

# MONTANA TECH FACULTY SENATE

Tuesday, September 29, 2009

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Members present: David Armstrong, Betsy Garlish, Suzan Gazioglu, Jerry Downey,  
Rod James (Chair), Hal Millegan, John Nugent, Bill Ryan, Kirk Waren

Members absent: Traci O'Neill,

Attending without vote: George Dennison, President of the University of Montana,  
Jim Foley, Executive Vice President of the University of Montana, and  
Grant Mitman

This Faculty Senate meeting consisted of a visit by University of Montana President George Dennison to discuss upcoming budget issues for the Montana University System. Significant funding shortfalls are projected to occur for all universities in the near future, with about 17.6 million dollars for all of the colleges combined. Much of this impact (about two thirds) will fall upon The University of Montana and Montana State University, while the remaining third would be distributed amongst the smaller campuses. For Montana Tech, the shortfalls are on the order of 1.2 to 1.7 million dollars.

Dr. Dennison discussed ideas that are circulating at the UM for making up for these expected shortfalls in funding. He noted that they are all suggestions at this time, and that nothing is finalized. They will work in the coming months on a plan. Plans are due in November from each campus on how they might address the shortfalls. Ideas included increased funding from enrollments, vacancy savings, changes in campus schedules such as holiday closures with furloughs, four-day work weeks, tuition increases, and so forth.

There were some questions and discussions, but no actions were taken by the Faculty Senate.

The Senate group adjourned at approximately 3 pm.

### NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for October 13<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk Waren  
Secretary