

MONTANA TECH FACULTY SENATE

Monday, December 6, 2010

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Members present: Jerry Downey (Vice-Chair), Suzan Gazioglu, Hal Millegan (Chair), Traci O'Neill, Celia Schahczenski, Heather Shearer, Kirk Waren

Members absent: Rod James, John Nugent, Bill Ryan

Attending without vote: Doug Coe

- **Minutes**

The November 8th and November 22nd meeting minutes were approved.

- **Old Business**

1. Chancellor search update

Hal described the chancellor search process, and Doug Coe arrived during this time and added further detail. A search firm is under review to assist in the process. The pool of applicants will be considered and a shorter list of the best qualified will be developed by the search firm and search committee. Eventually, an unranked list of finalists – number unknown but on the order of a few candidates – will be recommended to President Royce Engstrom along with the committee's comments about each candidate. Faculty Senate suggestions and an upcoming faculty survey will be considered in the search effort. These efforts will be used to assist in developing the advertisement for the position and will be helpful in identifying the best candidates.

** Notes: Jerry Downey plans to add a specific comment about a suggested management style to consider in the Chancellor search.

** Heather Shearer plans to send out the compilation of Faculty Senate suggestions of the qualities desired in a new Chancellor to Faculty Senate members so that we can add any further qualities and rank the qualities if desired – by Friday Dec. 10th.

2. Size and compilation of the Faculty Senate

We discussed potential changes in the size and compilation of the Faculty Senate. Montana State University and the University of Montana have much larger Faculty Senates that are more representative of the faculty and various departments and other elements of the colleges. Given the number of departments here at Tech, a Faculty Senate size of about 25 members was being considered. However, it may be useful to stage the expansion to 25 members over a period of perhaps a couple or few years. Also the idea of having terms overlap so that only a portion of Faculty

Senate members are new in any given year would be useful. A three-year Faculty Senate term might also be more effective than the current two-year term.

3. Funding methods and measures for academic performance

Hal gave a brief overview of his impression of funding methods at Montana Tech. He noted that he would like to see more of a business model approach to university funding – for example, determining how many students the faculty and facilities of a department can support before trying to drive student numbers up.

**Note: Hal plans to send an article from the Seattle Times about this issue to Faculty Senate members

• **New Business**

1. Discussion of Academic Committees in relation to Faculty Senate

Topic postponed

Communications from Faculty, Administration, Staff, and/or Students:

None other than Doug Coe

The Senate group adjourned at approximately 4:45 pm.

NEXT MEETINGS:

The next meeting will be an executive work session, 3 PM, Monday January 24th.
The next regular business meeting is scheduled for 3 PM, Monday, February 7th.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk Waren
Secretary