FACULTY SENATE
APRIL 8, 2015
346 LEON JOHNSON
4:10 PM – 5:00 PM
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Minutes

Members Present: Adams for DeWeese (Art), Arnold (Ag Ed), Babbitt (Chair-elect), Babcock (Psych), Berry (CE), Bolte (Music), Branch (English), Brester (Ag Econ), Brown (JJCBE), Burrows (Ext), Cantalupo (Ext), Davis for Greenwood (Math), Eggert (Emeritus), Gannon (Chem Eng), Herbeck (Ed), Herman (NAS), Hostetler (GC), Hughes (CBN), Kaiser (ECE), Larson (M&IE), Lawrence (Biochem), Lu (PSPP), Mueller for Martin (Mod Lang), McMahon (Ecology), Mosley (ARS), O'Neill (Arch), Qiu (Physics), Reidy (Chair), Rossmann (Library), Sterman (Library), Stillwell for Ricciardelli (Film & Photo), Seright (Nursing), A. Smith (HHD), V. Smith (Ag Econ), Swinford (Soc/Anthro), Waller (Hist & Phil), Wiedenheft (MBI), Wilmer (Poli Sci), Zabinski (LRES)

Others Present: Larry Carucci, Kathryn Kasic, Ilse-Mari Lee, Stephanie Gray, Alison Harmon, Martha Potvin, Renee Reijo-Pera, Chris Kearns, David Singel, Megan Bergstedt, Lynda Ransdell, Deborah Haynes, Ron Larsen, Kathy Attebury, Jack Dockery, Anne Cantrell Sandy Bailey, Chris Fastnow, Matt Caires, Terry Leist, Greg Gilpin, Nancy Cornwell, Bob Hietala, Bob Mokwa

Call to Order – Chair Reidy

- Chair Reidy called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm, and a quorum was present.

Announcements – Chair Reidy

- State Support Research Opportunity – Renee Reijo-Pera
    - The MUS $15M research initiative fund from the state of Montana will go active April 9. Dr. Pera alerted faculty that requests for proposals will be included in emails to them.
    - Hughes announced that faculty from MSU, U of M and the McLaughlin Institute will be attending the "Hot Water Invite" at the Fairmount to review each others' grants, for two days (May 8, 9), before submission. Investigators writing grants or who would like someone to review those already written are invited. Contact Tom Hughes for more information at: thughes@montana.edu
- Courses and Programs – Chair-elect Babbitt
    - Courses to be voted on in ten (10) days are:
        - ECNS 100: Personal Economics
        - WLDG 151: Shop Practices
        - ECIV 555: Survey Data Collection & Analysis
        - GPHY 501: Water & Society
        - LAC 510 : Chem Dependency Counseling II

- Any faculty member interested in becoming the Faculty Senate Chair-elect, please contact Chair Reidy or Chair-elect Babbitt.

- Center for the Communication of Science – Chair Reidy, Kathryn Kasic
  - Reidy stated that most centers do not have a curriculum component and therefore do not go through CPC; they will, however, go through Senate and Deans' Council. Centers are usually funded through grants faculty receive. After the grant period ends, it is not known what centers become. Potvin and Cruzado will craft budgetary guidelines for such entities.
  - Kasic, a documentary director and cinematographer and former evolutionary biologist, is a faculty member in the School of Film & Photography. She provided an overview of the center.
    - The purpose of the Center for the Communication of Science is to develop and integrate collaboration between the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields and visual media/creative disciplines, serving as a catalyst for the dissemination and expression of science.
    - The primary mission is dedicated to the innovative, creative expression of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). By providing an environment for dialog and collaboration between artists, filmmakers, musicians, designers, scientists, mathematicians and engineers CCS will produce dynamic original work that communicates science to the public.
  - Kasic discussed the goals and objectives of the CCS
  - Why does MSU need such a center? Three reasons:
    - There is a need for outreach in science grants. The CCS standing as a Center at MSU will serve as a demonstrated commitment to the public dissemination of scientific knowledge – a persuasive component to high-level funding for research - as many NSF and other science granting organizations now require that the research teams demonstrate the broader impact and outreach components of their work.
    - Second, public scientific literacy levels have been estimated to be at only 20 percent comprehension. The focus on STEM education in elementary and secondary education reflects the understanding that such core skills are important for college preparation and/or professional success. The dissemination of scientific research will be focused on a lay audience. The CCS has in place a web based distribution system in its award winning Life on TERRA platform. It also is significant that Montana PBS will be an affiliated partner with the CCS so that we may repurpose the work of the Center through Montana PBS's Learning Media Platform and provide age - appropriate science modules aligned with the common core standards to teachers across Montana and available across the country.
    - Third, it is hard to support what one doesn't understand. Without public support of science, governmental funding support diminishes. Not only is there a clear need for improved communication of scientific research, but also CCS has the capacity to develop innovative media programming; artistic representations of scientific research, through our resources, faculty and graduate students (for example

graduate students in the Science and Natural History Filmmaking Program, the School of Architecture and the School of Art). Such outreach will serve to benefit the scientists in acquiring increasingly competitive grants and highlighting the prominence of their work to the public. This outreach will also benefit CAA faculty and students through opportunities for alternative funding for creative research projects. The Center for the Communication of Science will therefore provide a useful interdisciplinary service.

