

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

Members Present: Biber (Music), Brown for Gerlach (ChBE), Walker for Cherry (Math), Eitle (Soc/Anthro), Engel (L.RES), Jacobsen (Ext), Kaiser (ECE), Lansverk (English), Larson for Sobek (IE), Lawrence (ChBC), Lockhart (Education), Lynch (Psych), Martin (Mod Lang), Monahan (Soc/Anthro), Mokwa (Civ Eng), Neumeier (Physics), Osborne (HHD), Ricciardelli (Film & Photo), Reidy (Hist/Phil), Rossmann (Libraries), Sowell (ARS), Zhu (CS)

Others present: Martha Potvin, Greg Young, Hugo Schmidt, Steve Swinford, Doug Downs

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

New Business

Remarks from New Provost, Martha Potvin

Provost Potvin shared what she has been involved in since being hired two months ago.

- Accreditation
 - MSU finished the process in 2009-10, under old guidelines, and received a report with four areas of concern:
 - Resources
 - Salaries
 - Senate HB 13 proposes a 1% increase next January and a 3% increase the next academic year. This is not insurance that the state will provide the financing to cover it, however. The BoR recognizes that all MSU employees are at 70% (or more) of their peer institutions. Potvin would like to have the flexibility to move found money towards faculty salaries, targeting market, where some disciplines are less than 60% of market. The CBA (Collective Bargaining Agreement) will determine how a salary structure is determined and admin will work within those guidelines.
 - Those who are not in the bargaining unit will be compensated in a different way and admin is committed to a fair and equitable process.
 - MUS initiative integrating the four campuses
 - Assessment (closing the loop)
 - Departments will report their progress in collecting info on assessment, and how they have used it to modify and reaffirm programs.
 - One strategy for assessing the CORE 2.0/General Education includes a standardized test.
 - MSU will now be on a seven year cycle, reporting every other year beginning September, where a current university mission, core themes tied to the mission, goals and objectives for the core themes will be presented to the NWA. In year three there is a site visit and the NWA will examine the mission, core themes; at that time, we have an opportunity to make changes to them. They will also examine our resources to confirm they are sufficient to meet our goals. In year five, NWA will examine the strategic plan and how MSU is moving forward to achieve it and how it is tied to the mission. Year seven examines how MSU has achieved its goals.
 - Potvin is working, simultaneously, with all university councils on the mission and core themes. Some of the core theme submissions include (but are not limited to), teaching, learning, sustainability, discovery, outreach. The goal is to have a new mission statement and core themes by the end of the semester in order to gather campus input.
 - This is the first concerted effort to tie budget to planning.
 - The fund raising, Capital Campaign, initiative will be tied to the priorities of the institution.
 - Deans will present priorities proposals (Priorities Development Committee) to President Cruzado to go into the Capital Campaign.
 - The foundation has a timeline for the feasibility of the campaign. Consultants will look at the priorities and query top prospects if they are interested in pursuing with a donation. Some of the priorities are those from the presidential inaugural speech.
- Correcting Excess Layering in Approval Process

- Provost approval of candidate interviews
- Program review should be at the dean's level
- Structure of academic affairs
- Sabbatical timeline changed by FS
- Third Year Retention Files
 - Departments have good standards and adhere to them, making their faculty excellent candidates from P&T.
 - The CBA will dictate how the P&T process is conducted. The Provost will continue to do substantive reviews, however.
- Discussions Potvin/FS
 - Potvin and the deans are consulting with BTC for online courses as a component of student credit hours, as well as examining course measurement in lieu of student credit hours. As enrollment goes up and tuition generated, Potvin believes a portion of the new tuition money should be used to increase the base budget in academic affairs to accommodate growth in the academic areas.*
 - FS members believe one-on-one departmental meetings with the provost are important to discuss the issues idiosyncratic to each department e.g., the inability of some departments to fill vacant faculty lines. Potvin believes departmental meetings should include the dean, as they are the primary decision makers. She understands the challenges and needs to examine her resources before she can address specific problems and how to solve them.
 - Young asked how FS could help get base dollars from increased tuition to academic affairs. Neumeier commented that at a recent BoR meeting, it was discussed that a company, McKinstry, is working with another company, Trident, to evaluate energy saving projects on the MSU campus. Neumeier noted that some of the projects are so simple, however, that MSU could save millions of dollars by engaging in the activities themselves, instead of paying contractors to do so. One such activity included changing lights. MSU is paying these entities \$280,000 per year to instruct MSU to change lights and to put insulation around pipes, when we have perfectly good engineers and facilities on campus to accomplish these very same tasks either free or at a nominal fee.
 - Lansverk asked what Potvin's vision was on how FS fits with the other university councils. Potvin's philosophy is to be as inclusive as possible. The university councils are still discovering what their goals and missions are.
 - FS noted that there is about \$1M from increased tuition above and beyond what was allocated by the legislators and wondered how it could be infused in academics as base. Potvin noted that there is a state mandate which says we must have a certain amount in reserve. Potvin has been an advocate for getting the money out of one-time only money and add some to the base, as she noted earlier in the discussions with FS*.

Chair's Report - Lansverk

- Lansverk will email the BoR report to all FS members.

There is no meeting next week due to spring break. The Faculty Senate meeting ended at 5:00 pm, as there was no further business.

Signature

Marvin Lansverk, Chair

Signature

Gale R. Gough, Secretary