

**ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES**

**DATE:** December 1, 2022

**PRESENT:** Suzette Nynas  
Mara Pierce  
Scott Butterfield  
Susan Gregory  
Austin Bennett  
Melissa Boehm  
Tami Haaland (ex-officio)  
Sue Balter-Reitz (ex-officio)  
Darlene Hert (ex-officio)

Matt Queen  
Jennifer Lynn  
Rakesh Sah  
John Pannell  
Paul Pope  
Jim Barron (ex-officio)  
Sep Eskandari (ex-officio)  
Jana Marcette (ex-officio)

**ABSENT:** Rachael Waller\*  
David Russell (student)  
Susan Gilbertz (ex-officio)  
Leslie Weldon (ex-officio)

Heather Thompson-Bahm\*  
Tom Manthey (ex-officio)  
Vicki Trier (ex-officio)\*  
Kim Hayworth (ex-officio)

\* *excused*

**GUESTS:** Matt McMullen  
Kari Dahle-Huff  
Kathleen Thatcher

Joann Stryker  
Katie Moffat

**PRESIDING:** Jennifer Lynn, Chair

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Jennifer Lynn called the meeting to order at 3:39 p.m. in the Chancellor's Conference Room.

**I. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

This evening is the holiday lighting ceremony for the administration building.

**II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

The minutes of November 3 were accepted as presented.

III. PROVOST REPORT

Dr. Eskandari reported that they have hired a new Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning. She will begin March 1, 2023. He thanked the search committee for their work, as well as Sue Balter-Reitz for serving as the interim director.

They are moving forward on the Retention & Graduation Plan, with efforts tailored to students' needs. Katie Moffat, Retention Director, presented information about how the Early Alerts work (attached to these minutes). After several questions were raised, Dr. Eskandari noted that more information definitely needs to be shared with the faculty.

The Provost also stated that the Fall mini-break idea has been approved by OCHE. We will have a Fall break starting in the 2023-2024 academic year, to coincide with the state-wide teacher conference. The Senate applauded this new break.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

| Title  | Status | Received  |
|--|--------|-----------|
| Construction Management Associate of Applied Science Degree                          | Edited | 11/9/2022 |
| History Bachelor of Arts Degree  | Edited | 11/9/2022 |
| CSCI 299: Thesis/Capstone  | Edited | 11/9/2022 |
| Computer Programming and Application Development Associate of Applied Science Degree | Edited | 11/9/2022 |

⇒ Motion by Suzette Nynas, seconded by Austin Bennett to **approve the consent agenda.**

⇒ Motion carried.

V. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

|                                   |       |            |                               |
|-----------------------------------|-------|------------|-------------------------------|
| Place Psychology BA in Moratorium | Added | 11/21/2022 | Place a Program on Moratorium |
|-----------------------------------|-------|------------|-------------------------------|

⇒ Motion by Paul Pope, seconded by Austin Bennett to **approve the placement of the Psychology BA into moratorium.**

⇒ Motion carried.

|                           |       |            |  |
|---------------------------|-------|------------|--|
| Art Teaching Minor (K-12) | Added | 11/23/2022 | Proposal to Take a Program out of Moratorium |
|---------------------------|-------|------------|--|

⇒ Motion by Austin Bennett, seconded by Paul Pope to **approve the removal of the Art Teaching Minor from moratorium.**

Mara Pierce, Art, noted that this was a strong program prior to being placed on moratorium by the SPA process. They attempted to use the Art Minor to serve the students wanting this credential. However, Kari Dahle-Huff, Educational Theory and Practice, noted that the State of Montana has standards we must align our teaching majors and minors to, and the non-teaching major did not do that. We are also not accredited to endorse Art Minor students for teaching licensure.

