

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes, 11-8-18

Call to Order

Chair Semanoff called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Registrar Hickman called roll.

Members Present: L. Ametsbichler, J. Angle, J. Banville, D. Beck, A. Belcourt, J. Bell, O. Berryman, M. Boller, S. Brown, J. Bunch, J. Carter, A. Chatterjee, Y. Cho, G. Collins, S. Clouse, Z. Cooper, A. Delaney, D. Erickson, L. Fern, E. Gagliardi, N. Greymorning, K. Griggs, M. Horejsi, A. Johnstone T. Manuel, N. McCrady, J. Millsbaugh, L. Minns, H. Naughton, J. Pavilack, M. Pershouse, G. Quintero, T. Ravas, A. Ratto-Parks, Y. Reimer, R. Severson, S. Ross, M. Semanoff, S. Shen, A. Sondag, J. Thomsen, E. Uchimoto, N. Vonessen, J. Wolter

Members Excused: A. Elliott, N. Hinman, R. LaPier, G. Larson, D. MacDonald H. Martens, G. Peters, S. Schwarze M. Strohl, A. Ware

Members Absent: N. Dawson, J. Freer, B. Harrison, M. Hebblewhite, V. Hedquist, B. Holben, K. Kane, M. Kia, M. Monsos, M. Musick, S. Phillips

Ex-Officio Present: President Bodnar, Provost Harbor, Dean Kirgis and McNulty

Guests: R. Grey, P. Haber, D. Hollist, P. Koehn, S. Rinfret, M. Stark

- The minutes from [10/11/18](#) were approved.

Public Comment

- Student Ross Best called on the Faculty Senate to persuade the administration to make meetings open to the public. Academic Officer's Group is no longer meeting. He has written to the President and to Legal Counsel and has not had a response.

Communications

- President Seth Bodnar thanked the Senate for the opportunity to communicate. He acknowledged that the discussions to align personnel expenditures with the student body have been demoralizing. They focused on cost rather than the heart of the university. There has been tension and anxiety and many mixed emotions (anger, fatigue, hope). He is hoping we can move past the perception of being on different sides.

What the faculty do every day in and out of the classroom matters. We have incredible faculty that need to feel valued and supported. We are improving recruiting and marketing and he is

meeting one and one with as many students as possible. But it is meeting with faculty that persuade students to enroll. He provided some specific examples.

He is a strong advocate and eager partner as the University moves forward to the next chapter. He is grateful for what the university community has endured and what it is doing to work toward a brighter future. There is a lot of work to do.

- Provost Jon Harbor

The Graduation Lists on [Moodle](#) were approved.

He has been working with the deans and chairs to map out staffing plans. There are some curriculum and organizational changes that have already been considered or will move forward to shared governance. He named several that can be found on the [Provost's Initiatives Website](#).

A Workgroup is discussing the leadership structure of the School of Extended and Life Long Learning (SELL) and Missoula College. And a Taskforce is working to develop the concept of a "Global Academy". He is excited about future possibilities and redirecting some of our bandwidth on positive change to enhance student success. The General Education Committee is making progress on developing the UM Core. Refining the Communities can have a positive impact on scholarship and research. Summer and winter programs will grow in response to activity. There is a lot of work to do to reimagine UM.

Comments:

Provost Harbor responded to the Senator Banville's comments about his visit to her College. He has heard similar concerns and apologized. He was attempting to share best practices to all faculty. He knows that many faculty are dedicated to UM and care about our students.

President Bodner thanked her for sharing and acknowledged the mistake. He knows the Provost is working very hard and will try to do better.

Senator Pavilack is mostly feeling confused because there are so many moving parts. There needs to be a way for the recommendations from all the Taskforces and Working Groups to come together in a coherent way for the faculty in the classroom.

- NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative Dusten Hollist– [Intercollegiate Athletics Report](#)

Professor Hollist apologized that Director of Athletics Kent Haslam, Associate Director of Athletics Jean Gee could not be at the meeting. They are both traveling with student athletes. The report is mandated by the President. Student Athletes focus on three "C's of excellence – class room, competition, and community.

