

Faculty Senate Minutes

September 8, 2022

In attendance:

Charie Faught (Nursing), Rick LaDouceur (Mechanical Engineering), Dave Reichhardt (Petroleum Engineering), Courtney Young (Metallurgical and Materials Engineering), Doug Galarus (Computer Science), Jessica Andriolo (Adjunct Faculty), John Kirtley (Chemistry), Tim Kober (Business), Dan Autenreith (Safety, Health and Industrial Hygiene), Scott Rosenthal (Mining Engineering), Hilary Riser (Mathematical Science), Chris Gammons (Geological Engineering), Luke Buckley (Research Faculty), Bret Robertson (Civil Engineering), Lonnie Horn (Trades), Tamara Harp (Health Programs), Shamim Akhtar (Electrical Engineering)

Welcome and Minutes (9:30 a.m.)

It was determined that there was a quorum and Chairperson Charie Faught called the meeting to order. Approvals for May 6, 2022 Meeting Minutes:

Hilary Risser moved to accept the minutes; Courtney Young seconded the motion; there was no discussion; unanimous approval by vote

Action items:

I. Confidence & Professionalism Recovery Plan (CPR Plan) Subcommittee Members

Discussion: the formation of this committee was passed as a resolution at the May 6, 2022 meeting. Since that meeting, the Staff Senate has asked to be included and Chairperson Charie Faught talked with the President of ASMT and that group is interested in participating. Charie Faught hoped this committee would be assembled by October 1, 2022.

A discussion related to individuals interested in the committee:

In attendance: Interested individuals included Tim Kober, Rick LaDouceur, Luke Buckley, and Courtney Young

Not in attendance: Hillary Risser nominated Linda Granger. Charie Faught also talked with Glen Southergill.

No vote was taken as it was passed as a resolution. The chair also mentioned that the bylaws gives the chair authority to create subcommittees as needed.

Information Items:

I. Budget Report

Scott Rosenthal is now the Senate Representative on the Budget Committee. Scott reported the following two items:

1. Ron Muffick, VC for Administration and Finance, was in the process of drawing up a budget flowchart
2. The 2022-23 Budget has been sent to the Board of Regents for approval. Once approved, this budget will become public.

Discussion Items:

I. Board of Regents MUSFAR discussion

The Group is scheduled for a breakfast meeting with the Board of Regents at their September 21-22 meeting in Billings. Chairperson Faught is planning to attend and believes the biggest concern will be of a financial nature with the hopes of increasing state funding.

Hilary Risser mentioned that the MFPE (Montana Federation of Public Employees) has started discussions with Governor Gianforte's office regarding pay.

II. Faculty and Staff Satisfaction Survey

Chairperson Faught stated a small team worked over the summer to review the results of the Spring survey. She hopes the results will be published within a month.

III. All Faculty Meeting

Chairperson Faught there was typically one faculty meeting per semester and she was hoping to hold a meeting after the fall ABET visit.

After discussion, it was believed it would be best to hold two all faculty meetings per semester, given the current campus situation. The first meeting will most likely be scheduled after the ABET visit and the second meeting toward the end of the semester.

IV. Faculty Senate Meetings

Chairperson Faught stated there are six senators who were unable to make this meeting due to class conflicts. The possibility of holding meetings after hours was discussed. It was suggested that the Senate hold one meeting a month after normal business hours with an option to participate via Zoom.

V. Two Faculty Staff Handbook Resolutions

Discussion was related to the process of updating the Faculty Staff Handbook. Chairperson Faught stated a small group was reviewing the process and any proposed changes would be brought to the Senate.

In regards to the first item: Agenda 1:

It was thought the Chancellor should be asked to address this item. Chairperson Faught will discuss with the Chancellor.

In regards to the second item: Agenda 2:

It was thought the Senate should wait to act until the Chancellor is able to address the Agenda 1. item and until Senator Egloff, the author of the resolution, can attend a meeting.

VI. Workload

The discussion regarding workload cited the lack of specific language regarding teaching workloads. Currently the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) contains a workload grievance process but it appears there is no such formal process for a grievance in the Faculty Staff Handbook. It was believed the two documents should contain similar language related to workload grievances. Hillary Risser stated she would send the current language, related to workload grievances, to the faculty with the thought of proposing a change to the Faculty Staff Handbook in order to bring it in line with the CBA.

VII. Timecards for Faculty Policy

Guest Steve Gammon stated a fully electronic time card system was currently being tested on the campus. There is no current schedule as to when this system may be brought to the entire campus.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 29.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Respectively Submitted:

Tim Kober, Secretary