- Senate discussions ensued:
  - Zabinski asked whether it would be possible to expand the list of faculty already involved in the CCS to expand the mission and include the Writing Center to help scientists deliver their message. Kasic stated that the workshop component of the proposal would target that.
  - Kirk Branch from English would like more information about the CCS.
  - Sterman stated that science communication should initially begin with charts, presentations, etc., and asked faculty to remember that science writing is the foundational building block for other forms of media (film, photography, etc.).
  - Reidy remarked that the center offers interdisciplinary opportunities across campus and asked for a motion of support for the CCS→motion of support was made→seconded→all in favor→unanimously supported.

- <u>Level II proposal for a Bachelor's Degree Program in Directed Interdisciplinary Studies – Chair Reidy, Dean Isle-Mari Lee</u>
  - The Directed Interdisciplinary Studies Degree (DIS) allows undergraduates who are highly motivated, high achieving, and independent to pursue their Bachelor's degree (BA or BS) with a multi-disciplinary curriculum and research plan that cannot be accomplished within any other degree program at Montana State University.
  - The program was supported by the CPC and APWG.
  - Rossmann expressed concern about APWG's recommendation to approve the program, as there is neither accountability nor current sufficient resource to accomplish the goals of the program. Babbitt stated that the program was examined in a positive light whereby the APWG believes the 18/1 ratio and prioritization goals would be reached b y starting with a small student population. Provost Potvin stated that she will give a status update of academic affairs, how MSU is hiring more faculty and how we can get closer to 18/1.
  - Reidy echoed Rossmann's concern. He stated that a specific small stratum of student would be applying to this program. A component of faculty's duties includes advising, and this program would allow them to do that as well as being involved in the program's interdisciplinary activities. Reidy is hopeful that faculty will be receiving credit towards teaching and it will be reflected positively in their annual evaluations.
  - Davis inquired about students receiving a non-traditional major from classes in three different disciplines and if there was any data to show what

opportunities these students will have in the job market compared to those students with a major in a single discipline. Lee stated that data on the previous DIS graduates indicates that those, from MSU, who have graduated from the program, have highly successful careers; their profiles may e viewed on the Honors Program web site. The program also prepares students to continue on to graduate school. Lee thanked faculty at MSU for their help in making these students so successful.

- Babbitt highlighted changes in program since CPC meeting on 4/6: 3.0 GPA must be maintained through the junior year; 15 credits of 400 level courses must be completed; and, students may enter from anywhere from their second semester all the way to their first semester, junior year.
- Larsen asked if the program would be housed in the Norm Asbjornson Center. Lee noted that language in the proposal alluded that the program is inspired by the ideals of recent innovation of the center, specifically, "The DIS program would augment the planned Norm Asbjornson Innovation Center (NAIC) and its focus on interdisciplinary collaboration and studies."
- One concern that APWG had was that they did not want the Honors College, which used to be housed in the University College, to be a repository to house all interdisciplinary programs. This program is for high-level honors students engaged in interdisciplinary work.
- Lee stated that of the 108 students expressing interest in the program, 48 said they would enroll. The program is starting with 5 students so faculty will not be burdened.
- Reidy asked for a motion to approve→motion was made→seconded→all in favor→approved with three (3) abstentions.

<u>Hospitality Program (HP) – Alison Harmon</u>

- Harmon stated that responses to the recent faculty concerns have been posted on the FS web site.
- Budgetary concerns from faculty:
  - How would the general education of these students be paid for? Harmon accounted for 23 new sections of General Education or other required courses in the budget, as a cost. The budget has been redrafted to show that incorporating most costs over time, revenue would be generated beginning in year four over a ten year period.
  - Instead of an initial large investment, four year incremental investments in the program, to gauge its success, were proposed.
- Employment and wages:
  - The proposal is designed for Montana's assets and the reason people come to Montana.
  - The program will prepare students for different kinds of employment, including entrepreneurship. In addition to food service management, restaurant management, hotel and lodge management, the program will train food manufacturers, sport and recreation administrators as well as other careers associated with tourism.
  - The notion that there would be 20 new jobs/year in Montana is good news for the program. The program would not be able to fill those positions if it was limited to motel and food service management.

- We have numerous hotel partners and all are interested in working with interns and would recruit them for jobs.
- Referencing Montana in the context that it would offer the 466th hospitality program, does not take into account that the HP would be the first in Montana to offer a bachelor's degree – a key point. There are 250 other dietetic internships in the country, but MSU still fills its capacity each year and could accommodate more if we were able to.
- Acceptability of wages - The range of wages that students earn in a variety of HHD careers range from $28,000-$55,000/year; the HP is within the acceptable range. "Acceptability," however, is a subjective assessment and a matter of opinion; two thousand students at MSU choose careers in the hospitality field.
- The HP is an innovative program that focuses on sustainability, connects with tourism, agriculture, rural economies, food entrepreneurship and interdisciplinary and make the program unique nationwide.

