

## ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

**DATE:** October 25, 2001

**PRESENT:** Doug Brown  
George Madden  
Randall Gloege  
Mark Hardt  
Matt Redinger  
Randy Rhine (ex-officio)  
Dan Zirker (ex-officio)  
Christina Sprague for Jennifer Gerondale (ex-officio)

Sandie Rietz  
Keith Edgerton  
Doxey Hatch  
Connie Landis  
George White (ex-officio)  
Janie Park (ex-officio)

**ABSENT:** George Benedict – *excused*  
Paul Bauer – *excused*  
Scott Harris (ex-officio)  
Lee Peters (ex-officio)

David Gurchiek – *excused*  
Terrie Iverson (ex-officio)  
Bob Carr (ex-officio)

**PRESIDING:** Sandie Rietz, Chair

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Sandie Rietz called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. on October 25, 2001 in the Chancellor's Conference Room.

The October 11, 2001 meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

### I. ITEMS – FIRST READING

**Item 53 (from 00-01)** EDUC 584 Student Teaching (K-12). New Course.

**Item 53.a (from 00-01)** EDUC 585 Student Teaching (Elementary). New Course.

**Item 53.b (from 00-01)** EDUC 586 Student Teaching (Secondary). New Course.

Sandie Rietz requested that George White explain the items to the Senate. George White, Dean of CEHS and Director of Graduate Studies, stated that internships and student teaching in the graduate education program were being separated. The students participating in internships were being charged an unwarranted fee for student teaching. The changes in items 53-53.b would separate the internships from the student teaching program. Dr. White also explained that these changes were already in the graduate

catalog. Sue Smitman had made the changes in the catalog, and had requested paperwork be put through. The changes had been discussed and approved, without paperwork, by the Senate.

⊕ **The Senate has since determined that paperwork was in fact approved on 1/26/00 for student teaching. (11/2/01 Senate meeting)**

Sandie Rietz noted that student teaching was not offered at the 600 level (as a result of a mistake, 600 level classes were listed in the 2000-2002 graduate catalog). The 600 level designation has been removed.

Connie Landis further noted that the credits for EDUC 584, 585, & 586 were listed as six on the item form, while in the 2000-2002 graduate catalog, they were listed as nine. She questioned the clarity of Items 53-53.b.

⇒ Motion by Matt Redinger, second by Mark Hardt to send **Items 53, 53.a, and 53.b** back to the CEHS Curriculum Committee for clarification of credit hours.  
⇒ Motion carried.

Sandie Rietz requested that the discussion regarding these programs be located in past Senate minutes.

### **Discussion**

There was extensive discussion of the \$100 fee assessed to students in student teaching courses. George White reported that this fee is bestowed on the mentor teacher as an honorarium for assisting the student. Some schools are declining to take on student teachers from MSU-B because this fee is so low. Most private colleges in Montana charge a fee of \$250, but it is not entirely assessed to the student. However, this tradition varies from state to state. In some states, no funds are given to the mentor teacher.

Janie Park, Provost and Academic Vice Chancellor, stated that the Board of Regents had requested this fee be raised to \$100 from \$75, where it had been since the 1950s. Dr. Park also affirmed that the students had approved this fee, because their vote is required on fees assessed to students.

The question was raised as to whether the students would approve of a \$250 fee. Christina Sprague, Student Resolution Officer, responded that if the fee is necessary to keep up competitively with private colleges then students would most likely approve it.

## II. ITEMS – SECOND READING

**Item 8.b** Addition to Academic Senate Bylaws, Chair Elect Policy, Article III, Organization of the Academic Senate.

⇒Motion by Connie Landis, second by Randall Gloege to approve **Item 8.b** on second reading.

⇒Motion carried.

### III. OLD BUSINESS

**A. Board of Regents Edict on Writing Proficiency.** Sandie Rietz presented a short history of how the committee who wrote the request for writing proficiency came to be. Janie Park then stated MSU-B will need a draft of a plan for testing writing proficiency in upper level students to present to the Board of Regents by April of 2002. Then 12 months will be allotted for polishing the plan, followed by another presentation to the Board of Regents. The plan will then be implemented the following fall.

Dr. Park stated that the reasons behind this initiative include the national push to have numerical values measuring competency of graduating students.

Consensus was the Senate should look into the Missoula model which the Board of Regents has approved.

⇒Motion by Keith Edgerton, second by Doug Brown that the Senate take up this task from the Provost and create an **ad hoc committee** of the Senate that will sunset in May 2002 comprised of one member from each of the five colleges, plus any other faculty members interested, which will prepare a written report addressing these tasks:

- ✓ Generate criteria that students will need to meet in writing to graduate
- ✓ Establish performance standards delineating the characteristics or skills that students should be able to display for a proficiency rating
- ✓ Prepare for wide dissemination models of acceptable writing
- ✓ Identify means by which students will be allowed to demonstrate proficiency in writing such as written exit exams, scores on the verbal portion of the GRE or other standardized tests, completion of “W” courses, capstone projects, senior seminars with substantial writing assignments, etc.
- ✓ Define a process for regular review of criteria, standards, and activities by which student proficiency in writing is to be documented for graduation
- ✓ Determine how students who fail to demonstrate proficiency in writing will be assisted to achieve this standard and graduate

⇒Motion carried.

**B. Report on September Board of Regents Meeting presented by Sandie Rietz.**

Sandie reported that until the regents saw a visual representation of the incredible rise in online students at MSU-B, they did not realize the number of students in this program. MSU-B is well ahead of the other campuses in online courses. At the November Board of Regents meeting, policies obstructing online expansion will be addressed.

- **All faculty are asked to help in identifying obstructive BoR policies, and specify the manner in which they are obstructive.**

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Graduate Catalog Deadlines.** The changes for the 2002-2004 graduate catalog must be in to the Graduate Committee by November 30, 2001.

**B. Faculty Association/Academic Senate/Administration Coalition (FAASAC) 10/22/01 Meeting Report.** Sandie Rietz stated that she was pleased with the results of the meeting. She distributed a Memo of Understanding and asked the Senate to read and edit it in any way for the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 1, 2001.

rjr