

## ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

**DATE:** October 2, 2003

**PRESENT:** Doug Brown  
Paul Bauer  
George Madden  
Alan Davis  
Janie Park (ex-officio)

Sandie Rietz  
Audrey ConnerRosberg  
Randall Gloege  
Mark Hardt  
Dan Zirker (ex-officio)

**ABSENT:** St. John Robinson  
Keith Edgerton – *excused*  
  
John Cech (ex-officio)  
Randy Rhine (ex-officio)  
Terrie Iverson (ex-officio)  
Tracy Schweigert (ex-officio)

Matt Redinger  
Connie Landis – *excused*  
  
Joe Michels (ex-officio)  
George White (ex-officio)  
Curt Kochner (ex-officio)

**PRESIDING:** Randall Gloege, Vice Chair

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Randall Gloege called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. in room B009 at the College of Technology.

The minutes of September 18 were approved as presented.

### I. DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### A. General Education Committee

Mark Hardt, Chair of the General Education Committee, stated that the Committee met with the Department Chairs of English & Philosophy and Mathematics to resolve some issues. The Committee is now ready to meet with departments and/or colleges to present the new structure and process of the Gen Ed Program. The backing of the Academic Senate and the Office of the Provost is essential to keep the revised program rolling.

It was noted that the Senate did approve the plan and timeline of the Committee last spring. This will help the Committee make the first step the Committee said it would make.

⇒ Motion by Mark Hardt, seconded by Alan Davis to **approve the Memo of Support for the General Education Committee.**

⇒ Motion carried.

### **B. Weekly Campus-Wide Meeting Time**

The question was raised as to whether a time where all faculty are available would even be possible. The item was postponed until next week.

### **C. Senate Representation: College of Professional Studies and Lifelong Learning and the new College of Allied Health**

It was noted that currently there is a group working on a strategic plan for the new college (CAHP), but there are no faculty yet in the college. It has been agreed that the Health Administration Program will move to the CAHP, but no other programs have been assumed to move. There will be no department moves for at least the next year.

It was cited that once the Health Administration Program leaves the CPSLL, there will not be an academic program in that College. Since there would be no faculty, there would be no representation to the Academic Senate. It was noted, however, that there are still many programs in the CPSLL, and perhaps a non-faculty representative could be selected to at least attend the Senate meetings to stay in the loop.

It was also noted that the new CAHP will be housed at least partially in Apsaruke Hall, as most of the CPSLL offices are now downtown. Apsaruke will probably not be the permanent home, as it is too small, and the College will grow, no doubt.

⇒ Motion by Audrey ConnerRosberg, seconded by George Madden to **defer the issue of Academic Senate Representation** of the College of Professional Studies and Lifelong Learning and the College of Allied Health Professions **until spring semester 2004.**

⇒ Motion carried.

### **D. Information Update: Dr. Janie Park.**

Dr. Park stated that she and the Chancellor are members of AASCU (the American Association of State Colleges and Universities), an organization of public colleges and universities. AASCU has begun a project called the American Democracy Project, and MSU-Billings was asked to be a member in the venture. The Chancellor and Provost agreed that MSU-Billings would be a part of the project. The core question of the project is "What role does higher education have in the development of involved citizens?" This project is focused on undergraduates at public colleges and universities, 1.4 million in all. It is a three-year project designed to increase the number of students interested and involved in democracy. The project will involve administrators, faculty, staff, as well as students.

Dr. Park stated that she did not want to “put this on” the Senate, she was merely letting the Senate know this is in the works. More information will be gathered and a resource library will be built. The Senate can discuss this further at a future meeting. It was noted that once the Senate has more information and time to discuss, a resolution could be made concerning the project.

**E. Student Evaluations and Peer Reviews: Their Impact on Academic Quality – Randall Gloege**

It was noted that there is very little satisfaction with the student evaluations and peer review process. It was cited that the section on evaluations in the Collective Bargaining agreement would be helpful to work with. It was also noted that any changes the Senate may come up with would be applicable to the next bargaining session.

It was decided that the Senate should have sections of the CBA to refer to in order to discuss this issue more thoroughly.

**F. Student Health Insurance Changes – George Madden**

Dr. Madden noted that several of his students stated that they were unprepared or unaware of the changes in the student health insurance program. Dr. Park stated that in order to get a low rate for the student health insurance, the company required that the students have an opt-out. There were a series of letters sent directly to the students explaining that all they had to do was say yes or no to the insurance. Apparently, the letters were either not clear or the students didn't read them.

**G. Computer Changes**

It was noted that there are regular changes in the Banner system, which are often an inconvenience, and those changes come from Bozeman. They implement updates to Banner, and we just have to live with the changes. Some training for faculty should be done on occasion, to keep everyone updated.

The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

rjrm