

**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, March 20, 2017, 3:30-5:00**  
**STC Board Room**  
**Faculty Senators & Administration**

- Call to order: Megan Chilson, Erin Zavitz, Estee Aiken, Megan Kelly, Linda Lyon, Ashley Carlson, Michael Hengler, Tyler Seacrest, Beth Weatherby, Fred Chilson, Karl Ulrich, Susan Briggs.
- Michael moves to approve the minutes from February 27, Fred seconds. Motion passes.
- Fees
  - Every two years, we can make changes to both the mandatory and non-mandatory fees. Fees must also be justified every two years, even if no change is being made to a given fee.
  - Budget committee has already approved the fees for this cycle. They are being brought to Faculty Senate as an information item, but must be approved by Student Senate.
  - Mandatory Fees are fees that all or most students pay regardless of the courses they take.
    - Some of the mandatory fees are increasing this year, including fees regarding buildings, equipment, athletics, ASUMW activities, health, and the student union building.
    - Note online learners can fill out a form that allows them to waive some mandatory fees.
  - Non-mandatory fees, or course fees, are associated with a particular course and are only paid by students in that course.
    - The Board of Regents (BoR) keeps a close eye on course fees to make sure they are well justified and being used for students in a timely manner. For example, it is problematic if a course fee account accumulates too large of a balance.
      - Course fees must also be justified.
      - If we get pushback at the BoR, we can use this as an opportunity to educate them about the unique nature of ExperienceOne.
    - Susan requests that academic departments request their course fees on time since otherwise the university runs up against some hard deadlines.
    - It was asked if we should implement an X1 Fee to support ExperienceOne programming, and we also raised some additional questions:
      - What would the rules be for using this source of funding? Could it allow us to do some bigger things in classes that would normally be too expensive?
      - Would there be in-fighting over who has access to this funding source?
    - It was suggested we put the rules regarding course fees on Moodle so faculty know when to ask for new course fees, what to use course fees for, and know how to justify course fees to the BoR.

- Posthumous Degrees
  - Administration is asking for approval of a policy that would allow for the award of an honorary degree to a UMW student who passes away.
  - They adopted the UM policy with little change.
  - This was prompted by a student who died last year, and administration is considering awarding him a degree via this new policy.
  - Recommendation for such a degree can come from anyone (family of the deceased, students, faculty, etc.)
  - Fred moves to approve the Posthumous Degree policy, and Ashley seconds. The motion passes unanimously.
  
- New system-wide Curriculum Proposal Form
  - OCHE made a change to the system-wide curriculum proposal form, and they are considering further changes.
  - We've already authorized Charity to incorporate all such changes into our on-campus form, which includes the system-wide forms as appendices. Such changes take effect immediately.
  
- Faculty Meetings will now take place on Mondays opposite Faculty Senate.
  
- A second opportunity for the equipment fee is available
  - Requests are due March 31.
  - \$50,000 available submit through Moodle.
  - Good opportunity to resend any recommendations that were denied in the Fall.
  
- X1 Institute working group recommendations are due March 31. It's up to departments whether they have representation or not.
  
- Curriculum Proposal 3: Creation of NUTR 221
  - Michael moves to approve, Fred seconds.
  - While not a major criticism of this proposal, the point was made that in the future we want to make sure students take classes from a wide variety of disciplines.
  - Motion passes unanimously.
  
- Curriculum Proposal 4: Prerequisite adjustment for NUTR 411
  - Fred moves to approve, Michael seconds.
  - Motion passes unanimously.
  
- Good of the order
  - Three Faculty Senate meetings left; remember that new Faculty Senate representatives should attend our May 1 meeting.
  - The question was asked about when we would know more about state and federal government budgets

- The State Legislature will adjourn in April, then what they allocate will be distributed to individual campuses at the May BoR meeting. Our budget will not be finalized until late May.
  - TRIO is a Federal program that may potentially be cut, but we are currently in the middle of a three-year grant.
  - Changes in year-to-year health costs make a big difference, but no major changes are expected for the MUS-run health plan next year.
  - Some reorganization of the MUS may occur. Ideally we'd maintain a tricky balancing act regarding our affiliation with UM: we don't want to lose funding if UM enrollment is down, but we also want to keep our shared services (technology services, legal services, etc.)
- Fred moves to adjourn, Erin seconds. I was then able to finish the minutes within hours, though it would put me in a daze and make me weak. Soon (next month or year) my ability to write these things will have decayed. Or my CenturyLink internet will have given out. Blaming millennials, I'll refuse to write. I'll move on to other things.

# 201.10 Posthumous Degree

**Date Adopted:** 03/20/2017

**Date Revised:**

**References:** MUS 322.1 (<http://mus.edu/borpol/bor300/322-1.pdf>)

**Issuing Office:** Academic Affairs

**Approved by:** Deb Hedeem

## I. POLICY

In exceptional circumstances, The University of Montana Western may award degrees posthumously.

## II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for the awarding of a degree posthumously.

## III. PROCEDURES

To recommend the awarding of a degree posthumously the Registrar will follow these procedures:

- A recommendation will be turned into the Office of the Registrar.
- The Registrar will evaluate the request to determine if the student was enrolled at the time of death, was in good academic standing, and had completed at least 2/3 of the degree to be awarded or was otherwise subject to special consideration.
- If the posthumous award is approved, the Registrar will forward the recommendation to the Provost.
- If the posthumous award is approved, the Provost will forward the recommendation to the Chancellor.
- Upon approval of all three above offices, the Office of the Registrar will award the diploma at the next Commencement ceremony or present it to the student's family in an appropriate setting.

Diplomas for posthumous degrees will be identical to other degrees awarded in the same manner.  
Posthumous awards will not appear on transcripts.

## IV. AUTHORITY

MUS 322.1 (<http://mus.edu/borpol/bor300/322-1.pdf>)

## V. RESPONSIBILITY

Registrar, Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Chancellor