

**Minutes**  
**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**3:00 PM, March 3rd, 2005**  
**MT Con Room, SUB**

*minutes submitted by secretary A. Stierle*

*Members present: Chair- Grant Mitman, Vice-Chair – John Brower, Rod James, Susan Leland, Bruce Madigan, Mark Sholes, Chip Todd, Secretary - Andrea Stierle.*

*Absent – Danette Melvin*

*Also in attendance – Vice Chancellor Patton, Ed Johnson, Registrar*

Meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM.

- 1. Minutes** – It was noted that the minutes of the February 15<sup>st</sup>, 2005 Faculty Senate meeting had been approved by email
  
- 2. Student Evaluation of Teaching** - Several problems were reported with the evaluation process in the Fall semester. When we re-evaluate the form and wish to make changes, how much lead time does the printer require? Vice Chancellor Patton felt early Fall 2005 would be reasonable. The Senate agreed to defer evaluation until the Fall.
  
- 3. Spam** – Many faculty are complaining of excessive spam on their Tech computers. It was suggested that all faculty/staff upgrade to Outlook 2003 to have the maximum spam/junk email filters at their disposal.
  
- 4. Transfer GPA**- At the heart of this issue was a complaint by a student that certain courses taken at another Montana College were not included in the calculation of his GPA. He felt he was hurt by this procedure. The regents are examining the possibility of generating a University System GPA that would include all courses taken at any Montana College. Of course, the student only wanted to include A's in the System wide GPA, not D's and F's.

Under the current system students must take 50% of their upper division coursework from Montana Tech as well as their Senior Capstone. Course credit from other colleges does appear on a student's transcript for any course with an earned A, B, or C. The grade is not included in the calculation of GPA, however. The transcript does show the combined GPA of any course work taken at all other institutions as a single GPA. This value does not figure into the calculation of the student's GPA from Montana Tech.

Several concerns were raised by Senate members and by registrar Ed Johnson. One major concern is the different grading systems used by different colleges. Some institutions use +/- grading, or even numerical values for GPA. Fairly incorporating these other systems into

Montana Tech's straight letter grade system could be problematic. There is also concern that students "grade shop", taking courses from a college with a reputation for "easy A's".

5. **Issues for General Faculty meeting.** Senate members discussed specific issue to be discussed at the general faculty meeting next week. The topics included **course Syllabi, the Satisfaction survey, and excused absence policy**

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM