

## ECOS Meeting Minutes, September 27, 2018 3:00 p.m. UH 221

Members present: A. Delaney, N. Hinman, A. Johnstone, M. Pershouse, T. Manuel, M. Semanoff, G. Quintero

Guests: Ross Best and Kaiman Reporter

### Public Comment

- Ross Best commented that there is not adequate public awareness of the policies the Faculty Senate has been asked to consider, specifically the Public Meeting Law Policy. It is inadequate. All deliberative bodies should be included and there is not an adequate system identified for notice. There will be chaos without a coordinated system. The public needs to be aware of the policy and the review process.
- The Kaiman Reporter forwarded the policy to Journalism Professor Lee Banville, who sees loop holes in the policy that could result in a law suit.

ASUM also has the opportunity review the policy. Students should voice their concerns through their leaders.

The minutes from 9/6/18 were distributed electronically and approved.

### Communication

- Chairs report
  - Chair Semanoff explained that the policies are in the new U-approve system. The Public Meeting Law policy was prepared by Lucy France with comments from Internal Audit. Once the Faculty Senate Chair receives access to the policy, he has 45 days to comment. The email policy was previously shared with ECOS, so the timing is shorter. The full Senate will not meet until after the deadline for comment has ended. The shared governance leaders can't approve or reject the policies. They can send comments to the administration to improve them.
  - The date of the ECOS morning meeting with Cabinet has been changed from 12/12 to 12/19 at 8:30 a.m.
  - Chair Semanoff will be gone for October Faculty Senate meeting. Vice Chair Pershouse will facilitate the meeting. Vice President Cole will be asked whether she would like to address the Senate. Both the President and Provost will be in Helena and will miss the meeting.
  - The Cabinet meeting was mostly devoted to u-Approve system. This week there was an update on Student Success technologies (Degree Audit, Starfish, and others). We are consolidating from 11 different software packages to 3 (DegreeWorks, Starfish, Banner –Cyberbear). There was also a discussion of the new customer service management platform for recruiting and communicating with current students. Eventually students will have one dashboard that will show assignments, degree requirements, billing, and events. There are issues with the

Financial Aid Office. Students are being admitted even though financial aid is not finalized. It is critical that the catalog be up-to-date. The Chair arranged a meeting on Wednesday with the representatives from the Registrar's Office, the Provost's Office, and the Senate Office.

- The Chair and Chair-Elect met with the Provost to clarify the type of information will be shared on the Provost's website. This is what was given to the Missoulian. He explained the Excel spreadsheet format received by the Chairs and Deans. It has tabs for the current budget, for 2021, and for possible scenarios. The Missoula College Dean was not included in communication.

ECOS discussed whether a presentation on the presumptive methodology used in deciding where to increase budgets is needed at the Faculty Senate in October. The ratio to dollar figured is unclear. Was it calculated using the average salary in the unit? Are there valid explanations?

- Professor Manuel attended a meeting with recruiting consultants and VP Cole, at Associate Provost Lindsay's invitation. The current enrollment numbers are not good. There was some discussion on guidance when students get here and the Faculty's role in the process as well as retention. The consultant concluded that our enrollment problems were largely due to leadership churn resulting in a lack of leadership and negative media. Similar Benchmark institutions are not experiencing the same decline. The Consultants will provide some strategies. We need to increase the number of contacts with students in and out of the state and manage the mix of in and out of state students. Retention numbers were quite subpar. The consultants noted that most schools have more formal plans to manage at risk students. Some schools have a summer boot camp to build a cohort. We also need to do more in terms of promoting and branding our majors. Greater faculty involvement in recruiting and retention is desirable. Discussion also indicated the need to improve financial aid and registrar processing to facilitate both recruitment and retention, including moving to online systems as quickly as possible.

#### Business items:

- Committee nominations
  - University Grievance Committee – Zachary Cooper, Music – No, needs to be full Professor
  - Diversity Advisory Council – Duncan Campbell, Psych & Katie Kane, English – OK
  - Unit Standards Committee - Oliver Serang, Computer Science - OK
  - Writing Committee - Lila Fishman, DBS -OK
- Review Policies—need history, could draft questions.
  - Email – Chair-elect Pershouse will consult the Interim CIO and provide ECOS with the history of the policy and whether she is interested in changing the policy.
  - Affiliated Support Organizations - fine
  - Missing Student- fine
  - Open Meeting Policy – important policy – reasonable to make a recommendation.

- Non Research Recharge Centers - fine

Camie will send the Email and Open Meeting Law Policies to Senators for feedback. She will also contact Professor Lee Banville for guidance on improving the Open Meeting policy. [He will join ECOS next week].

- ECOS called an executive session to discuss issues of a personnel matter.

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00