⇒ Motion carried.

|   |        |            |
|---|--------|------------|
| Group 1   |        |            |
| PSYC 547: Group Psychotherapy   | Added  | 10/18/2022 |
| PSYC 552: Attachment Theory   | Added  | 10/18/2022 |
| PSYC 561: Vocational Psychology   | Added  | 10/18/2022 |
| PSYC 580: Professional Issues   | Added  | 10/18/2022 |
| PSYX 477: Science of Psych Well-Being                                     | Added  | 10/18/2022 |
| Psychology Bachelor of Science Degree                                     | Edited | 10/18/2022 |
| Psychology Bachelor of Science/Master of Science Accelerated Option (3+2) | Added  | 10/18/2022 |
| Psychology Master of Science  | Edited | 10/18/2022 |
| Psychology Minor  | Edited | 10/18/2022 |

⇒ Motion by Scott Butterfield, seconded by Suzette Nynas to **approve Group 1**.

Matt McMullen, Psychology, reported that he spoke with Rehab & Human Services and determined that their courses could not be combined. The new courses proposed are replacing seminars Psychology has been teaching for a number of years.

⇒ Motion carried.

|   |        |            |
|---|--------|------------|
| Group 3   |        |            |
| BIOB 487: Bioinformatics  | Edited | 10/19/2022 |
| BIOB 499: Senior Thesis/Capstone  | Edited | 10/19/2022 |
| Biology Bachelor of Arts Degree   | Edited | 10/19/2022 |
| Biology Bachelor of Science Degree                                      | Edited | 10/19/2022 |
| Biology Medical Laboratory Science Option Bachelor of Science Degree    | Edited | 10/19/2022 |
| Item 4  |        |            |
| Broadfield Science Teaching Licensure Option Bachelor of Science Degree | Edited | 11/9/2022  |
| Group 5   |        |            |
| CHMY 104: Preparation for Chemistry                                     | Edited | 11/22/2022 |
| CHMY 106: Preparation for Chemistry Lab                                 | Added  | 11/22/2022 |

|   |        |            |
|---|--------|------------|
| CHMY 141: College Chemistry I                 | Edited | 11/22/2022 |
| CHMY 143: College Chemistry II                | Edited | 11/22/2022 |
| CHMY 499: Senior Thesis/Capstone              | Edited | 11/22/2022 |
| Broadfield Science Bachelor of Science Degree | Edited | 11/22/2022 |
| Chemistry Bachelor of Science Degree          | Edited | 11/22/2022 |
| Chemistry Minor                               | Edited | 11/22/2022 |

⇒ Motion by Paul Pope, seconded by Austin Bennett to **approve Group 3, Item 4, and Group 5.**

Jim Barron, Biological & Physical Sciences, noted that they are increasing the credits of BIOB 487 to include a lab, as they are now doing DNA sequencing in class. They have also removed two upper-level courses from the Biology programs as they are not taught regularly. Matt Queen, Biological & Physical Sciences, noted that the Chemistry changes are to make the weekly workshop that goes with CHMY 141 & 143 required, thus increasing the credits for those courses to 4. The workshop course is student-run, and they have good momentum to keep that going. The rest of the changes are to update the CHMY 141 & 143 credit changes in the various programs. It was noted that the Broadfield programs have the same outcomes for the teaching and non-teaching majors, so those should be revised.

⇒ Motion carried.

|  |         |           |
|--|---------|-----------|
| <b>Group 7</b>   |         |           |
| Adventure Leadership in Health and Recreation Adventure Leadership Option Master of Science  | Deleted | 11/9/2022 |
| Adventure Leadership in Health and Recreation Recreation Therapy Option Master of Science  | Deleted | 11/9/2022 |
| Outdoor Adventure Leadership Bachelor of Science/Adventure Leadership in Health and Recreation Adventure Leadership Option Master of Science 3+2 | Deleted | 11/9/2022 |
| Outdoor Adventure Leadership Bachelor of Science/Adventure Leadership in Health and Recreation Recreation Therapy Option Master of Science 3+2   | Deleted | 11/9/2022 |

⇒ Motion by Paul Pope, seconded by John Pannell to **approve Group 7.**

Suzette Nynas, Health & Human Performance, noted they were never able to staff or offer this program.

