

# MONTANA TECH FACULTY SENATE

Friday, October 6, 2006

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

### Business

- Paul requested that someone replace him at the Research Advisory Committee on 10-8-06; Lance agreed.
- Miriam requested replacement on the CRC; Mark agreed.
- The Faculty Senate web page needs updating/redoing. Has been set up in DreamWeaver; needs to match the current template. Tech's Web Master could be asked; also could talk with Carmen. Mark will do this [is this right?].

The main topics, interrelated, were the existing Montana Tech policies/procedures regarding the requirements of tenure-track and non-tenure-track positions. Points of discussion centered around:

(1) The up-or-out policy of tenure, which requires a faculty member on tenure track to apply for tenure within 7 years, and, if denied, be gone after the eighth year.

At Tech, a faculty person:

- can be denied tenure and not get a terminal contract for the 8<sup>th</sup> year
- can just never apply for tenure
- can apply more than once
- is not, in some departments, being provided with the required (Faculty Handbook) annual evaluation to keep him/her on track

(2) The advisability, appropriateness, frequency, and history of non-tenure-track positions on the campus

- Should these positions be just a certain percentage of the faculty in a department?
- Should they be offered as, say, three-year contracts, to be renewed every three years on some basis?
- NW Accreditation and ABET Accreditation both require a "relatively high" percentage of faculty to be Ph.D.'s

(3) Tech's tenure policies follow Board of Regents policies

- BOR policy is not in compliance with AAUP guidelines that require "up-or-out".
- At Tech one can be appointed to Full Professor without a terminal degree (whatever degree that is, according to different disciplines). Thus far, President Dennison requires that he review all applications for tenure.

(4) CONSIDER: How does tenure vs. non-tenure shape a department over time?

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Porter  
Secretary