

Minutes - Faculty Senate
April 02, 1999
2 PM – Pintlar Room - SUB

Attendees: Don Stierle, Celia Schahczenski, John Evans, Mary McLaughlin, Curtis Link
Visitor: Bill MacGregor
Recorder: Curtis Link

Minutes

Approval of amended minutes from March 12, 1999 meeting.

New Business

Report from Don Stierle on Board of Regents meeting in Helena March 24-25 -

Differential tuition –

- The BoR passed a change to the way tuition is funded. All 4-year institutions will have a 4.4% tuition increase while tuition will be frozen at all of the Colleges of Technology.

Credit cap –

- The credit cap for MUS students has been reinstated at 170 credits before out of state tuition rates go into effect. This credit cap will be reviewed again in the future.

Reports from committees -

Salary Committee –

- If the money is in place, there will be an average 3% salary increase at the end of this year and the same amount for next year for a total of 6% over two years.
- D. Bradley pointed out a problem with 'salary inversion'; when faculty with less seniority have higher salaries than higher seniority faculty.
- Another possible discrepancy pointed out was that Ph.D. and MS faculty with the same seniority are making the same salaries.

Parking -

Don Stierle reported on a proposal from the Chancellor's office to institute a maintenance fee for all students and faculty to contribute to the costs of campus maintenance for parking lots. In light of faculty salaries not even keeping up with cost of living increases, the Faculty Senate is adamantly opposed to such a maintenance fee.

Bill MacGregor -

B. MacGregor continued discussion started at the previous faculty senate meeting on the topic of faculty community service as a criterion in faculty evaluations. Compared to the components teaching and research, the amount of weighting given to service and how that service is to be defined are not clear. Bill reported on discussions from a recent conference that he attended along with Don Stierle and Mark Reavis, a community leader.

The central point of the discussion was that 'service' should be a part of the "three-legged stool" along with 'teaching' and 'research'.

The Faculty Senate agreed that service is an important part of the "three-legged stool" and suggested that Bill make faculty community service more visible by working with the Instructional Improvement Committee.

Old Business

Discussion of promotion/tenure criteria in the faculty handbook -

- Discussion continued on revising the promotion/tenure sections in the faculty handbook. There are numerous inconsistencies within these sections that need to be addressed. D. Stierle has constructed a flowchart outlining the sequence of steps in the promotion/tenure evaluation process. This flowchart was discussed in terms of deadlines and materials required at which step.
- Two forms were agreed on which are similar to forms already in place in Appendix A of the handbook. One is a one-page confidential form filled out by other tenured faculty in the department for the faculty member under review. The second is a summary one page form filled out by the department head and signed by both the faculty member under review and the department head.
- A motion was made by D. Stierle and seconded by C. Link that
 1. the May 1 date for final feedback to the faculty member under review be changed to March 15,
 2. the yearly evaluation portfolios for reviewed faculty be forwarded from the department chair to and filed by the college dean, and
 3. the 3-year evaluation go to the Chancellor and feedback be provided to the faculty member being reviewed.
- It was agreed that sections 207-210 in the faculty handbook be reviewed for content and inconsistencies by the following groups:

207	C. Schahczenski and L. Smith
208	J. Evans and D. Cameron
209	M. McLaughlin and D. Stierle
210	C. Link and C. Young

Meeting adjourned: 4:00 PM.