

Montana Tech Faculty Senate Meeting
Wednesday January 27, 2016
4:00pm, Pintler Room (SUB)

Call to Order: Sue Schrader

Senate members present:

Glen Southergill, Sue Schrader, Vicki Petritz, Gretchen Geller, Michael Webb, John Getty, Rick Rossi, Conor Cote, Scott Risser, Rita Spear, Scott Rosenthal, Tony Patrick, Miriam Young, Larry Hunter, Sally Bardsley

Guest: John Amtmann

- 1) Call to Order – Susan Schrader
- 2) Review of January 12 minutes. Correction: John Getty appears twice in attendance. Motion to approve as amended: Tony Patrick; Seconded: Larry Hunter. All in favor. Minutes approved.
- 3) Action Item – Professor Emeritus application – Dr. Sally Bardsley. John Amtmann joined the Senate to endorse Sally Bardsley’s conferral of Professor Emeritus. The Senate was provided copies of Dr. Bardsley’s authorization of Professor Emeritus. Motion to approve: Scott Risser; Seconded: John Getty. All in favor. Sue will send a notice to Doug Abbot, Julie Hart, John Amtmann and Pete Knudsen confirming this vote and the Faculty Senate’s vote is noted in these minutes.
- 4) Curriculum Review Committee approvals:
 - a) Group 1: Changing WRIT 095 (Developmental Writing) requirement to WRIT 108 (Elementary Technical Writing) at Highlands College. Motion to approve: Tony Patrick; Seconded: Gretchen Geller. All in favor. Approved.
 - b) Group 2: For AAS Accounting Technology/Business Technology programs. Change BMGT 105 (Human Resource Issues) from a 2 credit course to a 3 credit course. Vicki said course has evolved since its inception and now requires an additional credit. Motion to approve: Rita Spear; Seconded: Conor Cote. All in favor. Approved.
 - c) Group 3: For AAS Accounting Technology program. Request to replace BUS 0291 (Labor Law & Ethics) with BGEN 265 (Business Law). BGEN 265 is an existing course in the catalog. Motion to approve: Scott Risser. Seconded: Gretchen Geller. All in favor.

- d) Group 4: A list of changes in the Metallurgical & Materials program including EMAT 555, and several EMET courses. The request form has been signed off by Pete Knudsen and the CRC. Sue noted she had not seen any of these changes until now. Several other School of Engineering faculty members were not aware of these changes either. Sue motioned to table approving these changes and wait for a M&ME faculty member to explain them at the next Senate meeting. Seconded: Larry Hunter. All in favor. Approval tabled until the next Senate meeting.
 - e) Group 5: Request to fix an error in the catalog listing EMET 232 as 3 credits rather than 2 credits. This puts the minimum credits for the B.S. degree at 136 rather than 137. Motion to fix this error: Scott Risser; Seconded: John Getty. All in favor.
 - f) Group 6: Request to allow PTC students to take any math/stats course from Gen Ed approved list instead of M121 (College Algebra) as is currently required. Approved.
- 5) Faculty Opinion & Satisfaction Survey
- a) Open discussion of how to improve the FOSS survey for this year. The general consensus was that the current survey is too long.
 - i) Add more questions regarding IT support. Specifically addressing “is service timely?”
 - ii) Suggestion to add more open response questions.
 - iii) Suggestion to replace questions about “level of service” with “assign a grade” questions.
 - iv) Suggestion to change “high-level” to “satisfactory” for Q54.
 - v) Suggestion to add a question about Dining Services.
 - vi) Suggestion to reduce the amount of questions about each administrator.
 - vii) Suggestion to review last year’s survey and remove questions that received over 40% response rate of “No opinion.”
 - viii) Suggestion to ask “Do current student evaluations accurately reflect your teaching performance?” General discussion about the significant difference in responses for online and in-class evaluations. Rick commented since the current evaluation form is aligned with performance standards, changing the current form could do more harm than good. Sue suggested rewording question to “How satisfied are you with how course/student evaluations are used to evaluate faculty?”
 - ix) Suggestion to strike Q33, regarding the Vice Chancellor of Administration & Finance’s HR duties now that separate head of HR has been hired. Some concern about doing this since the head of HR still reports to the VCAF.
 - x) Suggestion to ask an open-ended question asking what the Faculty Senate should address next year.
 - xi) Suggestion to eliminate repetitive questions. For example, remove Q27-Q30 and leave Q31.
 - xii) Sue will work on incorporating these comments into a draft for the Senate to review at the next meeting. If anyone has suggestions in the meantime please send them to Sue.

6) Meeting adjourned.