

Faculty Senate Minutes December 5, 1997

Call to order: 3:05pm
Appointment of Recorder: Courtney A. Young
Approval of Minutes: Unanimous
Non-attending: Steve Luft (two others showed up at approximately 3:20)
Issues covered: Topics are in bold

Reports:

1. **Applications for Chancellor:** By the date shown above, 18 nominations were received of which 2 had applied. There were also 5 inquiries and, of these, 1 had applied. Compared to the approximated 60 who applied in the previous President search, this low level of 3 applications is alarming. It was noted that there was still plenty of time left before the application due date of January 15, 1998, gets informally closed (applications would still be accepted but preference would be given to those who met the due date). Nevertheless, concerns were reiterated in regards to giving less consideration for applicants from industry.
2. **VCAAR Search Committee:** Concerns were discussed about how 1) the new Chancellor could be involved with this search if scheduled site visits occur in April and the New Chancellor will not be in place until June and 2) this committee was selected especially since the Faculty Senate was not involved. It was noted that the Senate's involvement with academic affairs and the VCAAR is more critical than it is with campus affairs and the Chancellor. Since the Senate was involved in selecting the Chancellor Search Committee, wouldn't it be wise to involve the Senate even more in selecting this committee? No conclusion was reached in regards to informing President Dennison of this matter.

Old Business:

3. **Posting Minutes:** Because the campus is currently split electronically between MS Mail and MS Exchange, it was decided that minutes, announcements, etc. will be posted to Shared Folders by Courtney Young to MS Mail and by Denise Solko to MS Exchange.
4. **Budgets:** Due to budget cuts on this and other campuses, concerns of the faculty and staff as well as the Faculty Senate were aired. The budgeting process needs to be more open and budgets, once established, need to be accessible; unfortunately, neither of these situations exist. Additional discussions also centered on 1) having accountability for unrestricted accounts (as opposed to restricted accounts), and 2) having the bookstore become faculty-owned and/or student-owned (as opposed to being under the Chancellor). It was mentioned that Doug Coe (the interim VCAAR) and Haley Beaudry (state representative) could be helpful in getting these issues resolved.

New Business:

5. **Visit with Dennison:** Because President Dennison has offered to visit our campus, The Faculty Senate was making arrangements as to when, where and the circumstances. It was hoped an Open Forum would be planned for Wednesday from 10:00am to 11:30am followed by a luncheon meeting with The Faculty Senate from 11:30am to 1:00pm. Strategic Planning issues were expected to be the focal point and in this regard, two major questions were planned. How do you (Dennison) promote Montana Tech? What is your (Dennison's) long range vision on budgeting?

Meeting Adjourned: 4:45 pm.