

Montana Tech Faculty Senate Meeting
Tuesday January 12, 2016
3:30pm, Pintler Room (SUB)

Call to Order: Sue Schrader

Senate members present:

Glen Southergill, Sue Schrader, Vicki Petritz, Gretchen Geller, Michael Webb, John Getty, Bill Drury, Conor Cote, Scott Risser, John, Scott Rosenthal, Tony Patrick, Miriam Young, Jackie Timmer

Guests: John Garic, Amanda Badovinac, Joe McClafferty, Lisa Sullivan

I. Call to Order – Susan Schrader

II. Review of December Minutes. Motion to approve: John Getty. Seconded: Miriam Young. Motion approved.

III. Old Business

1. Senate representation on the Research Committee
 - a. Scott Risser already reps the IRB on this committee, but offered to represent the Faculty Senate as well if it is ok to represent two groups. No objections.
 - b. Motion to appoint Scott Risser as the Faculty Senate representative to the Research Advisory Committee by John Getty. Seconded by Gretchen. All in favor.
2. CRC Items - Guest: Dean Garic. Review of CRC approvals from the October CRC meeting.
 - a. Item 1: The Biology department proposes Intro to GIS (existing course) as an elective for biology majors.
 - i. Motion to approve: Tony Patrick. Seconded: Vicki Petritz.
 - b. Item 2: Merge Intro to Ecology and Biodiversity into a single course.
 - i. Motion to approve: Scott Risser. Seconded: Vicki Petritz.
 - c. Item 3: New Survey Courses at Highlands
 - i. Dean Garic presented a series of proposed survey courses that will serve as a basic introduction to students interested in a 4 year degree. This is part of a Board of Regents request for two-year colleges to diversify their offerings. The courses are: Intro to Beginning Poetry; Intro to Paralegal Studies; Intro to International Business; Theories of Counseling; Intro to Criminal Justice; and Elementary Technical Writing.
 - ii. Scott Risser noted that these courses have corresponding North Campus programs that should be consulted before new courses are added. John Garic responded that once these are approved the intention is to do so.

- Miriam expressed concern that students might take these courses without receiving credit and then find that they have exhausted their financial aid.
- iii. Scott motioned that the Senate recommend these courses be brought to the related North Campus departments and be reviewed by the corresponding department head before approving these changes. Motion seconded by Miriam Young. Votes in favor: 11. Votes against: 2.
 - iv. Sue will notify Teresa Stack, chair of the CRC, of this decision.
- d. Item 4: Proposal to combine existing welding workforce courses based on industry feedback. These courses will be combined into a single track, but students can still take individual courses within the track. A one-year degree will be offered, but students can receive a professional certificate if they only complete a single semester.
- i. Scott Risser motioned to approve the welding course changes as a package; Seconded by Glen Southergill. All in favor.
- e. Item 5: Proposal to create a department of General Studies at Highlands College. At the moment Highlands College A.S. programs have 5 faculty members and 250 students with no affiliated department. Several senators expressed concern that until students are moved into this department this would create a department with no students. They recommended that the students be moved into the new department once it is established.
- i. Motion to approve the proposal, with the recommendation that the current A.S. program students be moved to General Studies. Seconded by Scott Risser. All in favor.

IV. New Business

1. Guest: Amanda Badovinac, Joe McClafferty, and Lisa Sullivan from Public Relations.
 - a. Amanda, Joe and Lisa visited to update the Faculty Senate on Montana Tech marketing projects.
 - b. Public Relations is pursuing a campaign that serves the following 4 goals:
 - i. Unites campus
 - ii. Recruits students
 - iii. Engages alumni, friends, industry, community
 - iv. Cultivates philanthropic support
 - c. Attempting to tell a story through videos and commercials. Seeking to do a better job of branding faculty. Pursuing a new tagline: "Tech is a solution." This tagline is more scalable and better supports the goals above. Have partnered with faculty in recent commercials.
 - d. Graphic design changes. Black and silver will be added to the color palette in addition to the existing green and orange. Working on standardized email signatures. There will likely be a choice of 3 but they will not be mandatory.
 - e. The Senate will be provided copies of the marketing plan document. Requesting faculty feedback and participation. Goal is to tell stories that are already happening on campus.

2. General Education Review Committee Chair

- a. Carrie Vath was elected as chair of the General Education Review Committee. A question was raised as to whether she can chair this committee as a non-faculty member. The Senate agreed that there is no reason she should not chair the committee.

V. Next Meeting: **Wednesday January 27th, 4:00pm**

VI. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn – Conor. Seconded – Scott. Adjourned.