⇒ Motion carried.

|                                    |        |            |
|------------------------------------|--------|------------|
| Item 8                             |        |            |
| Public Relations Master of Science | Edited | 11/16/2022 |

⇒ Motion by Suzette Nynas, seconded by Paul Pope to **approve Item 8.**

Melissa Boehm, Communication, noted they are removing the GRE as an entrance requirement, and upping the required undergrad GPA to 3.25. They will also be making sure applicants have a background in Communication, because those who don't have struggled.

⇒ Motion carried.

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Sub-Committee Updates

The Incomplete Policy draft will be on the December 8 Senate agenda.

The draft Senator Responsibilities will also be on that agenda. The Senate will need to decide what to do with those: Make a resolution? Add to the bylaws?

## VII. PROVOST REPORT continued

With time left, the Senate returned to the Provost's Report.

Provost Eskandari stated the Sprint Degrees being put forward are the Paramedic AAS and the Human Services BS. The Paramedic program has been working on an accelerated plan of study for some time, so they were a great choice for this pilot. This is an OCHE initiative with an accelerated timescale. For an AAS program, it should be completed in 3 semesters and for a BS, 7 semesters, including Summers. The Board of Regents and the Governor are very excited about these programs. In fact, the Governor's proposed budget includes \$2 million over 2 years for Sprint Degrees. That funding will go to student support, because a student in these programs will not be able to work. Also, financial aid is hard to come by in Summer, so that support will be needed, as well as tutoring and advising.

The Provost also reported on the NASH Project on Curricular Flexibility. The proposal is that MUS campuses will share online courses. This is already happening, but it is a great deal of work for Registrars to make sure those courses transfer correctly. The hope is, by the end of this academic year, 6 campuses will be running this project. We will need to make decisions about how many seats we reserve for MSUB students and how many for other students—and all those decisions will be made with faculty participation.

