

## MONTANA TECH FACULTY SENATE

Thursday, May 10, 2012

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Members present: Laurie Battle, Hugo Bertite-Aguirre, Jon Chesbro, Chris Danielson, Jerry Downey (Chair), Gretchen Geller, Bill Good, Scott Juskiwicz, Rajendra Kasinath, Mike Miller, Tom Moon, Mary North-Abbott, Vicki Petritz, Bill Ryan, Celia Schahczenski, Glenn Shaw, Rita Spear (representing Charie Faught), Kirk Waren, Miriam Young

Members absent: Merle Benedict, Charie Faught (represented by Rita Spear), Katie Hailer, John Nugent, Shane Parrow, Heather Shearer (Vice Chair),

Attending without vote: Don Blackketter, Pete Knudsen, Chip Todd, James Rose

The meeting was called to order just after 7:00 am

#### **Roll Call**

Kirk Waren introduced James Rose as the Bureau of Mines and Geology Faculty Senate representative for next academic year. James will take over as the Faculty Senate representative on the Space Committee. Members were asked to state their name, department they represent, and end of term of service, if known. Members responding:

Jon Chesbro, Business and Information Technology, 2014  
Scott Juskiwicz, Library, 2015  
Mike Miller, General Engineering, 2015  
Tom Moon, Electrical Engineering, 2013  
Jerry Downey, Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, 2014  
Bill Good, Biology, uncertain  
Miriam Young, Nursing, 2015  
Bill Ryan, College of Technology, uncertain  
Chris Danielson, Liberal Studies, 2014  
Rajendra Kasinath, Environmental Engineering, 2013  
Celia Schahczenski, Computer Science and Network Technology, soon  
Vicky Petritz, COT Business, 2014  
Gretchen Geller, Health Programs, 2014 or 2015  
Hugo Bertite-Aguirre, Geophysical Engineering, 2015  
Glenn Shaw, Geological Engineering, 2015  
Laurie Battle, Mathematics, 2014  
James Rose, Bureau of Mines and Geology, uncertain

#### **Review and Approval of Minutes from the April 26, 2012 Meeting**

The minutes for the April 26, 2012 meeting had not been distributed to the entire Faculty Senate yet, so the issue was postponed.

#### **Acknowledgements**

Jerry Downey acknowledged Heather Shearer's service as Vice Chair on the Faculty Senate, and wished to thank her for her contributions to the senate. As Jerry understands, she has taken another position and will be leaving Montana Tech. This will be a loss to the senate and Montana Tech, and Jerry wishes her well. Jerry also acknowledges and thanks Kirk Waren (Secretary) for his service as Secretary of the Faculty Senate, and Celia Schahczenski for her assistance with the Faculty Senate website.

### **Action Items**

- Faculty Senate officers for the 2012-2013 academic year were nominated. The nominees are:

Jerry Downey, Chair  
Chris Danielson, Vice Chair  
Celia Schahczenski, Secretary

Jerry will put these nominations up for a vote on Survey Monkey.

- A motion was made and approved to use Survey Monkey to vote on the approval of the CRC minutes for meetings occurring 3/29 and 4/26.
- The Faculty Senate was asked to consider approval of some courses for meeting general education requirements. Chip Todd notes that he is here to help answer any questions that might come up regarding the courses, and thanks the senate and Jerry for putting this issue on the agenda. The goal is to put whatever courses end up being approved into the catalog for next year. The courses have been approved by the General Education (Gen Ed) Review Committee and the corresponding deans and departments. There was a lengthy discussion about music courses and about whether formal, graded, quantifiable, individual assessments of students' progress in Gen Ed courses are required.

A motion was made to put the courses approved by the Gen Ed Committee to a vote of the Faculty Senate using Survey Monkey. It was amended to specify that each course will be voted upon separately. Jerry Downey will make sure applications, syllabi, or other applicable materials for approved courses have been distributed to all members before the vote.

- Policy for Compensation of Academic Faculty Engaged in Research – Jerry notes that he has received comments from two departments. The senate decided to table this issue until next fall, when perhaps Maggie Petersen can attend a meeting to address comments and concerns of the faculty about the policy.
- Advising survey – Jerry noted that opinions expressed by departments and individual faculty members on a survey for the Advising and Retention Committee were numerous and diverse. Jerry will send these comments to the committee and will copy senate members so they can have a complete record of the diverse opinions expressed.
- MUSFAR – Montana University System Faculty Association Representatives – Jerry notes that the Faculty Senate has not participated recently in the MUSFAR meetings that typically occur in conjunction with Board of Regents (BOR) meetings. Since the next BOR meeting will be in Butte in September, Jerry feels it would be a good

opportunity to for a Montana Tech Faculty Senate member to participate. He asks members to consider serving in this role in the Fall and at future MUSFAR meetings. Jerry will put this on the August agenda to be revisited.

- Next year's Faculty Senate meetings are proposed to generally occur on the last Thursday of each month (beginning in August) at 7:00 am, with the exception of November.
- The Faculty Senate and Research Faculty has meetings scheduled on Tuesday, May 15 and Thursday, May 17 to meet with the two candidates for the Director of the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (State Geologist). All Faculty Senate members are invited and encouraged to attend these meetings. The meetings are scheduled from 1:30 to 2:15 each day in the Big Butte room.

The meeting was adjourned around 8:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk Waren,  
Secretary