

# MONTANA TECH FACULTY SENATE

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

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

Members absent: Betsy Garlish, Traci O'Neill,

Attending without vote: Doug Abbott, Matt Egloff, Frank Gilmore

- **Business**

The February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved.

- **Syllabus Policy**

The syllabus policy issue has moved on the general faculty meetings. During the next faculty meeting, the administration hopes the faculty can review and approve the format of the syllabus to vote on. The administration is also awaiting comments from student organizations. Then, the actual vote will be conducted using an email vote process.

- **Montana Tech Website**

Matt Egloff initiated a discussion about how the Montana Tech website might be improved. He noted that he and others had received numerous comments from persons outside Montana Tech who wished to interact with us indicating that departments generally did not provide much information on the types of research occurring at Tech. Since the website is a major source of information for future students, faculty, and the general public, Matt felt individual Departments should strive to better advertise current research and department activities. Various persons at the meeting noted that there is a website committee, and that the webmaster is Melissa Holmes. It was suggested that Matt take the issue to Melissa and the website committee.

*A post-meeting, follow-up note from Matt: As a follow up, I did communicate with Melissa and she indicated that departments can add content to their department websites. I was under the impression from discussions with other faculty that the web sites used to be more custom for those departments that had them when they first came out, that Tech went to a standardized format to make it easier to navigate, and that many were under the impression (perhaps mistakenly) that this disallowed much customization.*

- **Space and Personnel Concerns**

Montana Tech faces potential budget cuts from state and other sources of funding in future years, at a time when student enrollment is increasing due to the sluggish economy. A long

discussion ensued. In light of decreased funding, Montana Tech has avoided overspending, is proceeding slowly in filling vacant positions, is considering numerous renovations of existing buildings rather than new buildings, and is considering various operational changes for more efficient use of available faculty and facility resources.

The Senate group adjourned at approximately 5:30 pm.

NEXT MEETING:

1. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 4 PM, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk Waren  
Secretary