

ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES**DATE:** February 15, 2024

PRESENT: Suzette Nynas
Mara Pierce
Scott Gorman
Kari Dahle-Huff
Austin Bennett
Sarah Keller
Tami Haaland (ex-officio)
Sep Eskandari (ex-officio)
Eileen Wright (ex-officio)

Matt Queen
Jennifer Lynn
Susan Gregory
John Pannell
Melissa Boehm
Jim Barron (ex-officio)
Vern Gagnon (ex-officio)
Sue Balter-Reitz (ex-officio)

ABSENT: Debra Schoenfeld*
David Russell (student)
Ann Beste-Guldborg (ex-officio)
Leslie Weldon (ex-officio)
* *excused*

Paul Pope*
Susan Gilbertz (ex-officio)*
Kim Hayworth (ex-officio)
Jana Marcette (ex-officio)

GUESTS: Cheri Johannes
Wendy Felese
Andrea Aebersold

Josh Hill
Kathleen Thatcher

PRESIDING: Jennifer Lynn, Chair

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

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Faculty Excellence is February 20. Please attend!

The Senate All Faculty meeting is one week from today (February 22) and Senators are to attend. Dr. Lynn will make a short presentation and then the floor will be open for discussion.

The Senate also welcomed new Senator Sarah Keller, At-Large.

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The minutes of February 1 were accepted as presented.

III. PROVOST REPORT

Dr. Eskandari stated the LMS transition, targeted for Summer 2025, is currently working through the key processes we will need. Sue Balter-Reitz, Director of Online Initiatives for OCHE, noted they met today to talk about data retention. In the transfer of course shells, the student data will not transfer. This includes grade books but also assignments. They are discussing how best to transfer this data. Cheri Johannes, Registrar, stated that OCHE's policy states student records such as grade books and exams should be retained for five years. She also noted another situation that will come up during the transition: incompletes. In the past, once an incomplete is filed, they could "reactivate" the D2L shell for the course, but that won't be possible here. Further, Dr. Balter-Reitz noted that programs may be using D2L to store assessment documentation, and that will also need to be preserved. Andrea Aebersold, Director of the Center for Teaching & Learning, noted that they will be working on guides for faculty to move things themselves if they wish. Dr. Eskandari noted this is all data we do not want to lose, so we will be creating a policy to retain it.

The Provost also noted that he is currently working through the reference checks for the COB Dean candidates. There will likely be an announcement by the end of the month.

He also reported on the Barnes & Noble First Day Complete project that meetings are currently being scheduled to gather as much feedback as possible. March 19-20 the B&N staff will be on campus to meet in person with multiple groups. The website with all this information is in progress.

IV. ITEM FOR APPROVAL

Item 1		
American Indian and Indigenous Studies Minor	Edited	1/31/2024

⇒ Motion by Mara Pierce, seconded by Suzette Nynas to **approve Item 1.**

Wendy Felese, Social Sciences & Cultural Studies, thanked everyone for all the guidance and support she has received in this complex process to change the name of this minor. They spoke with Bozeman, Missoula, and Northern to gather feedback on the name change.

She noted that using the term "American Indian" implies reunifications of groups that have been severed by political borders of all kinds. The term "Indigenous" denotes our ability to share ancient knowledge with our students.

The Registrar requested that an abbreviation limited to 30 characters be supplied with this new title.

⇒ Motion carried.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Commencement is just around the corner. Faculty should RSVP if they are attending, which is separate from the ordering of regalia. Please also order regalia through the Campus Store if you require it!

The student regalia is being managed by the Registrar's Office this year, instead of the Campus Store. If you know a student who should be graduating but has not yet applied to do so, please urge them to contact the Registrar's Office right away.

The meeting adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

rjrm