

**Facility Administration Collaborative Committee**  
**Monday, May 18, 2020**  
**2:00-3:30 PM Webex**

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**Minutes**

Order of Business:

Motion to approve February 10, 2020 minutes. Minutes were approved.

At the request of Dr. Honea, and with no objections, the discussion started with New Issues/Business before the FACC:

Regarding Staffing for Fall classes, Provost Arnold mentioned OCHE has not yet issued a directive. The following has been discussed: Courses deemed online, would remain online. Courses deemed hybrid would remain hybrid. Courses deemed as face to face, would continue as face to face.

Dr. Honea mentioned concerns about pushing forward an early start date, due to students' schedules, and the fact that faculty would need to be on contract before Summer is over.

- Faculty has discussed the possibility of shifting all classes to online after Thanksgiving.
- Faculty has discussed a shift into 8-week blocks.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week block face to face.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week block online or hybrid.
- Provost Arnold added that going online after Thanksgiving is what the University of MT is planning to do. The Provost also added that whatever directives are given, being prepared is essential, using the 3/16/2020 shutdown as an example. Shutting down is easier than starting back up. Transitioning through the waves, stages, and re-entry plans, can be challenging.

The MUS document is running behind. A fully comprehensive plan is not expected until sometime close to June 15<sup>th</sup>.

- Dean Trier stated all colleges are to turn in class by class plans for Fall today. (May 18) Dean Trier will provide a draft compiled from the colleges' plans.

Labs are an issue. How to handle re-entry into the labs will be a part of Dr. Trier's report.

Faculty has already put together some great plans. What type of support will be available from the Facilities Department needs to be addressed before a final report can be completed.

- Provost Arnold talked about committees being formed to handle;
  - 1.) People coming back to campus now.
  - 2.) Thinking about how to get everyone back in the Fall.

- Dr. Honea reiterated her call for substantial support for keeping everything the same and shifting to online after Thanksgiving.
- Provost Arnold suggested the best approach is to leave as is, and make changes as needed.
- Dr. Edgerton spoke to shifting to online being the “most sane” choice for minimizing the number of students coming back on Tuesday after the holiday.
- Dr. Bohlmann added that Childcare could be a hardship on faculty and students if the start date is before August 24<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Bohlmann also inquired about the quarantine mandate for out of state travel. There is no definitive answer at this point for Fall 2020 as the mandate was issued, and is being handled, by Governor Bullock’s office.
- Dr. Honea asked if anyone is getting feedback from the students.
- Provost Arnold replied feedback from students can be obtained by sending out a survey. Both good and bad comments from students have been received. The Provost offered to take the question to the Chancellor’s Cabinet, and will see what the path going forward will be.
- Dr. Honea mentioned that ASMSUB can get the feedback from students so the faculty will know.
- The question of what % of faculty are on the committee was brought up by Dr. Honea.
- In reply, Provost Arnold stated the committee membership consists of the Deans, Dr. Marcette, Dr. Johannes, and Cindy Bell. The faculty was asked. No one replied or signed up.
- Dr. Honea then asked what is to be said to faculty concerned about returning this Fall due to health reasons or family members’ health concerns.
- The Provost asked everyone to hold tight, as Jody Stahl in HR is working with OCHE weekly to come up with a resolve to Dr. Honea’s question.
- Regarding faculty concerns, Dr. Bohlmann added a concern about mental anguish and other burdens for faculty going online for the first time.
- Dr. Shearer offered that Stipends have been approved for Chairs, Hyflex, and eLearning, to assist faculty with training.
- The Provost expressed the need to plan. People will not like all that is going to happen. But if we don’t plan, people will be upset that we did not plan. Planning ahead is crucial. We have to be prepared and have flexibility. We are doing the best we can for the faculty.
- Dr. Honea asked if there is more funding available for more stipends.
- The Provost responded we can not afford to pay more stipends. We need to work with what we have available.
- Dr. Honea inquired as to if the CARES Act can pay for training.
- Provost Arnold confirmed that the CARES Act grant will be used for cleaning supplies, infrastructure, and reimbursement for room and board refunded to students who left campus. The Provost continued by noting that students will be charged a fee for hybrid and online classes. Students will not be charged a fee for face to face classes that are changed to hybrid or online.
- Dr. Bohlmann inquired if face to face faculty want to plan ahead, can they plan to just create a hybrid course.

- Provost Arnold answered with yes, with in reason. Face to face needs to meet face to face until at which time they can no longer meet face to face. If part of the face to face class is set up to be online, it will make the transition easier when the time comes.
- Dr. Honea asked about a hiring freeze.
- The Provost confirmed there are no new hires, full-time or part-time. Some waivers will be implemented but will be limited. Waivers will not be available for every part-time faculty member.
- Dr. Bohlmann added a question as to what directives the Provost has given the deans.
- Provost Arnold responded that there will be a shift from part-time faculty to full-time faculty for teaching courses. In July the list of part-time faculty will be reviewed. Waivers will be issued only to those with classes that have no option other than to have part-time faculty.
- Dr. Honea asked the Provost, what the Chancellor meant by “Big and Bold” in his letter.
- The Provost answered Dr. Honea by stating that “Big and Bold” means unprecedented budget decisions.
- Susan Simmers added there is a large budget shortfall. A budget committee is meeting weekly to come up with recommendations to be given to the Chancellor by June 1. Recommendations for the faculty will be ready for faculty by mid-July. Some of the recommendations will be directives from OCHE.
- Dr. Bohlmann asked if there will be layoffs, cutbacks, travel freezes, and furloughs for faculty. She asked if Athletics and other programs will be impacted.
- Susan Simmers informed everyone she does not have those answers at this point, and will not have the answers until the Chancellor and OCHE have reviewed the information they will be provided on June 1.
- Dr. Edgerton asked if tenured faculty will be impacted.
- Provost Arnold directed Dr. Edgerton to the Board of Regents.
- Dr. Honea offered a follow up reiterating that the Provost will take issues to Cabinet, will figure out a timeline, and will let FACC know as she knows.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:30 PM

Next meeting: June 11, 2-3:30 PM, McM 305