachman (Nursing), Zhu (CS)

Others Present: Larry Carucci, Waded Cruzado, Diane Donnelly, Martha Potvin, Ron Larsen, Hugo Schmidt

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

Welcome Back – President Cruzado

President Cruzado spoke of MSU's many successes in teaching, research and outreach/service/extension this past AY. MSU will have record enrollment for in-state students this fall, despite the fact that 400 less students graduated from Montana high schools this year. Out of state numbers are strong and transfers are rising. Retention climbed from 72% to 74% since last year, and President Cruzado asked for continued support from faculty and staff in this endeavor. Additionally, ACT scores are averaging 25.1. Research progress is reported in terms of expenditures. Since there was a delay in a substantial award from NIH for Cooley Lab renovation which was supposed to begin in October but began, instead, in February, those numbers will be down, slightly. MSU received a new grant from the Department of Energy as a leader of a consortium of universities which attracted \$67M for carbon capture and sequestration. There are other grants awaiting approval from the NSF. For outreach, service and extension, MSU received designation from the Carnegie Foundation for an engaged university. Thanks to *Engineers without Borders*, who brought clean water to 58 schools in Kenya, MSU is one of 4 regional institutions that will compete for the final *Engineers without Borders C. Peter Magrath University/Community Engagement Award*. MSU is also investing resources to make enhancements to buildings on and off campus, with minimal impact to state dollars and in partnership with the community.

A search committee is being formed to find a VP of Administration & Finance.

Discussions ensued about the possibility of senior faculty teaching larger incoming classes, having more faculty engage in student mentoring, as well as having those grad students interested in teaching as a profession, to acquire a teaching certification - all as a means of student retention.

New Business

- Chair Lansverk asked if any FS members interested in the vice chair position of Faculty Senate to please email him at lansverk@english.montana.edu
- Faculty Senate unanimously confirmed Frank Kerins, associate professor of finance in the College of Business, as the Chair of the MSU Benefits Committee.

- There is a proposed name change to the BS in biological sciences option, Fish & Wildlife Management, now become Fish & Wildlife Ecology Management. FS members unanimously endorsed the name change.

Curriculum/Program Approval Process: Conversion of Undergraduate Studies to Academic Affairs – At the behest of the Provost and in keeping with the philosophy that Faculty Senate assume responsibility for the evaluation of the academic faction of MSU, FS is deliberating on the current structure and how it might be improved. The current process is posted on the web in flow chart form:

<http://www2.montana.edu/facultysenate/ACADEMIC%20RESPONSIBILITIES%20FOR%20FS%20FS-item-83111.pdf>

Two new proposals were presented to FS for their consideration. The first would consist of a single committee which would review proposals for all undergraduate programs (proposals for new majors, minors, degrees, certificates, programs, centers, institutes, and the CORE curriculum) and courses, request for changes, additions, or deletions of courses and programs on a continuing basis. Consider such aspects as academic soundness, impact on library and other institutional resources, impacts on existing programs, fiscal soundness, duplication of effort, conflicts of academic interest, and fit with the University's strategic plan and academic strategic plan. The committee will also be responsible for evaluating academic policies. Ideally and under this first proposal, all colleges would have their own curriculum committee and they would provide expert review. The present CORE committee structure would remain intact. Membership of the AAC (Academic Affairs Committee) is identical to the current UG Studies Committee. The main difference being that it would be chaired by the Chair-elect of FS. Following the AAC's evaluation process, their comments would be forwarded to the FS for approval in the form of a consent agenda. Academic policy changes need to be addressed, as well. They might be added to the AAC charge or handed over to the current Faculty Affairs Committee. This first proposal provides some streamlining of the present process. Graduate courses and programs would eventually be incorporated into this structure.

The second proposal would consist of two committees and be similar to what already exists. A Program Review Committee (equivalent to the existing FS Academic Affairs Committee) would review proposals for all undergraduate programs (proposals for new majors, minors, degrees, certificates, programs, centers, institutes). Consider such aspects as academic soundness, impact on library and other institutional resources, impacts on existing programs, fiscal soundness, duplication of effort, conflicts of academic interest, and fit with the University's strategic plan and academic strategic plan. The committee will also be responsible for evaluating academic policies. The second committee, the Course Review Committee (Equivalent to UG Studies), would review all undergraduate programs and courses, requests for changes, additions, or deletions on a continuing basis, and consider such aspects as academic soundness, impact on library and other institutional resources, duplication of effort, and conflicts of academic interest. This proposal is essentially the *status quo*, and the significant change being that the Program Approval Committee and Course Approval Committee would be chaired through the Faculty Senate. There would be no *requirement* that each college have a college curriculum committee. The CORE committee structure would remain intact. Academic policy changes would need to be addressed and might be added to the Program Review Committee, or they could be handed over to our current Faculty Affairs Committee. This proposal does not streamline the process. However, the value of having two committees is that it may be more efficient and would divide the workload. The Faculty Senate would elect a person to chair the Course Review Committee and the Chair-Elect of Faculty Senate would chair the Program Review Committee.

Discussions about this process will be continuing throughout the AY and Chair Lansverk encouraged FS members to email comments/questions to lansverk@montana.edu

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

Signature

Marvin Lansverk, Chair

Signature

Gale R. Gough, Secretary