

MONTANA TECH FACULTY SENATE

Wednesday, February 10, 2010

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Members present: David Armstrong, Betsy Garlish, Jerry Downey,
Rod James (Chair), Hal Millegan, John Nugent, Traci O'Neill,
Bill Ryan, Kirk Waren

Members absent: Suzan Gazioglu

Attending without vote: Doug Abbott, Doug Coe, Chris Danielson, Matt Egloff,
Gretchen Geller, Henry Gonshak, Jim Handley, and Chip Todd

Business was postponed to the end of the meeting.

- **Syllabus Policy**

Doug Abbott discussed the history of the issue and why he, the Dean's Council, and many faculty members support the idea of minimum requirements for syllabi. There was discussion of the requirements in the draft policy. Henry Gonshak noted that it is the union's position that the required elements in the policy should be recommended instead of required.

Hal Millegan moved to approve the draft policy, with required elements, with one change in wording (section A.2: ...Floc outcomes, *if available*, are to be used... - inserted change in italics). Traci O'Neill seconded the motion, and the motion passed with all in favor.

- **Changes to the Medical Plans**

Jim Handley presented a handout with changes to the Medical Plans that will take effect in July 2010. Coinsurance maximums will increase for all plans, but with higher increases Traditional plans than for Managed Care Plans. Managed Care Plans will see higher copayments for ambulance, emergency room, and urgent care. All plans will see a decrease of \$250,000 in the Wellness budget (university-wide), a \$50 increase in the deductible, higher costs for spouses and dependents, and a new pharmacy plan (URx) that generally will not affect where prescriptions may be purchased.

The changes will save the plan about \$7.5 million annually out of a targeted goal of \$8 million to meet increasing costs. Presentations on the Medical Plan changes will be announced in the near future.

- **Master's degree contracts proposed language from the administration**

New draft language for was passed out on a handout, but the item was not discussed.

- **Business**

Note: A brief meeting between President Dennison and a few faculty members occurred on Tuesday Feb. 9th. We discussed the Montana University System re-invention, the likelihood of future cost increases for Universities, and UM's efforts to get public schools to offer curriculums to prepare students for college (Graduation Matters program – a community effort).

The January 27th meeting minutes were approved.

The Senate group adjourned at approximately 5:30 pm.

NEXT MEETING:

1. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 4 PM, February 24, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk Waren
Secretary