Welcome to Faculty Senate!

Colter Ellis

Faculty Senate Chair

Sociology & Anthropology

Stephanie McCalla

Faculty Senate Chair-Elect

Chemical & Biological Engineering

Gentle Reminders

- Faculty Senate is an open and public meeting

- Please, only Senators speak in the meeting, unless you are specifically called on by the Chair or Chair-elect to speak

- Public may address the Senate at end of the meeting during public comment

- Be kind to each other.

Approval of FS Minutes from March 6, 2024

- Do I have a motion to approve?

- Any discussion?

- All those in favor of the motion indicate by saying aye

- Those not in favor of the motion indicate by same sign

FYI Items

- Dr. Cara Neumann lecture: Grassroots to Global: The Power of Public Health
  - Today, 6:30-7:30 in NAH Inspiration Hall
- Keely Holmes will provide walk-in help sessions for the CIM system:
  - Walk-In Help Session 1: <u>Monday, March 25th, 10:00am-12:00pm</u> in Montana Hall 116
  - Walk-In Help Session 2: <u>Thursday, March 28th, 1:00pm-3:00pm</u> in Montana Hall 116

FYI Items

- Call for First Generation Service Excellence Award nominations (deadline April 2, 2024). This award is meant to honor a faculty or staff member that is working towards advocacy and support of first-generation college students on campus as well as modeling excellence in first-generation leadership. Nominations close on April 2, 2024 at 11:59pm.

Information Updates

Distance learning policy: Tracy Dougher

Distance Education Policy

Informational Reading

Goals of this policy

1. Codify established MSU practices

2. Establish policy where gaps exist in compliance regarding Distance Education policies

   A. US Department of Education policies on Distance Education
      (https://www2.ed.gov/policy/highered/reg/hearulemaking/2018/distanceandinnovationunofficialreg.pdf)

   B. NWCCU accreditation standards and addendum
      (https://nwccu.org/standards/ - standard 2.G.7)

   C. NC-SARA policy (National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements)

Current established practices

Teaching Online Program

https://www.montana.edu/facultyexcellence/programs/TOP.htm

Best Practices

https://www.montana.edu/facultyexcellence/teaching-advising/onlineteaching/bestpractices/index.html

BOR Policy – Online Education policy is being updated

https://mus.edu/borpol/bor300/303-7.pdf

Policy sections

- 100.00 Introduction
  - Definitions of Distance Education

- 200.00 Roles and Responsibilities
  - Provost and Senior Vice President
  - University
  - Faculty
    - Training and Implementation
    - Regular and Substantive Interaction
    - Office Hours

Policy sections

- 300.00 Operational Requirements
    - Quality and Learning Goals
    - Transition from Face-to-Face to Distance Education
    - Review and Approval of New Programs
    - Assessment
    - Identity Verification and Student Privacy
    - Compliance with MSU Policies and Procedures
    - Consumer Protections
    - Tuition and Fees

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

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Policy drafting process

Policy draft initiated by Steve Swinford, researched and revised by Kim Obbink and Tracy Dougher

Policy has been reviewed by

- Jennifer Glad – Associate Legal Counsel
- Provost Mokwa – Office of Academic Affairs

Policy draft presented to Joint Academic Governance Steering Committee (JAGS) - February 2024

Policy draft presented to Academic Council - February 2024

Policy first reading at University Council – March 2024

Summary of Research Agreements Policy draft first reading

1. Codify established MSU practices

2. Establish policy where gaps exist in compliance regarding Distance Education policies

   A.   US DoE policies on Distance Education
   (https://www2.ed.gov/policy/highered/reg/hearulemaking/2018/distanceandinnovationunofficialreg.pdf)

   B.   NWCCU accreditation standards and addendum
   (https://nwccu.org/standards/ - standard 2.G.7)

   C.   NC-SARA policy (National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements)

   Questions?   tracyaod@montana.edu

Questions or Discussion?

Old Business

- Changes to the Graduate Catalog (Second Reading)
    - Eligibility for Assistantships
    - Academic Standing

Second Reading: Eligibility for Assistantships

The current wording: "Note: All students must be in good academic standing to be eligible for an appointment. Non-degree graduate students are ineligible for graduate assistantships or graduate tuition waivers."

Proposed change: "Note: All graduate certificate, masters, and doctoral students in good academic standing are eligible for a graduate assistantship and tuition waivers if they have not reached a department or university limit. Students on academic notice still qualify as being in good academic standing. Non-degree students are not eligible for graduate assistantships and tuition waivers. Degree-seeking graduate students on academic warning may submit an appeal to the Graduate School to request an assistantship."

Second Reading: Eligibility for Assistantships

- Do I have a motion to approve?

- Any discussion?

- All those in favor of the motion indicate by saying aye

- Those not in favor of the motion indicate by same sign

Second Reading: Graduate Academic Standing

- Now uses the same language used in undergraduate for academic standing, i.e., academic notice, academic warning and suspension.
- It maintains the three reasons why a graduate student can be academically suspended
  - Failing to maintain a GPA threshold
  - Not meeting the provisions of admission
  - Not making progress towards degree completion
- The student's graduate committee determine that a student is "not making progress toward degree completion." That the recommendation is based on a wholistic review of all the following factors:
  1) The student's overall progress towards degree
  2) Course and examination grades
  3) Research performance
  4) Any other information relevant to whether the student should be allowed to complete their program of study.
- Committees should not base their decision solely on one item, e.g. a qualifier exam. Students can appeal this decision using the process in the appeal policy.

Questions or Discussion?

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Second Reading: Graduate Academic Standing

- Do I have a motion to table this proposal?

- Any Discussion?

- All those in favor of the motion indicate by saying aye

- Those not in favor of the motion indicate by same sign

Undergraduate Courses and Programs

Courses – Second Reading

- ANSC 106: Careers in Animal Agriculture

- CULA 106: Kitchen and Food Production Fundamentals

- CULA 108: Station Cookery

- CULA 112: Fundamentals of Protein Cookery

- ECNS 433: Economics of the Environment

Course Inactivations – Second Reading

- SPNS 341: Warriors and Damsels in Spanish Literature

New Programs – Second Reading

- -C : Certificate in Special Education

Program Inactivations – Second Reading

- CARB-CBL: Certificate in Arabic
  - We no longer offer second year Arabic courses. The enrollment in those courses was consistently low, so they were cancelled

Graduate Courses and Programs

Courses – Second Reading

- BIOH 585: Human Dissection for Teachers

Senate Open Discussion

Public Comment

(Two minutes per person)

Next Meeting
Leon Johnson 346
For real this time…