- Faculty Senate discussions ensued:
  - Mosley made two suggestions to make the program more acceptable, especially to those from out-of-state:
    - Remove the campus hotel as it would be in direct competition to private industry in Montana:
    - Consider removing the "school" idea. The program can be presented within the department without the unnecessary creation of administrative entities.
  - Harmon stated that conversations need to take place about interdisciplinary programs at MSU and how to manage multiple people in multiple places.
  - Qiu stated that her department believes many academic programs already in existence should be treated as priorities before introducing a new program.
  - Wilmer thanked Harmon for all changes she has made to the proposal, and stated that meeting our goals for the prioritization statement should come first. By adding this new program, how would it accomplish that?
  - Babbitt sees a difference between the previous program proposal and the current one. The success of the previous program proposal was based on reaching a higher student/faculty ratio; MSU had to increase faculty and if it didn't, the program would not flourish.
    - The new proposal invests four faculty to get 100 more new students. We are assuming that by investing up front to get students in, the program will pay for itself and may cover five new faculty. Since 2009, MSU has grown by 3000 students and a ratio of 5/100 is 150 TT faculty. However, between 20 and maybe 40 faculty have been hired. The faculty are concerned that MSU has increased enrollment but they have not seen a return in new faculty. With this new proposal, we see a faculty investment with the promise of a return of students. Faculty would be more comfortable if they knew that this was one new aspect of getting to that 18/1 ratio beginning in HHD. If there were infinite resources, faculty would support it.
  - Reidy relayed that faculty believe if there are no resources for other centers of excellence (research excellence departments), then why is MSU investing in

other programs? The Dept of Mathematics, for example, is significantly short of faculty despite increases in student enrollment.

- Potvin respects the faculty prioritization document and is committed to working towards its goal through excellence in education by recruiting and retaining the best faculty. A balance must be struck on the academic side, however.
    - Academic affairs have made progress and will continue to make progress, as will be highlighted at the next senate meeting.
    - Potvin believes faculty are not questioning the quality of the curriculum of the HP; objections focus on the 18/1 ratio and that if MSU invests in the HP other programs will suffer.
    - This new HP is an independent, viable program, and there will be more students than expected because of the opportunities of tourism in our region and in the state.
    - As a hypothetical, MSU could relocate the program in Billings, but it would not have the agricultural piece.
    - What would this institution look like if we hadn't made investments in programs that many of you are in?
    - What would it look like if this institution only invested in programs that guaranteed a student got a high paying job after graduating?
    - There are many compensatory adjustments that can be made in the prioritization document, and better data might allow us to make those adaptations.
- Gilpin, upon further investigations of his statistical data and embellishing on the information he provided last week in senate, stated that according to employment outlook data, at the national level there will be an excess of 2000-5000 graduates in the next ten years vs. how many new jobs will be available.
    - Montana is not in a vacuum and is competing with the national labor market.
    - There are 82 hospitality programs in the northwest.
    - Within Montana there are hospitality and culinary arts programs, but they provided no support for this proposal, nor have they stated that this was a unique program, that there is a need for it, or that they are capacity constrained and need to significantly improve the HP allocation in Montana.
    - The financial engineering proposal received letters of support from existing programs in Montana, suggesting that this was a unique program and there was a need for it.
- Ransdell stated that EHHD currently has two programs with a 65/1 student to faculty ratio. The HP would benefit those two programs significantly and help to decrease that ratio in the college.
    - Gray –In reference to the other two culinary programs in the state (Flathead and Missoula College) two year education does not operate in a similar way as four year education.
        - GC received a vote of confidence from the community and received a mill levy to support programs that the local community requested.

        - Two year students come to their local school because they are not going to move either by choice or income.
        - Flathead would write a letter of support for MSU's program.
        - No letter of support will be forthcoming from Missoula College.
    - Wilmer asked if senate could write a letter, attach it to each ballot, expressing concern that the program continues to take into consideration their progress towards the achievement of the prioritization document.
    - Reidy stated that if senate accepts the HP, it will not resemble what was voted on; it will change over time. If senate votes against the HP, it will be revised and the prioritization document will become one of the most important parts of it.
- Chair Reidy has been requested to issue paper ballots for the vote on the HP. A motion was made to issue paper ballots for the HP vote→seconded→all in favor→unanimously accepted.
- Paper ballots were distributed, and senators were requested to write their names on them.
- Voting results showed that Faculty Senate did not accept the Hospitality Program.

The meeting adjourned at 5:12 pm.

Signature,
Michael Reidy, Chair

Signature
Randy Babbitt, Chair-elect