Attendance: Scott Risser, Dan Autenrieth, Courtney Young, Vickie Petritz, Tony Patrick, Rita Spear, Ron White, Chad Okrusch, Diane Wolfgram, David Hood, Stella Capoccia, Atish Mitra (taking minutes), Kishor Shrestha, Katherine Zodrow, Peter Lucon, Doug Abbott, Heather Conley, Hilary Risser, Laura Young, Jackie Timmer, Phillip Curtiss

1) Welcome and Minutes
    a.   Introduction of members.
    b.   Motion to approve 9/7/2018 minutes and seconded. Minutes approved.
    c.   Scott Risser mentioned that as the proposal for changing the faculty senate membership requirements (see minutes of last meeting) was tabled during the last meeting, this issue will not appear in the agenda until it is proposed again by someone.

Action Items

2) CRC Recommendations

    CRC proposals are coming. Have been recommended by CRC, waiting for some approvals.

Informational Items

3) Committee updates:

a) Teaching Communities

    Hilary Risser: During new faculty orientations, a meeting was held which was attended by 11 faculty members. Two more dates have been set:
    (1). 26 September 2018 (2-3pm) (Big Butte room/Highlands). The plan is to have round table discussions on Assessment Techniques (Laurie Battle and Atish Mitra will present), and CS assessment tool for ABET (Michelle Van Dyne will present). The group is Looking for two more people/groups (looking for new/novel

assessment techniques etc.). David Hood volunteered to present on   Competency Based Assessment.

(2). 25 October 2018 (Butte Brewing) Topic: what to do when things go wrong. The plan is to have anonymous feedback on instances of problems, and then discuss on those cases.

Plans for Spring 2019: possible topics: teaching online, or assessment.

Senator Question: Were there any notable differences (in teaching techniques) observed, say between CLSPS vs Engineering faculty?   Hilary: some differences noteworthy, such as in syllabi. There is also notable differences in syllabi between upper level and lower level classes.

b) Research Mentors

Katherine Zodrow: Amy leading the research mentors. Topics: writing proposals, time management,   etc. Trying to come up with topics for a brown bag lunch. Busy till November, so after November more activities may be expected.

It was decided to invite the above two groups back in October for another round of update.

c) Program Prioritization Committee
No updates

d) WIRE

Scott Risser: The group has finalized the recommendation for Tech as Special Focus Institution. To recommend Highlands be integrated with Tech. Deans will say more about the integration. Wire is then done, as its mandate was this recommendation (Tech as special focus institution). Question: Does integrated mean geographically integrated too (North and South campuses?). Answer: Not necessarily, and no such recommendations yet. No time line for further meetings for WIRE again after this Friday.

4) Faculty Senate Relation to PPC and WIRE recommendations (see agenda for proposal from faculty member)

Scott Risser: Does the senate want to respond to the recommendations from PPC?

Provost: Would be very interested in hearing comments (faculty perspectives) about PPC from senate on this. Does faculty know what is happening and whom to contact if need more info/ (PPC going on for nine months now). Chancellor asked for recommendations by fall semester. Main question: What is the $ figure the campus needed to come up with (what is the "x" amount to be cut?).

Question: Can the senate make a request that the PPC shares the recommendation with the senate (so that we don't hear from the newspapers). Provost: Yes, commits to that.

Senator: is it fair that the PPC both identified the money amount ("x" dollars) and the programs to be modified/removed? Provost: Yes, as these issues are intertwined. Deans are identifying the programs to be affected. PPC also identified things to be done to save money immediately, as well as to suggest future (longer term) changes (recruiting, retention etc.).

Scott Risser: does the senate want to have a special session on the Deans' presentation and senate's questions? Senator: Yes. Needs meaningful participation, not just information sessions - before the final decision is announced. Provost: does the senate want Deans' presentation before that is shared with PPC?

<u>Scott Risser : will speak to the three Deans to give an overview during the 5th Oct meeting.</u>

Senator: student population down thru the country. Provost: Perfect storm, enrollment down, legislature cuts, 6-mill down, student population (in state) will decrease till 2023. We need to increase the out-of-state fraction of student population. Bozeman changed from 60-40 to 45-55. We are 80% instate at present.

Senator: PPC came up with metrics vs Deans came up with other set of metrics. Which are the correct metrics to be used? Provost commented: PPC did not come up with metrics, but used readily available metrics (Delaware etc.). Deans will use those ones, and some other ones which comes out from the readily available metrics. Some of the data points does not apply to Highlands; Dean to come up with metrics pertinent to Highlands.

Senator: thanks provost that the PPC notes are regularly made available to faculty as a whole

Senator: Wire vs PPC, how do they fit together. Provost: Wire recommendations (that we are a science and engineering school) is the guidepost.

5) Faculty membership on the Deans'/Provost's Council – Much like PPC and WIRE, would it be beneficial to have faculty representation for this body?

Scott Risser: a faculty member requested faculty membership on the Deans' / Provost council. Should that group have direct faculty input? Does this senate want to discuss this?

Provost: Read out parts of a mail from Kevin McRae (Office of Commissioner of Higher Education) elaborating on this topic. While Faculty Senate is an elected representative group of faculty, Dean's council is an administrative working group (consisting of Deans and Dean-level non-academic administrators). The boundary between these two groups are logical, and there is sufficient consultation between these two groups. There is no preferable model where the Venn diagrams of the two groups have a non-empty intersection.

Senator: Is there really an appropriate communication and collaboration between the two groups. Provost: The abovementioned email refers to the fact that Deans' council recommends to senate, (for example, academic calendars, etc)

Scott Risser: If Deans' council makes some decisions without consulting the senate first, then the collaboration mentioned in the email is maybe accurate in spirit, not so much in practice.

Discussion on low enrollment classes and not they are dealt with. While some classes have been cut, several low enrollment classes have been allowed to run after heads intervened.

ScottR: does the group want a stand on this topic, or rely on Dean's communications?

Stella Capoccia: <u>Motion to wait and see for few months with new Deans and then maybe discuss again.</u> Requests better organized and typed notes (instead of handwritten notes.

6) Review of the 2018 Faculty Survey Results (Closed Meeting)

Scott Risser showed the presentation: numbers: 119 responded. Notable decrease in dining services score. Senate scores a B.   Discussion about fear of retribution: as per survey, tenured faculty seemed to fear retribution more than untenured.

Discussion on surveys of administrators: <u>It was decided that more time is needed to look into this in more detail, so it was decided to return to it later.</u> Senate should send recommendations within the next few weeks.

NEXT MEETING 5th Oct

7) Other Items