Faculty Senate Meeting, June 29, 2000

Attendance: Bob DeDominic, Bill MacGregor, Curtis Link, Kate Miller, Butch Gerbrandt, Henry Gonshak

Previous meeting minutes were approved.

Budget was established at \$7275 for the 2000-2001 academic year.

2000-2001 Faculty Senate Budget					
Release Time	\$2,640		2	\$5,280	\$5,280
Copying/communication	n				\$200
BOR Meetings	Rate	Miles	Co	ost	
Milage	\$0.3	2 2,4	100	\$768	
Motel	\$11	0 6da	ays	\$660	
Food	\$2	4 12da	ays	\$282	
Total				\$1,710	\$1,710
Purchasing publications	i				\$75
Total					\$7,265

Henry Gonshak was unanimously re-elected as Chair of the Faculty Senate.

Board of Regents' (BOR's) request re public relations for Montana University System (MUS): The BOR wants the MUS schools to develop a policy on Faculty Workload. Bill MacGregor introduced a draft statement on Faculty Workload. The statement was drafted by William McBroom from UM Sociology department. The statement is available from Bill. In the future, the various Faculty Senates will be working together to produce a series of documents outlining various aspects of our jobs (work-load being just one) which will be sent to the Regents and presumably eventually to the legislature--along the lines of the brochure compiled for the "Conversation on Tenure".

At the last BOR meeting, Beverly Chin, on behalf of the Commissioner of Higher Ed, introduced a plan to smooth transition from high school into college for literature. This was a writing entrance exam that must be passed for admittance into Freshman English Composition. No remedial instruction would be provided if the exam was not passed. It is an ACT exam. The State Office of Public Instruction (OPI) had objected to any input by Higher Education on K-12 instruction. Several MUS faculty representatives objected to the exam without remedial instruction for students who did not pass the exam. Bill MacGregor delivered to the Senate a memo from Sandie Rietz to the MSU-Billings Provost and Vice Chancellor objecting to this type of entrance exam. It is expected that the BOR will vote on instituting this exam at the July meeting. The Faculty Senate instructed Bill MacGregor to urge remedial instruction at the College level for those students who do not pass the test.

Curt Link brought up a memo stating that the BOR requested Faculty to be involved in recruitment and public relations. Several Senators expressed resentment due to current work overload.

The Funding Model in particular and the general budget crisis was discussed. Curt Link suggested another Faculty Forum on the Budget next Fall.

Butch Gerbrandt brought up a current evaluation form of Chancellor Gilmore by President Dennison that several campus Faculty received. Several questions were brought up about what was the evaluation procedure and how the assessors were selected. Henry will approach Dennison for clarification.

The need for another meeting before the Fall semester will be tabled until after the upcoming BOR meeting. If action items come up at the meeting, the Senate will meet again.