FACULTY SENATE
February 24, 2010
346 Leon Johnson
4:10 PM – 5:00 PM
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA
Minutes

Members Present: Caton, Eitle, Fischer, Frick, Jacobsen, Kaiser, Lansverk, Larson for Sobek, Lawrence, Locke, Lynch, Marshall for D. Weaver, Meade, Neumeier, Schachman, Sowell, Thompson, Van coller, Versaevel, Walker for Cherry, Wojtowicz, Yoo for Zhu

Members Absent: Bangert, Bessen, Chen, Eiger, Fields, Fleck, Gee, Gerlach, Livingston, Mosley, Mokwa, Osborne, Political Science, Savoie, Waller, T. Weaver

Chair Wes Lynch called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM. A quorum was present.

Announcements – Chair Lynch
▪ Chair Lynch asked FS members to submit questions/issues to Chair Lynch for discussion with President Cruzado next week.

P&T Revisions to "Definitions" Section
▪ Chair Lynch and Chair-elect Lansverk discussed FS members' feedback about content/process of the P&T document.
  o Most FS members liked the wording changes, "accomplishment" and "excellence."
  o A FS member stated that their department was uncomfortable with scholarship of teaching since it implies pedagogical articles of teaching and ignores other attributes of teaching and performance. Chair Lynch stated that those issues and the assessment of teaching will be included in the third P&T Bite, Assessment of Teaching, yet to be fully vetted. Language in the "Definitions" Bite is Boyer language - universal language that is nationally recognized.
  o Do the changes in this document constitute a change in working conditions and, if so, must they be negotiated by the union? A FS (and bargaining unit) member stated that union interaction with faculty and the impact it may have on the Faculty Handbook is complex. Not all tenurable faculty members are members of the union, and there cannot be two P&T standards. Outcome may be a combination of what the faculty wants and what the administration allows. The BoR negotiator might accept language that is parallel to the other 6 or 7 bargaining units therefore, language paralleling theirs might be accepted by the union. If the wording that is discussed is the will of the faculty, it is believed that the union would accept it.
  o A straw vote indicated that the majority of FS members would like move forward with the P&T document.
  o Other general comments indicated some faculty were reluctant in moving forward because until Bite 3 (In-depth Assessment of Teaching) is completed, there was uncertainty with the in-depth assessment of teaching and therefore, the statement of how many letters for teaching are required, might conflict with that
  o Some changes are not appropriate for all disciplines across campus and are too specific for some individual cases. For example, a FS member stated that faculty in their department were instructed to go up under teaching if they had an appointment of greater than 50% in teaching. In Ag, "these faculty will never be successful if their only option is to go up under teaching but not be able to count their discipline's specific approach/materials." The Faculty Handbook states that the decision to go up under teaching or research is up to the faculty member, regardless of what the percentages of teaching or research are in their respective contracts.
  o Chair Lynch asked for a motion to accept Bite #1 (Definitions) →seconded-→all in favor→unanimous-→passed.

Discussion of "Letters" Section
▪ Number of Letters - During the past 6 years, Provost Dooley advocated for 5 letters in order to negate ambiguity from the review process. It has been recommended that language might

say (from whoever solicits the letters) "3-5 letters." FS members voted on 3 letters. How the department handles the quantity of letters is left to their discretion.

- o FS members' consensuses are split on the number of required letters.
- FS members recommended that when sending Role and Scope documents to outside reviewers, only include criteria and standards.

The Faculty Senate meeting ended at 5:00 PM, as there was no further business.

Signature
Wes Lynch, Chair

Signature
Gale R. Gough, Secretary