

## ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

**DATE:** January 23, 2002

<b>PRESENT:</b>	George Benedict	Doug Brown
	Sandie Rietz	Audrey ConnerRosberg
	Paul Bauer	George Madden
	Keith Edgerton	Randall Gloege
	Alan Davis	Mark Hardt
	Connie Landis	Dan Zirker (ex-officio)

**ABSENT:** Matt Redinger – *excused*

John Cech (ex-officio)	Joe Michels (ex-officio)
Randy Rhine (ex-officio)	George White (ex-officio)
Terrie Iverson (ex-officio)	Janie Park (ex-officio)
Nichole Alley (ex-officio)	Curt Kochner (ex-officio)

**PRESIDING:** Keith Edgerton, Chair

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Keith Edgerton called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. on January 23, 2002, in the Chancellor's Conference Room.

The December 5, 2002, meeting minutes were approved.

### I. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

**Item 23** Teaching Minor - Computer Science. Delete Program. For information only.

**Item 39** MSIPC (Master of Science in Information Processing & Communication).

Delete program. For information only.

⇒ Motion by Randall Gloege, seconded by Connie Landis to **accept Items 23 and 39 for information only.**

⇒ Motion carried.

## II. International Studies Minor

It was noted that the Senate received a memo from Dr. Park, Provost, stating that she would not approve the proposed minor in International Studies in its present form, as it should be a more rigorous program.

It was noted that Analicia Pianca, Director of International Studies, is working right now on a new version of the minor proposal. Hopefully, she is working with Dr. Park on the requirements of the program.

It was also noted that having an Introduction to International Studies course would be most helpful in this program.

⇒ Motion by Randall Gloege, seconded by Doug Brown that the **proposal for the International Studies Minor be remanded back to the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee for reconsideration** as per Provost Park's instruction.

⇒ Motion carried.

## III. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

**Item 40** Emeritus Designation for Associate Professor John Bratton (Library). For information only.

⇒ Motion by Sandie Rietz, seconded by Randall Gloege **to accept Item 40 for information.**

⇒ Motion carried.

## III. NEW BUSINESS

**A. Report from General Education Committee – Mark Hardt.** Dr. Hardt stated that the Gen Ed Committee took the information gleaned from the Senators filling out the forms Sandie Rietz had designed about the outcomes of Gen Ed Courses. That resulted in a matrix that turned out to be very complicated.

Sandie Rietz stated that they developed the matrix based on two constructs: the categories of human development and Bloom's Taxonomy of thinking skills. They developed a list of what they expected the students to do in a course (outcomes). The committee then discovered that the matrix was redundant. The same things were covered in two different ways. The committee then collapsed the matrix into a list of sorts with long blanks that can be filled in by faculty who teach Gen Ed.

It was noted that the first page (Intellectual Growth and Development) should be completely filled out by every course. The following pages (Skills Development and

Application, Social and Cultural Development, and Ethical Development) will not be filled completely, but rather only the blanks that apply to a course will be filled.

It was noted that this matrix is a progression of thinking from lower to higher: knowledge, evaluation, application. It was also noted that this matrix will give the Gen Ed Committee a rationale for the appropriateness of Gen Ed courses.

It was stated that the committee now needs volunteers who teach Gen Ed courses to work their courses into this matrix and see if they fit. This will tell the committee what needs to be changed in the matrix.

Keith Edgerton stated that he will send out the chart to all the Department Chairs, instructing them to fill it out (or have another faculty member fill it out) for a Gen Ed course in their department. It will be emphasized that this is a prototype.

**B. Budget Committee Report – Sandie Rietz.** Dr. Rietz stated that the latest she had heard is that we will have to cut 1.7 million dollars. One million will come from academics, which will mean faculty lines.

It was noted that the Board of Regents is looking very closely at people who are not involved with teaching (i.e. administrative salaries).

Dr. Rietz stated that there will probably be tuition increases, but no number has been set or discussed.

Some cost-saving ideas were presented, but they will take time, and the cuts will be right now. One proposal was to roll similar courses in different colleges together to save money. Another proposal was to go to trimesters. Evidently this will save money in the long term, but will cost *more* money to get it started. Blocked courses were also suggested. Dillon is just starting this method, and Dr. Rietz plans to get more details from them.

There are 13 open lines right now, and Dr. Park stated (at the Budget Committee meeting) that she had divided them into two tiers: essential and non-essential. It was noted that faculty lines no longer belong to departments, but rather to the Provost, who puts them where there seems to be the greatest need.

Dr. Reitz also noted that the state allocates money on a per-head basis, but there are thousands of students who are above the state FTE rate. Faculty are encouraged to go out and get students, because it is actually worth it to go get more FTE.

It was also noted that the 20% extra compensation limit is for externally funded grants. That has been in effect for years. It is not a policy that faculty are limited to 20% of their salary for extra compensation, but many people seem to think it *is* a policy. Part of the reason people think it's a policy is because no one is saying it is *not* a policy.

It was noted that this issue may be related to online courses. Perhaps a limit on the number of students allowed in an online course, or a limit on the number of online courses taught by each faculty member is needed.

The Senate decided that they needed to be more informed about how the online program works on this campus.

Dr. Rietz also noted that an option presented in the Budget Committee meeting was to privatize our online program. We would lose about 400 FTE, but privatizing would raise the cost of online courses, thus becoming a money generator.

Dr. Rietz stated that presuming we will have to cut faculty lines, we need a better way to do it. Currently, departments have to beg to get their line back if a faculty member happens to retire or move on. One plan that was suggested was that if a department lost a faculty member, the department must figure out a way to live without that line for a year. Next year, there may be more funds. This plan guarantees that if a department has an opening, it will be filled at some time in the future. However, there are no good places to take cuts.

**C. Changing Bylaws: Chair's Term.** Keith Edgerton noted that he has been attending Regents meetings for a year now, and he is just now understanding them and becoming comfortable. Perhaps the Chair's term should be lengthened to two years instead of one. That way, the Chair Elect could be elected in the second year and get more experience before becoming the chair.

Dr. Edgerton also noted that the alternating structure of Regents meetings has worked well (every other meeting the faculty meet with the Regents for a longer period of time than at past meetings). He stated that the first time the faculty met with the Regents, it was the most fruitful discussion they had ever had.

⇒ Motion by Sandie Rietz, seconded by Randall Gloege to **amend the Bylaws** to change the **Chair's term to a two-year term** and the **Chair Elect shall be elected in the fall of the second year of the Chair's term.**

⇒ Motion carried.

**D. Class Size Discussion.** It was noted that MSU-B has the highest student to faculty ratio in the entire Montana University System. This topic will be discussed as part of the online program discussion at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

rjrm