

## Minutes

Faculty Senate, University of Montana Western, October 27, 2008

- I. Call to Order—Sheila Roberts, Eric Dyreson, Jim Falvey, John Hajduk, Mike Morrow, Megan Chilson, Delena Norris-Tull, Brent McCabe, Taylor Nahrgang, Chris Guttenberg, Dennis Pottoff (NCATE), Angela McLean (NCATE)

II. Approval of Minutes—Minutes of October 13, 2008 approved unanimously

### III. Communications

Reviewers for NCATE were present to ask questions related to aspects of faculty hiring and advancement. There was general discussion on the topics of faculty qualifications, the tenure and promotion process, and faculty development opportunities.

### IV. Unfinished Business

- A. Chair Roberts announced that Rob Thomas and Bethany Blankenship had volunteered to serve on the Enrollment strategy Task Force. Discussion centered on seeking a third candidate.

Action- Motion made and carried unanimously to recommend appointment of Thomas and Blankenship, with the proviso that the Senate may still add a third faculty representative.

- B. The Senate discussed the proposed schedules presented at an earlier meeting by the registrar.

Action- Motion made and carried (by a vote of 6 to 1) that the Senate recommend approval of the schedule as presented with the provision that should errors in one of three areas (17 or 18 day blocks; 4 day block breaks; at least 5 work days to submit grades) be discovered, the schedule will be adjusted to insure each of those conditions is maintained.

- C. The Senate discussed ideas for recommendations to Senior Staff for possible grant writing initiatives. Discussion centered on compensation of faculty participation in grant-writing (if undertaken for the university as opposed to individual opportunities); that emphasis should be on goals that will strengthen Experience One (marketing and recruitment, equipment, travel, etc.)

### V. New Business

Sheila Roberts announced that the Environmental Sciences department is currently deliberating a restructuring that would separate Biology out as a separate unit. There was discussion of the possible implications, including representation on the Senate.

Action- Senators will solicit comments from their departments.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm

Submitted by John Hajduk, Acting Secretary