

**ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES****DATE:** September 28, 2023

**PRESENT:** Suzette Nynas  
Mara Pierce  
Debra Schoenfeld  
Susan Gregory  
John Pannell  
Paul Pope  
Vern Gagnon  
Ann Beste-Guldborg (ex-officio)

Matt Queen  
Jennifer Lynn  
Scott Gorman  
Kari Dahle-Huff  
Austin Bennett  
Melissa Boehm  
Jim Barron (ex-officio)  
Sue Balter-Reitz (ex-officio)

**ABSENT:** David Russell (student)  
Susan Gilbertz (ex-officio)  
Sep Eskandari (ex-officio)\*  
Kim Hayworth (ex-officio)  
Eileen Wright (ex-officio)  
\* *excused*

Tami Haaland (ex-officio)\*  
Vicki Trier (ex-officio)\*  
Leslie Weldon (ex-officio)  
Jana Marcette (ex-officio)

**GUESTS:** Cheri Johannes  
Stephen Eliason  
Alisa Batchelor

Kathleen Thatcher  
Joann Stryker

**PRESIDING:** Jennifer Lynn, Chair

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Jennifer Lynn called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m. in the Chancellor's Conference Room.

**I. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

ResearchFest applications are due Friday, September 29. The Provost's professional development grant applications are due Monday, October 2.

**II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

The minutes of September 14 were accepted as presented.

### III. PROVOST REPORT

Dr. Eskandari is at a workforce summit out of town today.

### IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Title	Status	Received
CSCI 111B: Programming with Java I	Edited	9/13/2023
SOCI 332: Sociology of the Family	Edited	9/13/2023

⇒ Motion by Vern Gagnon, seconded by Paul Pope to **approve the consent agenda.**

⇒ Motion carried.

### V. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Title	Status	Received
Group 1		
Sociology Teaching Minor	Deleted	9/13/2023
Environmental Studies Minor	Deleted	9/13/2023
Sociology Bachelor of Arts Degree	Deleted	9/13/2023

⇒ Motion by Paul Pope, seconded by Matt Queen to **approve Group 1.**

Steve Eliason, Social Sciences & Cultural Studies, noted that these programs were all placed on moratorium as part of SPA because they were low enrolled.

⇒ Motion carried.

### VI. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

#### A. New Scholarship Process Questions

Chair Lynn visited with Vice Chancellor Kim Hayworth to get some insight into the new process. Dr. Hayworth stated they are reviewing last year's process and will be asking for faculty feedback. Dr. Lynn will invite Dr. Hayworth to a Senate meeting in October to further discuss. It was noted that knowing more by the time faculty meet with students for advising at the end of October would be most helpful.

Some questions to be answered:

- Do students have to file a FAFSA to be eligible for scholarships?
- Some scholarships designated to departments or programs seem to have disappeared. Where did they go?
- Who are the scholarship recipients for this year?
- How should faculty promote scholarships to students?

**B. MUS Course Sharing**

Suzette Nynas, MSUB representative to the Course Sharing Workgroup, shared some draft guidelines they have developed and asked for feedback.

Each campus should make their own policy for vetting the courses to be added to the platform. Each campus also has a different calendar and policies, and it's been agreed that the teaching campus will be the calendar and policies used for that course. However, campuses should put together a list of important information (like an FAQ) so students taking courses from that campus can be informed.

Sue Balter-Reitz also noted that we have to have a consortium agreement in place before our students can participate, so currently MSUB students cannot register for courses presented there. The platform is also going through changes as they just got bought out by another company.

Dr. Nynas noted that the whole intention of course sharing is to give students who need a course to continue their degree plan, but the appropriate course is unavailable in a particular semester. It will mostly be Gen Ed courses in the platform.

Registrar Cheri Johannes noted that all campus policies apply to these courses. They are treated like transfer credits, and students must have 30 credits from MSUB to graduate from MSUB. We are the leader for online courses in the State, and we are already serving students at other institutions, so this will make that process perhaps simpler for those students.

It was noted that the most popular courses in the platform right now are A&P and Chemistry. Currently, MSUB's A&P and Chemistry courses are only available in-person, so if MSUB students begin taking those online from elsewhere, it will likely drop our in-person courses' enrollment significantly.

It was also noted that our intentionality of moving a program online will be confused if a student is able to build their own program online.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

John Pannell noted that he learned at the Data Governance Council meeting that the new Barnes & Noble management of the campus store will mean a change to how books are purchased. Students will pay \$25 per credit for a "bookstore fee" and, in exchange, they will not pay for individual books. This is a great deal for courses that have very expensive textbooks, but for courses that do not, students can choose to opt out of the fee. Getting that across to students will be essential. It was noted that this is a fee that will have to be approved through the normal fee approval process.

It was noted that faculty haven't really been involved in the transfer of management to B&N, but there are many questions to be worked out. It was noted that a discussion of how it's going to work is planned for the next faculty union/administration meetings. Vice Chancellor Leslie Weldon will be asked to a future Senate meeting to discuss.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

rjrm