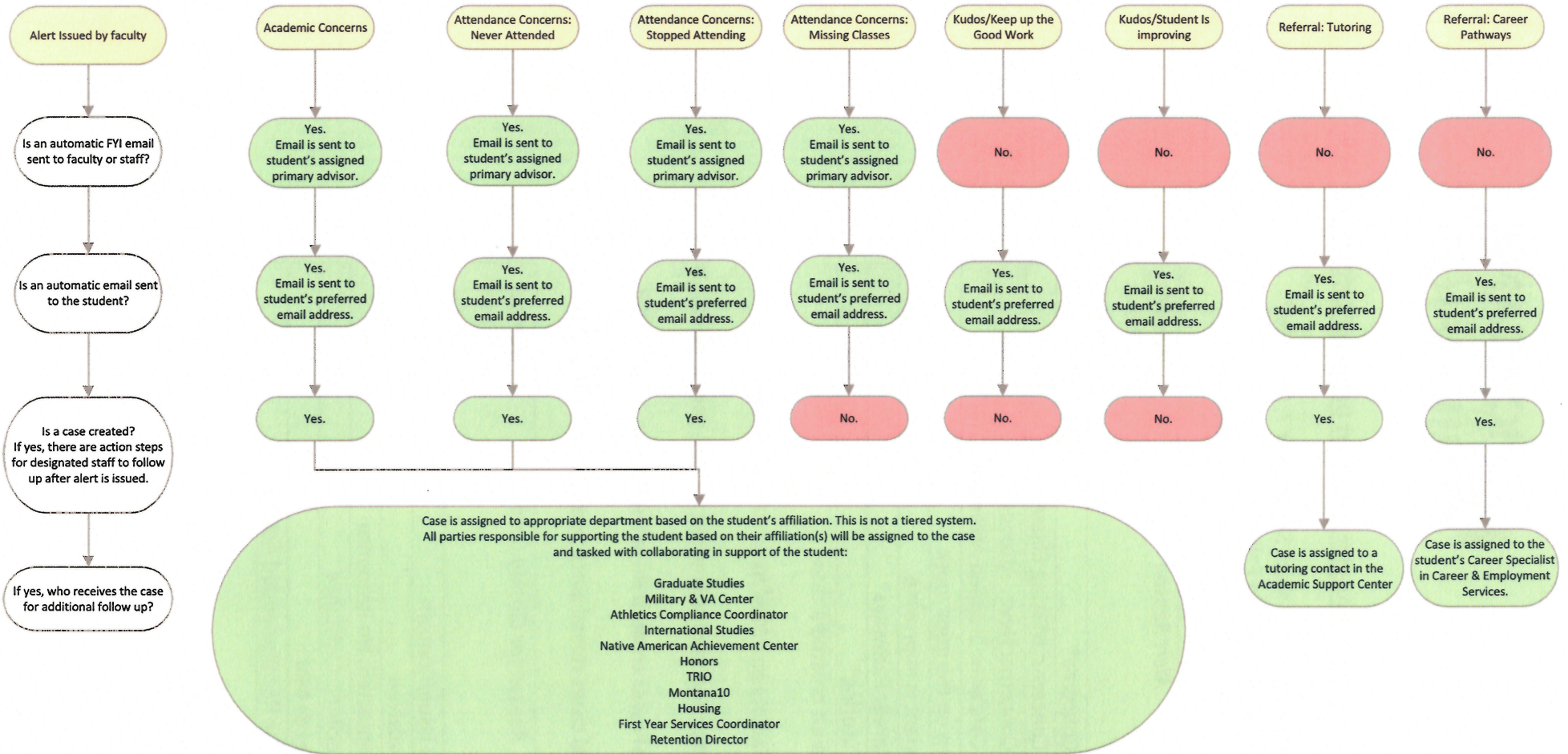
He also noted that faculty who wish to nominate colleagues for emeritus status **and have it conferred at Commencement**, those nominations must be sent to the BOR in January.

Dr. Eskandari also noted that several programs have requested massive increases for their course and program fees. While he is aware that the prices of all kinds of materials have gone up, he is opposed to transferring all that cost to our students. The increases, therefore, were limited to 3-5%.

The meeting adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

rjrm

# Navigate Early Alert Flow Chart



Questions?  
[navsupport@msubillings.edu](mailto:navsupport@msubillings.edu)





EAB Navigate – Unofficial Ad-Hoc Early Alert Data as of 12/01/2022

- I. **Total alerts issued since September 7, 2022: 957**  
**Total alerts issued in Fall 2021: 277**  
**--> 245.5% increase in alert issuance!**

| <i>Alert Reason</i>                   | <i>Number of Alerts Issued</i> |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Academic Concerns*                    | 481                            |
| Academic Concerns: Missing Classes    | 136                            |
| Academic Concerns: Never Attended*    | 138                            |
| Academic Concerns: Stopped Attending* | 119                            |
| Kudos/Keep up the good work           | 63                             |
| Kudos/Student is improving            | 0                              |
| Referral: Career Pathways*            | 0                              |
| Referral: Tutoring*                   | 20                             |

\* = alert created a case

- II. **84 Faculty and Staff have submitted alerts**
- III. Alerts have been submitted for **492 unique students**
- IV. **Total cases created since September 7, 2022: 758**
- V. **Total cases closed since September 7, 2022: 712**

| <i>Reason for Closing Case</i>  | <i>Number of Cases Closed</i> |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Addressed Issue/Concern         | 363                           |
| Referral Received               | 24                            |
| Student Contacted, No Response  | 176                           |
| Student Declined Assistance     | 37                            |
| Student Needs Met               | 2                             |
| Student Took Recommended Action | 110                           |

Questions or comments?

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