

ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

DATE: April 5, 2018

PRESENT:	Suzette Nynas	Jim Barron
	Cindy Dell	Kelly McCoy
	Susan Gilbertz	Heather Thompson-Bahm
	Joy Honea	Vern Gagnon
	Paul Pope	Sarah Keller
	Rachael Waller	Diane Duin (ex-officio)
	Christine Shearer (ex-officio)	Mary Susan Fishbaugh (ex-officio)
	Florence Garcia (ex-officio)	Robert Hoar (ex-officio)
	Matt Redinger (ex-officio)	Joe Oravec (ex-officio)
	Darlene Hert (ex-officio)	

ABSENT:	Scott Butterfield*	Kelly Shumway*
	Katelyn Focht (student)*	Trudy Collins (ex-officio)
	* <i>excused</i>	

GUESTS:	Becky Lyons	Susan Balter-Reitz
	Cheri Johannes	Juanita Hooper
	Tom Dell	

PRESIDING: Susan Gilbertz, Chair

Susan Gilbertz called the meeting to order at 3:39 p.m. in the City College Health Science South Conference Room.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Executive Committee asked Rita to send out the list of courses not offered in the last five years. These courses will be deleted unless faculty send an appeal in by May 9. The next Chair will decide how the appeals will be handled.

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The minutes of March 15 were accepted as presented.

III. PROVOST REPORT

It was noted that there seem to be some communication issues with what's happening on the new "E-sections" courses. Dr. Hoar noted that, since few faculty who are not on Senate actually read the Senate minutes, more avenues of communication should be used. He noted that the E-sections are designed to give students additional help in their math and writing courses, so they don't have to take a non-credit-bearing developmental education courses but are instead placed into the college-level courses. The writing E-sections have worked very well in the Fall 2017 semester. The question was raised as to how faculty should advise students to take an E-section or not. Dr. Hoar noted that when students are registering, if their scores indicate they need developmental education, the E-sections will show up for them. However, it was noted that faculty cannot see that. Cheri Johannes, Registrar, noted that just this week the Accuplacer scores have been decided, and charts will be out soon to aid advisors in getting students to the right course.

Provost Hoar noted that last year, we attempted to put incoming freshmen into cohorts—meta-majors—because this is a proven method to improve retention. However, we didn't protect those sections from other students enrolling, so it ended up a mixture of students. This year we have decided to hold special sections just for those incoming freshmen, and the way this is implemented means they disappear from the course schedule. The only way students can get into those sections is through registering at orientation. It was cited that, unfortunately, word did not get out to all instructors of those courses, and there was a great deal of confusion about why the courses disappeared. Faculty didn't even know who to call about this. A point-person needs to be set for these types of projects. Dr. Hoar noted that he can serve that function, and they are trying to get this process smoothed out.

IV. ITEMS – FIRST READING

Item 49 Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) Thematic Concentration in Dental Hygiene. Delete program.

Item 49.a DENT 305 Introduction to Dental Hygiene Research. Delete course.

Item 49.b DENT 360 Educational Methods in Dental Hygiene. Delete course.

Item 49.c DENT 380 Contemporary Issues in Dental Hygiene. Delete course.

Item 49.d DENT 470 Leadership in Dental Hygiene. Delete course.

Item 49.e DENT 499 Capstone. Delete course.

⇒ Motion by Cindy Dell, seconded by Paul Pope to **approve Items 49 through 49.e on first reading.**

Tom Dell was present for Cathy Grott. He noted that the demand originally indicated for this bachelor's degree completion program has just not been there. Through a relationship with MSU Great Falls, students complete their associate degree in dental hygiene, and then complete a BAS at MSU Billings. In 4 years, there have been 14

students in the program and 8 graduates. The courses were not offered in Fall 2017 and Spring 2018, and there has been a change of leadership at the dentistry program in Great Falls as well.

⇒ Motion carried.

⇒ Motion by Cindy Dell, seconded by Joy Honea to **waive second reading of Items 49 through 49.e.**

⇒ Motion carried.

V. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Diversity Committee Needs a Home

Susan Gilbertz noted that a couple faculty approached her about creating a Diversity Committee, but since such a committee does not just involve academics, it should not be a sub-committee of the Senate. However, Dr. Gilbertz has since learned that these faculty wanted the committee to discuss a curricular issue: namely including Indian Education For All at the college level, *in every course*. So, the faculty were asked to bring a proposal to Senate about how including such content in every course would happen, without infringing on academic freedom or contract issues. Should they bring forward a proposal, the Senate can revisit the topic.

B. Homeless Courses Round 2 (A&SC)

When the A&SC courses originally began, faculty and Student Affairs staff were intended to work together on the courses. However, an administrator at the time began dictating what would be in the courses, and faculty walked away as a result. Faculty do not have oversight of these credit-bearing courses. The Student Affairs staff have worked very hard on these courses, especially A&SC 111 First Year Seminar. Should Senate own these courses?

It was noted that this is both a contract/union issue and a curricular issue. Instructors not within the bargaining unit are teaching the courses, and faculty are not involved in the development of the courses.

Susan Balter-Reitz, Director of eLearning, noted that she and Becky Lyons, Director of Advising & Career Services, are putting together a group to investigate what happens, both academically and personally, to each student in their first year on campus. They hope to improve orientation and A&SC 111. Research for the group will include the multitude of models for first-year experience applicable to our many different types of students. Dr. Balter-Reitz noted that they plan to include faculty who teach some of the 100-level courses incoming students take.

It was noted that having Student Affairs staff as instructors of A&SC 111 puts them in a precarious position, since faculty do not oversee the course, but rather other Student Affairs staff that those instructors cannot say “no” to. Perhaps the group working on the first year experience could discuss a structure that involved faculty in the curriculum of the A&SC courses.

Dr. Balter-Reitz stated that, if A&SC 111 becomes required of all students, everyone needs to have confidence in the course. It was noted that what we want is a successful student who wants to continue in school. The ideal 111 course should probably include both student skills and meaty curriculum on critical thinking skills.

⇒ Motion by Sarah Keller, seconded by Paul Pope that the **A&SC courses be governed by a joint, ad hoc Student Affairs staff and faculty committee which will be:**

Co-Chaired by both a SA staff and faculty member,

To study and make recommendation on the structure of where the courses reside and what the content of the courses will be,

And to report to the Academic Senate by December 1, 2018.

Cindy Dell and Suzette Nynas stated they would like to be on the ad hoc committee.

⇒ Motion carried.

The Senate thanked Dr. Gilbertz for her service as Chair the last three years. She has been a mentor and role model!

The meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

rjrm