MONTANA TECH FACULTY SENATE

Friday, April 20, 2007

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Members present: Mark Sholes, Betsy Garlish, Karen Porter, John Brower, Paul Conrad, Rod James,
Members absent: Lance Edwards, John Nugent, Miriam Young
Attending without vote: None

Business
  ▪ The minutes of the two previous meetings were accepted by vote.

Old Business

1. Montana Tech Standards Guideline for hiring, promotion, and tenure within each department
   The Senators requested that the subcommittee that prepared the Guidelines document make the small change developed at the Senate’s last meeting (4-6-07). The text change is intended to address a point of clarification that was requested from the faculty – specifically, that the text under (2) b and c be expanded to include the Instructor rank. This text could be rewritten to read: b. Promotion and tenure within Instructor and Professorial ranks. By this text revision, (2) c and d would be omitted.

   The document will be so revised and presented again to the full faculty at the Instructional Faculty meeting May 4, 2007.

2. New Faculty Senate members and officers, continued
   The following senators will need a replacement for the next term: Paul Conrad, John Brower, Mark Sholes, Karen Porter. Rich McNearney has indicated a willingness to serve, and Rod James has agreed to continue serving. The terms of all senators are understood to be two years.

3. Faculty Satisfaction Survey.
   The results of this survey were presented and discussed by John Brower. He estimated that the response was approximately 50% which is very good. He noted that many returns did not indicate an affiliation (COT, North Campus, Bureau, etc.), so some kinds of evaluation were not possible. Where possible to discern, most North campus responses were from the teaching faculty, and responses in the “strongly disagree” category were more prevalent on the North campus. He noted, and the senators agreed, that #25 could best be separated into two questions.

   It was again recognized by the Senators that there is no identified process for knowing who is on the faculty or staff at any one time. This issue is best exemplified by the confusion about the part-time faculty – who they are and are they current.

New Business

1. Betsy Garlish reported on the status of the bill by Representative Koopman concerning academic diversity on MUS campuses. For now it is tabled, but it is likely to be introduced in the 2009 Legislature.
The Senate adjourned at 2:35 PM.

NEXT MEETING: Friday May 4, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Porter
Secretary