

**FACULTY SENATE**  
**October 31, 2007**  
**REID HALL 104**  
**4:10 AM – 5:00 PM**  
**MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN, MONTANA**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Amin, Ashley, Bangert, Becker, Bandyopadhyay, Cherry, Christopher, Dyer, Gerlach, Jacobs, Leech, Lei, Longcope, Lynch, Neeley, Prawdzienski, Starkey for Zhu, Taylor, Watson, Wojtowicz

**Members Absent:** Ag/ED/AOT, Bailey, Bennett, Chem/Biochem, Fleck, Gipp, Jackson, Johnson, Livingston, M. McClure, Marshall for D. Weaver, Mokwa, Nursing On-Campus, Peed, Pinet, Political Science, T. Weaver

**Others Present:** Dave Dooley, Joe Fedock, Marvin Lansverk, Robert Swenson

Chair Shannon Taylor called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM. A quorum was present. Minutes from October 24 and October 17, 2007 were unanimously approved.

***FACULTY AFFAIRS/EMERITUS FACULTY STATUS – Marvin Lansverk***

- BOR policy states that campuses are to structure their own policy; the MSU Faculty Handbook states that departments shall establish their own standards.
- Should emeritus faculty member status (hereinafter referred to as “EFS”) be automatic or not? Arguments for making the policy automatic:
  - Faculty are in good standing should receive it; and
  - Faculty have a large knowledge base that could be of value to the institution.
- With complete consensus, Faculty Affairs believes EFS should not be automatic:
  - EFS is not a rank; it is only a title.
  - Faculty who do not retire in good standing should not be granted EFS.
- Discussion ensued:
  - Current handbook language lists EFS privileges; the current re-write from Faculty Affairs includes the same language with additions.
  - Some FS members believe emeriti should have voting privileges within their department; otherwise rewording the current policy may not be productive.
  - Robert Swenson spoke positively about many Carnegie Classification institutions who grant automatic EFS. The MSU Retired Faculty Association finds the concept of an Emeritus College, under the Provost or Dean, exciting because its organization would allow emeriti to engage their tremendous knowledge base to enhance the university or college from which they retire. He noted that in many institutions the EFS process is an evolving entity that changes over time. It is not a process in which the door of the learning institution closes immediately after the faculty retires. Washington State University and Colorado State University institute a pro forma EFS process.
  - Faculty Affairs believes the language of their proposal institutes continual peer review, and it should not be taken in a negative light. All faculty are continually evolving in or out of their career.
  - Chair Taylor iterated that the policy Faculty Affairs is, in a sense, advocating is automatic, and the guiding premise suggests that faculty who retire in good stead will be given the EFS.
  - It was suggested the wording in the first sentence of paragraph numbered 1, be changed to reflect “shall be nominated” from “may be nominated.” This new language will automatically trigger a nomination, and the granting of EFS still lies within the department. Currently there are three routes of nomination, but with this language modification, the process would be shortened. The ultimate approval, however, would remain with the Provost and a faculty committee.
  - It was suggested, then, that paragraphs numbered 2 and 3 be appeals processes, should EFS be denied.
  - FS questioned whether every administrative level needs to be involved in the proposed process.

- It was suggested that faculty automatically be nominated; then a distinguished faculty committee would make the final decision.
- Many adjuncts who are internationally acclaimed for their accomplishments and who have taught at the university a long time are not included in the EFS policy. Language might include them in the escape clause at the end of the document.
- Conversely, many adjuncts only teach one semester and should not be included. Research faculty have been included in the most recent EFS document from Faculty Affairs.
- Faculty Affairs will bring back two documents for Faculty Senate to review: automatic EFS and non-automatic.

*Signature*

Shannon Taylor, Chair

*Signature*

Gale R. Gough, Secretary