

## **MONTANA TECH FACULTY SENATE**

Monday, October 11, 2010, 15:00

Chancellor's Lounge (Mill Building)

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

Senators present: Hal Millegan (Chairperson), Jerry Downey (Vice-Chairperson), Suzan Gazioglu , Rod James, John Nugent, Bill Ryan, Celia Schahczenski, Heather Shearer (minutes)

Senators absent: Kirk Waren, Traci O'Neill

#### **i. Business**

The September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meeting minutes, as amended via e-mail, were approved.

It was noted that the next meeting (October 25, 2010) will be held in the Chancellor's Lounge. Senator Downey will chair that meeting in Senator Millegan's absence.

#### **ii. Search Committee for Chancellor**

Senator Millegan indicated that Montana Tech's faculty and its Faculty Senate **must** have representation on the search committee for Montana Tech's new Chancellor. He further noted that the bylaws for Montana Tech's Faculty Senate require the Senate's involvement in the search (Article II, Section 2h). Senator Nugent inquired about precedence: What was done with Chancellor Gilmore's search? A number of Senators vocally affirmed that the Senate needs to impress upon the administration at Missoula our intent to have a strong involvement on the search committee.

Senator Millegan indicated that he would follow-up with the Royce Engestrom to express our intent/desire to have a faculty member chair the search committee and to have Senate representation on the search committee once Engestrom takes office on October 15. Senator Millegan also stated that he would contact Shelia Stearns to convey the same information.

Post-meeting update: *In a summary statement to the Montana Tech Faculty Senate, Senator Milligan, based on email correspondence with Associate Commissioner for Communications & Human Resources, writes that, "the [Montana Tech Faculty] Senate will be closely involved with the search for a Chancellor."*

#### **iii. Faculty Representation on Faculty Senate**

Senator James opened the discussion of making Faculty Senate more representative of the Montana Tech faculty. Senator Millegan noted that the Senate no longer does the work described in the bylaws; in part, this is because the Faculty Senate does not truly represent the Montana Tech faculty. Discussion ensued about how to make the Senate more representative. For instance, could each department elect a representative? Could each division elect a set number of representatives?

The lack of faculty input to the Senate was noted. To gain feedback from faculty, it was suggested that the Senate invite representatives from campus committees and from the Union to speak with the Senate on matters relevant to those bodies.

**iv. Executive Work Session**

Senators discussed ways to increase contact between the Montana Tech Faculty and the Faculty Senate. In addition, Senators compiled a list of priorities for the academic year.

**v. Vote on Faculty Senate Action Items**

A vote was taken to prioritize Senate action items for the academic year. The results of the vote were as follows (items are listed in order of importance, with the first item in the list being the top priority):

- (1) Advise Board of Regents in the search for Montana Tech's new Chancellor
- (2) Increase the perception that the Faculty Senate represents the faculty
- (3) Consider the role of the Faculty Senate in academic governance by reviewing the Senate by-laws and considering necessary updates and amendments
- (4) Examine and make recommendations regarding the issue of space and academic quality
- (5) Examine the issue of cheating
- (6) Examine the role of research at Montana Tech
- (7) Establish roles and relationships between the Senate and Academic Committees

**vi. Adjourn (18:03)**