

FACULTY SENATE
Dec 8, 2010
LEO JOHNSON 346
4:10 PM – 5:00 PM
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Minutes

Members Present: Biber (Music), Cherry (Math), Eitle (Soc/Anthro), Gerlach (Chem & Bio Eng), Kaiser (EE), Lansverk (English), Lawrence (Biochem), Lockhart (Ed), Lynch (Psych), Martin (Modern Lang & Lit), Maxwell for Engel (LRES), Mokwa (Civil Eng), Neumeier (Physics), Osborne 9HHD), Reidy (Hist & Phil), Rossmann (Libraries), Schachman (Nursing),

Others Present: Joe Fedock, Bob Swenson, Jerome Coffey, Alan Leech, Peg Wherry, Kim Obbink

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

New Business – Peg Wherry/Kim Obbink

- President Cruzado will be expanding online distance education, a vehicle that carries out the land grant mission.
- There are designated funds to give motivated faculty the time and support to develop online programs and transform existing programs or courses for online delivery.
- Five Hundred Thousand Dollars has been allocated and will be distributed over the next four years to support online/distance program development.
- Funds will be divided between incentives for faculty developing programs and/or developing/converting courses for new online programs, and additional resources.
- Key points made regarding this program included:
 - National consultants hired reviewed our online education efforts at MSU and observed that our program was more entrepreneurial and opportunistic and not strategic.
 - It is hopeful that some new programs will be launched in the fall 2011.
 - A Letter of Intent or RFP process should begin soon.
 - MSU will be holding some workshops for those considering making proposals and appraising ideas for their effectiveness. The venue will be knowledge-a-la-carte beginning January 10-11.
 - The national average for faculty training is 22 hours. MSU's initiative, however, will provide more one-on-one interaction since most faculty do not have 22-consecutive hours to devote to training.
- As an aside, faculty were encouraged to take the Desire-to-Learn survey, which will provide valuable information to BTC and how they may more efficiently run the program.
- Discussion ensued:
 - Emeritus faculty are able to teach and participate in online classes, should their department allow it.
 - *Is it your long-term goal to set things up so students may complete their entire degrees online, and if so, are you going to have a specific number of core classes online?* An entire 120 degree class online is not viable. 26% of Montana non-traditional students and those who have a two-year degree would benefit from a baccalaureate online. Those beginning their degree classes would not benefit from strictly online classes. There would be, however, at least one class online in each core area.

- *How would you define a program and how does is the BTC involved in this?* BTC is a part of extension and involved. A program is best thought of as an institutionally recognized package; typically a degree program such as a graduate degree, certificate, baccalaureate.
- *From many submissions of proposals, how do you choose?* Key factors will include new audience and marketability. There is an MSU Online Advisory Committee
- *Have you considered options beyond the traditional semester?* Nothing is ruled out, but we would start out with terms established by Banner. Online is measured in weeks.
- *May we use the funds to support us as we develop our courses?* Definitive use of funds has not been decided, and T\the process is still being developed with President Cruzado. Suggestions from FS are welcomed.
- *Have you thought about using testing center/supervised testing?* With the legislation and passing of the 2008 Higher Ed Opportunity Act, where accreditors must hold those accountable for those taking tests are those who are getting credit for the work, it is a challenge to set up, but it is a successful process.
- *What is the timeline, strategy of marketing, campaigns, visibility for this program?* An email will be sent by the end of this week. Ideally, proposals would be in by March 1st. The marketing and actual programs will be broadcast with the help of Extended University.
- *Does the faculty member who develops the course own the course?* The current intellectual property process will dictate: Faculty own the course but the institution owns the content.

Announcement/Updates:

- Exponent – Tenured Salaries of Faculty article – Lansverk discussed the erroneous information that was published about tenured faculty salaries (MSU faculty are over paid in comparison to their peers) in the Exponent; the columns of numbers in the article were apparently reversed. It was noted from the Exponent staff writer in attendance at Faculty Senate that a correction would be made this coming week. Lansverk offered to provide better, substantiated comparison numbers. As a follow-up, Member Osborne stated that Representative Lewis from Helena introduced a bill that would cap university salaries at \$80,000. The Governor cannot veto a bill of this kind, because of the majority in the legislature, so it will go out to the public for a vote. The next union meeting is December 17, 2010; 3:00 – 4:00 pm; 346 Leon Johnson.
- Merit Pay Distribution – Lansverk – Currently, the merit pay distribution is frozen. In summary, ‘09-10 merit pay was based on faculty performance for ‘08 and that money would go into the base and its distribution would not be influenced by the union. For ‘10-11, the union reserved the right to bargain for distribution of that money. Subsequent investigation yielded that there may not be ‘10-11 money to infuse faculty base salaries. Lansverk, on behalf of Faculty Senate, sent President Cruzado a letter responding to the cease & desist order on the distribution of last year’s funds. President Cruzado responded by saying that conversations were transpiring and that there was, indeed, money for merit distribution. It is not clear whether all merit would go to tenured faculty or a mix of non-tenure and tenured. AFMSU also sent an email to all faculty highlighting the status of the non-distribution and querying administration why these funds were not being distributed. AFMSU is bargaining on Friday with Kevin McRae in attendance and it is hopeful that as more information emerges, it will shed clarity on this issue.
- Scott Creel/Fish, Wildlife, Parks (FWP) – In reference to a recently published Bozeman Chronicle article by Gail Schontzler, which reported on Scott Creel’s

research challenging findings by FWP, Lansverk spoke of academic freedom, how it serves the public, and what it means. Lansverk suggested inviting Dr. Creel to FS to speak. President Cruzado wrote a letter to FWP, requesting a meeting to provide a venue for open discussion by both parties.

- Department of Music Name Change: to School of Music – Chair Leech, Music Department – Dean’s Council presented the name change for the Music Department to the School of Music. The name change will have no impact on the functionality of the department, and this is a parallel move to emulate the name changes that have been happening throughout the College of Arts and Architecture.

The Faculty Senate meeting ended at 5:00 PM, as there was no further business. There will be no meeting next week; the first spring semester meeting will be on January 19, 2011 in the same location at the same time.

Signature

Marvin Lansverk, Chair

Signature

Gale R. Gough, Secretary