

Montana Tech Faculty Senate Meeting
Wednesday February 17, 2016
3:30pm, Pintler Room (SUB)

Senate members present:

Sue Schrader, Gretchen Geller, John Getty, Rick Rossi, Conor Cote, Scott Risser, Bill Gleason, Bill Drury, Tony Patrick, Miriam Young, Larry Hunter, Sally Bardsley

- 1) Welcome and Roll Call – Susan Schrader
- 2) MUS 108 - General Education Committee seeks approval from the Faculty Senate to allow BSA Orchestra (MUS 108) participation to count toward the General Education curriculum. It is already an existing 1 credit course and this change has been approved by Gen Ed Committee. Can be repeated over multiple semesters. Choir and Band are already 1 credit courses that can be repeated and count as Gen Ed courses. Motion to approve: Scott; Seconded: Larry. All in favor.
- 3) Old CRC business – Some MME changes were tabled at the last Faculty Senate meeting. Many of the changes have already occurred and have been approved by the Graduate Council and CRC. Seeking Faculty Senate approval for changes to EMAT 491/591 Biomaterials course. Course number changed and is now a 500-level course – EMAT 555 Biomaterials. Course has been taught as special topics course 3 times, and is now it is being listed as a regular course per policy. Motion to approve: Tony. Seconded: Gretchen. All in favor.
- 4) New CRC Business – Proposal for new Data Sciences B.S. degree. The program will be co-directed by the heads of the CS and Statistics departments. Already approved as an option under the Statistics degree curriculum, but seeking to approve as a standalone degree. This program is currently not being offered at this level anywhere in the state. UM has a 15 credit certificate. The proposal includes several new Statistics and CS courses. Also seeking approval of new CS course: 447 – Machine Learning. Motion to approve CS 447 class and Data Science program, along with endorsement from Faculty Senate: Scott. Seconded: Larry. All in favor.
- 5) Faculty Opinion & Satisfaction Survey (FOSS)
 - a) Sue met with a subcommittee to incorporate the recommended changes to the FOSS survey received at the last Faculty Senate meeting. Scott Risser created a draft survey using Qualtrics and shared this draft with the Senate.
 - b) There was discussion of how to evaluate campus IT. IT work includes network technology, classroom technology, and instructional technology. These are each handled by different groups. Are we evaluating quality of service or adequacy of staffing/resources? Highlands College still lacks a dedicated IT person. Sue suggested

that we stick to a single question for IT, but if responses are negative the Senate could develop a follow up survey to specifically address IT issues.

- c) John suggested doing something to incentivize faculty to respond to the survey. Sue said the Faculty Senate has the budget to offer a drawing for a gift card at a local restaurant. Motion to offer a gift card: John Getty. Seconded: Tony Patrick. All in favor.
 - d) Scott and senate leaders will proofread and review the survey and send out a final draft for senators to review before sending the final out to the entire faculty.
- 6) Chancellor's Cabinet retreat – Sue participated in the Chancellor's Cabinet retreat. The college hired a consultant to work with Cabinet on a new strategic plan. Goal was to make it much shorter/streamlined, as well as measurable. The Cabinet generated a new draft of the strategic plan out of retreat.
- 7) Motion to adjourn: Scott Risser. Seconded: Conor Cote. All in favor.