Meeting Minutes

Name of body: Faculty Senate

Date: September 10th, 2026

Time: 3:00 PM

Location: Gilkey Auditorium, Room 105

Call to Order

- Roll Call: (3:01 PM)
  Present: P. Kirgis, N. Priestley, K. Geiger, M. Hritsco, K. Loree, D. Macaluso, J. Musick, M. Heirigs, J. Bunch, F. Sanchez, K. Reiser, L. Hu, D. Allen, D. Affleck, G. Quintero, A. Metcalf, D. Salois, E. Gren, K. Werner, C. Walker, S. Hirner, K. Kane, C. Van Kley, C. Hansen, A. Carpoca, P. Anzollitto, D. Firth, A. Duwell, M. Petersen-Rockney, V. Moody, L. Calderon-Garciduenas, M. Gerdes, A. Belcourt, C. Breuner, J. Thomsen, V. White, K. Jakob, Z. Peng, J. Bardsley, J. Olomi
  Absent: N. Bond, M. Hamon, C. McKague, A. Luis, K. McKinnie
- 2026-2027 Senator Photo
- Approve 8/17/2026 Meeting Minutes – Approved

Public Comment:

- Amy Ratto Parks
  - Fall faculty opportunities related to AI teaching and learning were announced, including informal roundtables, weekly office hours, and a writing symposium. Updates will be distributed through the Academic Affairs newsletter and teaching website.
  - A three-part Health and Humanities event was announced for September 25, 2026, including research and writing workshops and an evening reading and community conversation.

Reports:

- Chair Updates
  - Program of the Senate
    - The Senate established three priorities for 2026-2027: Academic Portfolio Review, artificial intelligence and student assessment, and Dual Enrollment. Senators were asked to complete a survey on student use of AI to inform potential Senate action related to assessment integrity.
  - Faculty Senate Standing Committees
    - Annual Reports

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Office of the Provost
  - Priorities for the year:
    - Academic Portfolio Review was identified as a primary Academic Affairs priority. Program data are being validated with OCHE, and Tableau dashboards were made available for faculty review. Faculty were asked to report data questions or discrepancies.
    - Academic Affairs will also prioritize cross-campus coordination in response to financial-aid changes, development of procedures for the Academic Unit Operating Policy, process improvement, and student learning assessment.
    - Academic Affairs will work with colleges to develop Academic Unit Operating Procedures that establish transparent, shared expectations while allowing procedures to reflect individual college structures.
  - Admin Reports
    - FY 26 Extra Compensation – Report
    - FY 26 Non-Tenurable FTE – Report
    - FY 26 Non-Tenurable FTE History – Report
  - Academic Portfolio Review
    - AY 26-27 Program Review Pilot
    - MUS Program Review
    - Petition Summary
    - Completion Dashboard
    - Enrollment Dashboard
    - Tableau Access Request
    - Data Feedback Form
  - UM is participating in the Montana University System ongoing program review pilot. The University will use the pilot to test the proposed procedure, timeline, and common data measures and will provide feedback to OCHE before the statewide process is finalized.
  - Senators were asked to review the Tableau dashboards and submit questions, discrepancies, and process feedback through the available feedback form. Tableau access requires supervisor approval and FERPA training. UM is preparing petitions for programs identified for enhanced review when campus analysis supports reconsideration of the flag.
  - Faculty identified concerns with program data, resource links, CIP-code aggregation, and review thresholds. Identified errors and contextual information will be submitted through the pilot feedback and petition processes to inform refinement of the statewide framework.
  - OCHE will continue refining program-level data during the pilot using feedback and identified discrepancies from campuses.

    - No program discontinuation decisions will be made by the administration based on the pilot data. Inactive minors or concentrations with no enrollment or completions over three years may be reviewed through consultation.
    - The Senate recommended that qualitative context accompany numerical program data, including disciplinary context, research contributions, external funding conditions, workforce and public needs, and the broader value of higher education. Faculty were invited to provide additional feedback on the qualitative information that should be incorporated into review materials.
    - The NWCCU three-year mid-cycle accreditation site visit was announced for October 5-6. The self-evaluation report is available through the accreditation and assessment website.
- Charity Atteberry, Director of Office for Disability Equity
    - ODE Update
        - ODE provided a data snapshot on registered students, disability categories, and accommodations used. Colleges and departments may request additional aggregate information when confidentiality permits.
        - ODE clarified its service scope. Disability accommodations, implementation support, accessible course design, and testing arrangements remain within ODE. Student conduct, behavioral concerns, classroom disruptions, code-of-conduct matters, and disciplinary actions should be directed through the appropriate campus processes, including Dean of Students referrals when appropriate.
        - ODE implemented portal updates that copy faculty on notifications when an access consultant posts an update for a student. Preferred names from Banner are now incorporated into accommodation letters. Faculty were asked to contact ODE when portal questions or requests remain unresolved.
        - ODE implemented updated classroom-recording guidance and a new recording-agreement workflow. Faculty or students may initiate an agreement, document restrictions or expectations, and retain copies of the completed agreement. One classroom notice satisfies the notice requirement, and recording agreements generally apply to the course rather than individual class sessions.
        - Faculty may require completion of a recording agreement before recording begins and may identify circumstances in which recording is not appropriate. ODE will support follow-up on noncompliance and will seek additional guidance regarding consequences for violations of recording agreements.

        - ODE committed to provide the Senate with a written follow-up regarding questions about support and information related to students with psychiatric or mental-health-related disabilities.
- Executive Session
    - Honorary Doctorate Candidate (available in SharePoint)
        - Approved

Good of the Order:

- None

Adjournment (4:23 PM)