

FACULTY SENATE
October 17, 2007
REID HALL 104
4:10 AM – 5:00 PM
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Minutes

Members Present: Amin, Ashley, Becker, Bandyopadhyay, Cherry, Christopher, Dyer, Fleck, Gerlach, Jacobs, Leech, Lei, Livingston, Longcope, Lynch, Marshall for D. Weaver, Neeley, Pinet, Prawdzienski, Starkey for Zhu, Taylor, Wojtowicz

Members Absent: Ag/ED/AOT, Bailey, Bangert, Bennett, Chem/Biochem, Ecology, Gipp, Jackson, Johnson, M. McClure, Mokwa, Nursing On-Campus, Peed, Political Science, Watson

Others Present: Mary Engel, Sara France, Joe Fedock, Marvin Lansverk, Anne Milkovich

Chair Shannon Taylor called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM. A quorum was present, and the minutes of the September 19, 2007 meeting were approved.

Dr. Gwen Jacobs– Assistant CIO and Director of Academic Computing

- Dr. Jacobs gave an overview of changes in ITC, and then discussed what academic computing is currently working on.
 - In 2005 a strategic plan for ITC at MSU included:
 - 2005 external review of ITC
 - ITC Strategic Plan and Governance
 - Overview of ITC Organization
 - Academic Computing Group Activities
 - 2005 External Review of ITC revealed:
 - A need for a Chief Information Officer (a VP reporting to the President)
 - Jim Rimpau is the current VP/CIO reporting to President Gamble
 - A need for a strategic plan
 - A strategic plan was composed by faculty and may be found at this web site: <http://www.montana.edu/opa/utac/documents/index.html>
 - That an IT governance structure be created with input from stakeholders
 - There is now an Information Technology Governance Council composed of 4 VP's (Roloff, Dooley, McCoy, Rimpau) and Gwen Jacobs and Jo Oudshoorn that meets monthly; 3 faculty committees which include UTAC (vision for IT), ATAC (academic issues), ETAC (enterprise, or business side of IT) which meet on a monthly basis.
 - A need for an ITC Organization
 - Currently, there are four divisions of labor in ITC: Sales & Support Services, Academic Computing, Network Systems, Administrative Systems.
 - A need to focus more on academic computing. Previously, IT focused on the mission critical systems: network systems (email, connections) and enterprise systems (BANNER, paychecks, student grades). There are 5 different focuses within the Academic Computing Group:
 - Academic Support
 - Custom programming support for the academic mission
 - Class rolls, iClicker registration, faculty evaluation, exam scoring
 - Student Services
 - Student labs
 - Departmental teaching lab support
 - MyMSU Portal – October 18, 2007, there is an email open forum feedback session in 125 Linfield @ 4:30 PM. The MyPortal email address for students is their official email address on campus, however many have expressed frustration in working with this system.
 - Web Services

- Web design and maintenance
 - Cost recovery
- Scientific Computing
 - Research support – there is a three-year plan to put in place a research support infrastructure.
 - Campus grid, SysAdmin support, data management, knowledge discovery
 - Campus data center
- Other IT projects:
 - ACG Projects: <http://forge.msu.montana.edu> is a web site that posts projects for members of the MSU community.
 - Faculty Activity Database Project is a computer software interface that collects data input by faculty for their annual reviews.
 - Campus Grid – a system that integrates computing and data resources into a simple-to-use system. You would authenticate once, and use whatever resources available. It would be a three-tiered structure of local resources:
 - Scavenged resources – allows different departments on campus to share unused computer cycles to disseminate information to students via student computer labs. Four applications might be: 3D Studio Max (Arts & Architecture), R Statistical Software (Many users), Matlab (Engineering), Blast (Many bio-informaticians)
 - Departmental resources
 - Centralized resources
 - Regional/national resources.
- Systems administration support for MacIntosh includes servers recently purchased. The faculty activity database will be mostly hosted on Mac servers. IT is also setting up a virtual software stack for MAC users.
- Progress for redoing the faculty evaluation (Knapp form) is something Faculty Senate should discuss before it moves to a web-based entity.

FACULTY AFFAIRS – Chair Marvin Lansverk

- The emeritus policy was put on faculty senate’s radar by the retired faculty a year ago. They would like the emeritus procedures refined, with clearer, more specific language. Political remnants of previous years’ in a department negating the chances for emeritus is of concern to those faculty nearing or in retirement. Currently, every department has their own policy. Faculty Affairs would like a more universal policy and provide more routes for faculty to achieve emeritus. The decision process would be a joint effort, including Faculty Affairs and the Provost.
- A Faculty Senate member stated that once someone has gone through tenure, going through another process of being granted emeritus is not productive. Also, the process presented is not clear, and more discussion is needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM, as there was no other business.

Signature

Shannon Taylor, Chair

Signature

Gale R. Gough, Secretary