

**FACULTY SENATE**  
**Sept 29, 2010**  
**LEO JOHNSON 346**  
**4:10 PM – 5:00 PM**  
**MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Anderson, Biber, Caton, Cherry, Engel, Eiger, Eitle, Fisher, Gerlach, Neumeier, Kaiser, Lansverk, Lawrence, Lockhart, Zhu, McClure, Mokwa, Schachman

**Others Present:** Joe Fedock, Wes Lynch, Joy Dale

Chair Lansverk called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM. A quorum was present.

***Announcements –Chair Lansverk***

- Chair Lansverk asked FS members to read minutes on the website and be ready to approve at future meetings.

***Chair’s Report***

- BoR Meeting Recap
  - General Comments: In spite of the fact that BOR meetings will now be streamed live, it remains extremely useful for us to attend the BOR meetings, in part to confer with MUSFAR (the senate leaders from the other campuses), and to build relationships with the regents (especially at our breakfast meeting with them), OCHE staff, and the administration from the other units.
  - During the MUSFAR breakfast meeting with the Regents, we discussed performance based funding. It became clear that the BoR members have differing views about any forthcoming proposals; and that Mick Robinson’s presentation at FS last week was not perfectly in sync with current BOR views.
    - Rather than affecting the entire MUS budgets, there will still be a significant base component.
    - Performance elements would then make up a “narrow incentive slice” focused on some as yet undetermined metrics.

Ideally, the BoR would like a developed plan within the next six months because they do want something in place for the next biennium. They do realize that any more ambitious PBF proposal might take longer to develop, and then require some kind of implementation phase in. The BOR did emphasize that feedback will be solicited from the campuses as this year’s proposal emerges.

- The Reinvention & Revision Task Force presented two documents for approval by the full board: “MSU Strategic Plan Guiding Principles” and “Success Agenda.”
  - “MSU Strategic Plan Guiding Principles” – This is a set of principles committing to an open and inclusive process in strategic planning that becomes an addendum to the strategic plan itself. It includes seven guiding principles; perhaps most important to us is a commitment to what we would call “shared governance,” and what they call the inclusion of a broad array of stakeholders from around the state.
  - The “Success Agenda” is made up of nine key elements that it is hoped will increase the overall educational attainment of Montanans. Most of the elements on the Success Agenda were already BOR priorities, though the document does officially institutionalize a commitment to performance based funding, characterized in very general terms. Marco Ferro, from MEA-MFT, during the comment period, suggested that any reinventing /reforming statement should at least mention faculty in some fashion, suggesting adding a bullet about the recruitment/retention of high quality faculty. The BoR seemed to agree to the principle, suggesting that what they were passing was meant as a living document, not a set in stone policy.
- COHE, Sheila Stearns, presented a four-bullet point list of goals and priorities which are planned as the main talking points during this year’s legislative session. The “Success

Agenda” is one of the four points, which, in turn, includes performance based funding. Two-year education was also a highlighted goal/priority. Most important to us is that it also included bullet in recruiting and retaining faculty.

- In other business, OCHE’s Tyler Trevor, is working on a project to bring their data in line with national best practice norms, providing better and more nuanced tools for making comparisons. Among the preliminary results of this process are numbers that show our retention rates to be better than the very blunt “6 year graduation rate” which is often used. Other data showed that the rate of transfers within the system was less than they would have thought. He wished they had had these numbers before and during their very costly and time consuming “transferability initiative.” So do we.
- The BoR continue to work on the MUS “Transferable Core.”
- Royce Engstrom is the new president of U of M.
- The BoR approved two MSU programs: Graduate Certificate in Science Teaching and a Criminology option in Sociology.
- Chris Pinet was granted emeritus status.
- Chair-elect Neumeier asked FS members to think about attending future BoR meetings, to increase participation and understanding of statewide governance processes. The next meeting is in Missoula, in November. The next time the BOR meets in Bozeman will be November 2011.

***Announcements – Chair Lansverk***

- October 6, 2010 – Tom Burgess, Union Contract Negotiator for all MUS Campuses, will attend FS. He will provide and update on bargaining and we will have a chance to discuss the union/FS role, their relationship, communication, and our processes.
- October 13, 2010 – Regent Todd Buchanan will attend FS.

***New Business - Chair Lansverk***

- We elected new FS Reps to the University Graduate Council and Undergraduate Studies Committee.
  - The new UGC rep is Steve Cherry (Math)
  - The new USC rep. is Marcie McClure (Microbiology)
- Performance Based Task Force (PBFTF)
  - Steering Committee has discussed the formation of a task force to help tap existing MSU faculty knowledge about university education policy, budgeting, allocation models, and national trends. Chair Lansverk asked FS members to solicit interest from their colleagues. Please email [lansverk@english.montana.edu](mailto:lansverk@english.montana.edu)

The Faculty Senate meeting ended at 5:10 PM, as there was no further business.

*Signature*

Marvin Lansverk, Chair

*Signature*

Gale R. Gough, Secretary