

ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

DATE: October 31, 2024

PRESENT: Suzette Nynas
Josh Hill
Debra Schoenfeld
Kari Dahle-Huff
Austin Bennett
Melissa Boehm
Kurt Toenjes (ex-officio)
Vern Gagnon (ex-officio)
Leslie Weldon (ex-officio)
Eileen Wright (ex-officio)

Matt Queen
Jennifer Scroggins
Susan Gregory
John Pannell
Paul Pope
Sarah Keller
Tami Haaland (ex-officio)
Sue Balter-Reitz (ex-officio)
Kim Hayworth (ex-officio)

ABSENT: Heather Thompson-Bahm*
Vikash Kumar (student)*
Melanie Reaves (ex-officio)
* *excused*

Lamiya Husen (student)*
Susan Gilbertz (ex-officio)
Sam Boerboom (ex-officio)

GUESTS: Kathleen Thatcher
Jennifer Lodine-Chaffey
Ana Diaz

Cheri Johannes
Tom Regele

PRESIDING: Suzette Nynas, Chair

Suzette Nynas called the meeting to order at 3:41 p.m. in the City College Health Science North Conference Room.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The minutes of October 10 were accepted as presented.

III. PROVOST & VICE CHANCELLOR REPORTS

Vice Chancellor for Student Access & Success Kim Hayworth

Dr. Hayworth reported they have finished all the scholarship meetings with the colleges, and will now proceed to the committees that award one single scholarship. The process has gone well and she has received a lot of good feedback. They are also working on guidance for students for the application process, such as reference letters and essays, and that will help build an FAQ webpage.

The Director of University Communications and Marketing search will have two candidates on campus in the next couple of weeks.

The Native American Achievement Center's Elder in Residence program is hosting their fourth presenter this week. The NAAC is also doing a workshop with Native Forward Scholarship Fund, which will have staff on campus.

The Center for Engagement is allowing students to order Thanksgiving meal boxes through November 15.

Student Health Services is hosting a flu and COVID shot clinic next Wednesday, November 6. No appointment is needed and it's open to students, faculty, staff, and the public.

Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance Leslie Weldon

Ms. Weldon noted that last night they had a meeting with the Art faculty and the architects to get an idea what the new art building will look like, so they can start raising money. It will be an initial schematic they can show donors.

Intermountain Health still plans to lease parking from MSUB, and after a year of working on the contract, it is getting close to approval.

Facilities is dealing with several issues, including an Asian ladybug infestation in the LA Building. They have found additional roof leaks, as well. Additional emergency signs for City College are on order now. A tree crew is getting rid of the broken and dead trees on the main campus, and insurance has indicated they will fund replacing some of the trees. Facilities is working with Jason Comer, Biological & Physical Sciences, to select some appropriate trees.

Human Resources once again will have snow cleats available. Remember to use your floating holiday by the end of the calendar year. We also worked with Bozeman to do an audit of our Payroll and HR processes.

IV. OTHER REPORTS

AI Subcommittee Report, Austin Bennett

Mr. Bennett reported the committee is meeting with multiple campus offices to discuss the various elements of the proposed AI policy.

Bylaws Subcommittee Report

Dr. Nynas noted that the bylaw changes are on the agenda for today. The subcommittee continues to work on the Honors Committee and Budget Committee.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

Title	Status	Received
Applied Psychology Program of Study Associate of Arts Degree	Deleted	10/16/2024
Psychology Teaching Minor	Deleted	10/16/2024
BIOO 320: General Botany	Edited	10/16/2024
BIOO 321: General Botany Lab	Edited	10/16/2024
BIOO 432: Medical Botany	Added	10/16/2024
BIOO 433: Plant Physiology	Edited	10/16/2024
BIOO 434: Plant Physiology Lab	Edited	10/16/2024
BIOO 436: Plant Systematics Lab	Edited	10/16/2024
CHMY 121: Intro to General Chemistry	Edited	10/16/2024
EGEN 105: Intro to General Engineering	Deleted	10/16/2024
EGEN 201: Engineering Mechanics-Statics	Deleted	10/16/2024
EGEN 202: Engineering Mechanics-Dynamics	Deleted	10/16/2024
EGEN 205: Mechanics of Materials	Deleted	10/16/2024
EGEN 298: Cooperative Educ/Internship	Deleted	10/16/2024

⇒ Motion by Paul Pope, seconded by Austin Bennett to **approve the consent agenda.**

⇒ Motion carried.

