

ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

DATE: October 4, 2001

PRESENT: Matt Redinger
Randall Gloege
David Gurchiek
Doug Brown
Dan Zirker (ex-officio)

Doxey Hatch
George Madden
Sandie Rietz
George Benedict

ABSENT: Paul Bauer – *excused*
Connie Landis – *excused*
Bob Carr (ex-officio)
Randy Rhine (ex-officio)
Terrie Iverson (ex-officio)
Jennifer Gerondale (ex-officio)

Mark Hardt – *excused*
Scott Harris (ex-officio)
George White (ex-officio)
Janie Park (ex-officio)
Lee Peters (ex-officio)

PRESIDING: Sandie Rietz, Chair

Sandie Rietz called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. on October 4, 2001 in the Chancellor's Conference Room.

Sandie Rietz welcomed Matt Redinger as a new at-large member of the Senate.

The September 13, 2001 meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

I. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

A. Proposed Addition of General Education Committee. Sandie Rietz stated that a sentence was required explaining how many officers would serve on the committee, and how they would be elected.

- ⇒ Motion by Randall Gloege, second by David Gurchiek to add the sentence:
 “The chair and an alternate shall be elected by the committee, and the alternate shall serve in absence of the chair.”
⇒ Motion carried.

Dean Zirker pointed out that the Quorum Rule of the General Education Committee bylaws was nonsensical.

⇒ Motion by Randall Gloege, second by Matt Redinger to rewrite the rule to say:

“A quorum shall be five (5) voting members.”

⇒ Motion carried.

B. Academic Senate Vice-Chair Policy Modification. Senate members agreed that designating more than the required two (2) Vice-Chairs would be beneficial to the Senate to balance Faculty Association representation to the proposed Faculty Association/Senate Coalition. However, the Senate would be obligated to elect more officers. The as yet undecided meetings between the Senate Executive Committee, the Chancellor, and the Faculty Association, were discussed. Senate Executive Committee membership was decided to be the Chair, the Vice-Chairs, and the Secretary.

⇒ Motion by George Benedict, seconded by Randall Gloege, to amend the proposed bylaw change in two ways:

Section A.1 “The Senate shall elect from its voting membership a Chair, **three (3) Vice-Chairs in any combination of college representatives and at-large representatives**, and a Secretary.”

Section A.5.b. “A vacancy for Chair shall be filled by a **Senate election.**”

⇒ Motion carried.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Senate Appointment to the University Budget Committee. After establishing that the UBC meetings were held at 2:30 p.m. every other Monday, the Senate discussed possible appointees and concluded that the Senate does not need a person appointed to this committee. Rather, a member of the Senate should go and report back to the Senate. George Benedict volunteered to attend meetings on a trial basis.

B. Senate Chair Elect Policy. As per previous discussions, members agreed that a chair elect may be advantageous at Board of Regents meetings. The chair elect would serve as an apprentice and learn how the Regents’ meetings run. Sandie Rietz then volunteered to draft a proposed addition to the Academic Senate Bylaws to include this policy.

C. Elections. The at-large representatives still have a vacancy. The members said they would continue to try to find another nominee.

D. Graduate Catalog. Sandie Rietz, Chair, reported the results of her visit to the Graduate Committee in September, where she delivered the Senate charge (see minutes of September 13, 2001). She commented that they were unclear as to what introductory material needed to be cleaned up. She also stated that the Graduate catalog is fairly inexpensive to print, but the technological advance to an electronic catalog would be valuable.

E. Books for General Education Committee. George Madden, member, General Education Committee, discussed a list of books he would like added to the list of books for the General Education Committee. He also mentioned a possible seminar/meeting with a scholar of general education.

⇒ Motion by Matt Redinger, seconded by Doug Brown to approve purchase of two (2) copies of each of the books presented by George Madden.

⇒ Motion carried with one abstention.

F. UCC Actions on Items 118, 119, 119.a and 121. After a lengthy discussion concerning the bypassing of the UCC and Senate for the listed items and the legal issues involved, it was decided that the Senate will stand with the UCC in not signing the listed items. Sandie Rietz, Chair, will draft a memo, as the UCC has done, to be attached to the items explaining the actions of the Senate.

G. Performance Based Funding. Sandie Rietz, Chair, raised her concerns about the implementation of this initiative on the MSU-Billings campus. She suggested the Senate, in collaboration with the Faculty Association take as yet undetermined action. She provided documentation which showed the current status of the implementation of the Performance Based initiative. Further discussion of this topic will be held at the October 11, 2001 meeting.

III. NEW BUSINESS

Item 2 Change of Academic Senate Bylaws, Graduate Committee Section.

⇒ Motion by Matt Redinger, seconded by Doug Brown to approve Item 2.

⇒ Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2001.

rjr