- UFA President Paul Haber – Ceded his time. There were no union questions from Senators.
- MCFA President Cassandra J. Hemphill

Professor Hemphill is the new President of the Missoula College Faculty Association. Lisa Swallow- is the Vice President and Jessica Kumm is the Treasurer.

The MCFA is focusing on three items: 1) Adjunct faculty / tenure faculty ratio as outline in Academic Policy 350, 2) Dean Search and the reorganization of the College, and 3) the possibility of partnering with an online teaching management company and effects on intellectual property and profit potential.

Questions:

According to UFA President Paul Haber, the UFA was brought into the search for an Online Management Company late in the process. The Committee is moving forward with the RFP. Any contractual concerns should be brought to the union. The UFA and MCFA are working collaboratively on issues.

- Chair's Reports

The staffing plans required sacrifices and compromises and demonstrated a shared concern for student success. It was not without great effort that we avoided retrenchment, but we still cannot see the full extent of achieving these instructional budget targets.

Strategic priorities and clear communication need to play a central role in the budget process moving forward. We need to know how improvements can be made to the budget process, whether the SCH metrics used throughout this process provide an adequate means to determine instructional budgets, and how best to gather the data necessary for future budgets and investments.

Faculty are encouraged to participate in the Working Groups for the President's Priorities of Student Success and Teaching Learning and Scholarship. Faculty and standing Senate sub-committees are encouraged to build bridges with the groups working on issues that overlap with their work.

ECOS was honored to approve the proposal for Regents Professor moving to the Board of Regents for final approval next week.

Committee Reports

- ASCRC Chair Marc Hendrix

- Curriculum Consent Agenda -approved

- Revised Policy 201.85 Service Learning -approved

Adrea Vernon the Director of the Office of Civic Engagement clarified that they are collecting hour requirement from previous course submissions to update the course descriptions in the catalog.

- Change to BOR Policy 301.3.5

The Board of Regents changed the policy so courses taken for credit /no credit can count toward

degrees. The requests to change the grading should be submitted on an eCurr form during the normal curriculum review cycle.

- General Education Committee Chair James Randall

- Draft UM Core Pilot

The draft UM Core Pilot was introduced. It is a conservative change that links to the current program that already has clear learning outcomes. It would allow for better communication about the goal/skills and a clearer structure for the credits. All programs satisfy some general education courses within the major requirements. Departments can be strategic in developing interdisciplinary / cross core courses that focus on big ideas relevant to students' future lives. New general education course could focus on how disciplines focus on contemporary issues rather than the traditional 101 –foundation to the discipline model.

The draft proposes a redesign of the Freshman Seminar that is linked to another general education course taken in the fall and a Big Ideas course taken in the spring. It also suggests pathways or advising tracks be created around students' interest or the Communities of Excellence.

The agenda included a link to a survey to collect feedback on the draft

Questions / Concerns

The proposal doesn't simplify the requirements. In some cases it would increase credits required. The intent of combining Math and Computer science is unclear- learning outcomes are needed for this category. The proposal should clarify whether a science lab course is required. Advance Writing should still be included as a core requirement; the quality may suffer if it is moved to the major. Not all Intermediate Writing courses double dip with another general education group. Some students may still need an exemption to taking a language course.

The Committee is open to creative approaches. Please provide feedback. The General Education will review the feedback and modify the proposal for consideration at the December meeting.

- Graduate Council Chair Len Broberg (after 4:30 p.m.)

- Curriculum consent agenda / Rationale for approval of Reorganizations

A motion from the floor to consider the items related to the MPA move separately was approved. The curriculum consent agenda was approved.

After debate the remaining items related to the MPA move were approved by a show of hands. Graduate Council brought in guests from Political Science and both deans to discuss the move. Even though there were irregularities in the way the proposal was developed, it is an exciting opportunity for UM. Political Science would like to maintain an affiliation to the program because of the past synergy and is concerned about the impact on its lower division curriculum and its accreditation. In addition to Senators Angle, Chatterjee and Johnstone, Dean Kirgis, PSCI Chair Ramona Grey and Professor Koehn, who founded the program and Sara Rinfret, the current Director offered comments. Unit's staffing plans will have

implications on program's curriculum. Changes are necessary to resolve our current budget situation.

New Business

- New business was postponed since the meeting ran late and there was no longer a quorum present.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 p.m.