VI. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Group 1		
LIT 210: American Literature I	Added	9/11/2024
LIT 211: American Literature II	Added	9/11/2024
LIT 223: British Literature I	Added	9/11/2024
LIT 224: British Literature II	Added	9/11/2024
LIT 285: Mythologies	Added	9/11/2024
LIT 308: Multicultural Literature	Added	9/11/2024
English Bachelor of Arts Degree	Edited	9/11/2024

⇒ Motion by Austin Bennett, seconded by Paul Pope to **approve Group 1.**

Ana Diaz, Chair, English, Philosophy & Modern Languages, noted that with the transition a few years ago to “Transatlantic Lit,” students ended up missing important texts, so this change returns the American Lit and British Lit to the program. Jennifer Lodine-Chaffey, English, Philosophy & Modern Languages, noted that the department has had a number of faculty retire, so this also updates the curriculum for that. For instance, we no longer have someone to teach linguistics.

Kathleen Thatcher, Assessment & Accreditation, noted that this is a great time, especially with new faculty members, to make sure the learning outcomes are where you want them to be.

⇒ Motion carried.

Item 2		
International Studies Minor	Edited	10/16/2024

⇒ Motion by Austin Bennett, seconded by Kari Dahle-Huff to **approve Item 2.**

Tom Regele, English, Philosophy & Modern Languages, stated they substituted out the Western Civ course for the “Language, Culture & Identity” seminar, which all international students also take.

⇒ Motion carried.

Item 3		
BIOH 333: Cancer Biology	Added	10/16/2024

⇒ Motion by John Pannell, seconded by Paul Pope to **approve Item 3.**

⇒ Motion carried.

Catalog Errors Policy (revised)	Added	10/23/2024	Policy
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⇒ Motion by Paul Pope, seconded by Austin Bennett to **approve the revised Catalog Errors Policy.**

⇒ Motion carried.

Modification to Bylaws Article II. Membership and Elections - Voting Electronically	Added	10/23/2024	Policy
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⇒ Motion by Sarah Keller, seconded by Paul Pope to **approve the voting electronically changes.**

⇒ Motion carried.

Modification to Bylaws Article II. Membership and Elections and III. Organization of the Academic Senate - Term Limits	Added	10/23/2024	Policy
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⇒ Motion by Paul Pope, seconded by John Pannell to **approve the term limits changes.**

It was noted this fix will allow for a smooth transition, in the event that a Senator in an office runs up against the three-term limit. It was cited that term limits are important; otherwise it's the same people always doing the work.

⇒ Motion carried with 1 opposed.

VII. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Revival of University Budget Committee

Vice Chancellor Weldon stated that the Chancellor said we need a group to bring people together to discuss the budget and the budgeting process. The members are not set yet, but will include the Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance; the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Finance; the CIO; the Vice Chancellor for Student Access & Success; the Provost; a representative from Staff Senate, Academic Senate, and each of the faculty unions; as well as at least one Dean and Department Chair. The student government will also be asked for a representative.

The group will not be decision-making, but rather make recommendations. Though not it's sole purpose, a main focus will be information sharing. The intent is to have groups across the University involved and participating in the budget process. The group will assess where our dollars are being spent (the big campus initiatives) and whether those are the best places to do so.

The question was raised as to whether this committee will actually differ from the previous iteration of the campus-wide budget committee. That group was one-way communication and it seemed the recommendations didn't go anywhere. It was responded that participants in this group will interact with the decision makers. This group could create a process or framework for budgeting that all were involved in creating.

It was noted that if this group functions like an advisory board, it will be much more likely to succeed.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Cheri Johannes, Registrar and leader of the search committee, noted that the Provost search is posted and open. They hope to review applications after December 1 and hold online interviews in December. Campus visits would be early in the Spring semester.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

At yesterday's Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, an issue came up regarding the varied terminology we use in our course titles and program titles, regarding Native Americans/American Indians. Consistent language is important. The Senate should form a subcommittee to explore this issue. It was noted that the term Hispanic would also fall into this category. It was agreed that top-down changes to courses is probably not the best solution. Guidelines are a better choice.

The subcommittee will be Matt Queen and Josh Hill, who will then recruit at least one other member.

The meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

rjrm