Welcome to Faculty Senate!

Stephanie McCalla

Faculty Senate Chair

Chemical & Biological Engineering

Doug Downs

Faculty Senate Volunteer (Thanks Doug!)

English

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

Mountains & Minds

Gentle Reminders

- Faculty Senate is an open and public meeting

- Please, only Senators speak in the meeting, unless you are specifically called on by the Chair or Chair-elect to speak

- Please let others speak; everyone should get a chance to speak before someone else speaks twice.

- Public may address the Senate at end of the meeting during public comment

- Be kind to each other.

Approval of FS Minutes from December 4, 2024

- Do I have a motion to approve? Second?

- Any discussion?

- All those in favor of the motion indicate by saying aye

- Those not in favor of the motion indicate by saying nay

- Any abstaining?

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FYI Items

Restart senate office hours in Spring
- Wednesdays 3:30 – 4:30 on senate "off weeks" ~~in the center for faculty excellence~~
- Provided **online link (WebEx) in separate email**

FYI Items

- D2L to Canvas transition countdown: **June 1, 2025 we lose D2L access**
  - Archiving D2L data (10 years), but will not be easily accessible
  - Transfer student data if needed – not automatically rolled over https://ato.montana.edu/canvas/migrate/student-data/
- More Canvas info on senate agenda as we move toward deadline
  - YuJa tool will aid in ADA compliance: https://ato.montana.edu/yuja/

FYI Items

Call for applications: Center for Faculty Excellence director

- 0.5 FTE appointment, one-year renewable term
- Apply by March 3, 2025 for full consideration
- Submit info to Julie Heard: jheard@montana.edu

FYI Items

Need examples for MSU's Carnegie Community Engagement Classification from this academic year by **Friday Jan 24**

- academic-community partnerships (i.e., institutional, centers, departmental, and faculty/staff)
- connected to the academic core of the campus
- includes teaching, learning, and research, and illustrate both the breadth and depth of community engagement
- the partner will be sent a questionnaire/survey from the Carnegie organization and must be willing to complete the questionnaire

FYI Items

Volunteers needed: Working Group on Undergraduate Degree Requirements

- Advisory group for BOR policy 301.11: https://mus.edu/borpol/bor300/301-11.pdf
- What is a bachelor's degree mean? (BS vs BA, credit requirements, etc.)
- Collaborate with Tracy Dougher (on MUS working group that is currently revising this policy)

FYI Items

Lambent Technology rollout

- Anonymizes wifi connection to devices, used to track space use
- How information will impact faculty is TBD
- Roll out currently in SUB/Chem and Biochem Building. Barnard likely next.
- Depending on number of wifi boxes, can get information down to a group of offices or a single office/classroom.

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Ice Breaker

What would you like to see on the Faculty Senate agenda this semester?

OR

What is something laugh out loud funny that happened during the holiday break?

Discussion: Emeritus Email Policy

Email sent to emeritus in early Jan 2025

- Require "affiliate" status to keep email
- Annual paperwork (two pages) includes
  - Justification
  - Background check (department pays?) OR letter stating background check isn't needed
  - Signature by department chair, dean, provost
- Deadline for paperwork extended until May 2025

Emeritus Email Policy Faculty Concerns

- Small % of accounts at the university (~180)
  - Still higher than expected – need a way to inactivate unused accounts
- Annual paperwork burden for both faculty and departments
  - Justifications, background checks, signatures from department chair/dean/provost…
- Alienating for Emeritus faculty doing (often volunteer) work for the university, colleagues, community
- Nonstandard at R1 universities
- Many have built a large, international community with these emails that will be difficult to replace
- Harder to "stay in the loop", both at MSU and in broader community, with email changing

Informational Update: University Council

Mission: Ensure institutional policies and procedures support the university's strategic plan and land grant mission. Meets monthly, one faculty rep (faculty senate chair)

Policies considered can be found on the UC website: https://www.montana.edu/universitycouncil/proposed-policies/index.html

Meeting January 15, 2025

1. Justin Arndt and Dean Caires on Leave of Absence and Retroactive Withdrawal policies for students (first reading)
   - Adding clarifications
   - Splitting into two policies

2. CHRO on revised HR policies
   - Cannot change any language in volunteer policy, section 4.g (FLSA)
   - HR feels the jump to termination under Performance Management and Progressive Discipline policy is implied to be for only severe cases, did not change language

https://www.montana.edu/universitycouncil/

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Informational Update: University Council

Volunteer Policy, 4.g:

- Current: *Volunteers may not displace or perform work that would otherwise be performed by regular employees.*

- Suggested edit (denied): *Volunteers may not displace ~~or perform work that would otherwise be performed by~~ regular employees.*

  - Violates FLSA
  - Some volunteer work provided by retired/emeritus faculty would not be considered "work" and not fall under this policy

  *The FLSA recognizes the generosity and public benefits of volunteering and allows individuals to freely volunteer in many circumstances for **charitable and public purposes**. Individuals may volunteer time to religious, charitable, civic, humanitarian, **or similar non-profit organizations** as a public service and not be covered by the FLSA.*

More guidance in faculty handbook?

https://www.montana.edu/universitycouncil/

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Informational Update: Graduate Council

- Discussed new Shorelight course-based master's students
  - How do we help international graduate students adjust?

- Discussed listening sessions with the new interim graduate dean

- Discussed three policies (second reading in FS today)
- First two were suggested to go back to graduate council after leadership change/pending more discussion on questions brought up by FS
  - Appeals
  - Doctoral Chair Deadline
  - 1 Credit Extension and in absentia graduation

Old Business

Old Business: Graduate Policies

- 1 Credit Extension Policy -- Adjusts to be about 5 weeks no matter which semester; intended to be an *extraordinary* circumstance

- Doctoral Chair Deadline -- Chair assigned by end of 2nd semester, committee assigned by end of 3rd semester.

- Appeal Policy – Clarifies steps during an appeal

Undergraduate Courses and Programs

Courses – Second Reading

AGED 101: Agricultural and Technology Education Community Exploration

AVFT 160: Enhancing Human Performance in Aviation

BIOM 404: Medical Virology

COA 330: Coaching Theory

CSCI 252: Introduction to Data Science

GPHY 471: Data Science for Climate and Sustainability Analysis

MUSI 108IA: Orchestra: MSU String Orchestra

NUTR 440: Nutrition Education and Counseling

Course Changes – First Reading

WRIT 472 : Science Writing and Journalism
1. Number change from 372 to 472
2. Title change from Science Writing for Popular Non-Fiction
3. Changes to prereqs

WRIT 474 : Magazine Editing and Production
1. Number change from 374 to 474
2. Title change from Magazine Editing
3. Going from 1 lecture, 2 lab to 3 lecture

WRIT 476 : Public Rhetorics and Writing
1. Number change from 376 to 476
2. Changes to prereqs

Course Changes – Second Reading

The GDSN faculty are adjusting the junior block, 300-level courses from 5 credits to 4 credits. This will require students to take 4, 4 credit courses in their junior year, rather than 3, 5 credit courses, allowing for more diversity in topics and themes explored during their education. This will lead to a variety of professional options when entering the design field. This new 4-credit format will fit more effectively into the summer 4x4 sessions—helping with consistency in course meeting times.

1. GDSN 367: Identity Systems
2. GDSN 368: Art Direction
3. GDSN 369: Publication Design
4. GDSN 371: Motion Graphics
5. GDSN 372: Interaction Design
6. GDSN 373: Illustration
7. GDSN 374: Digital Visualization
8. GDSN 375: Letterpress
9. GDSN 376: Screenprinting
10. GDSN 377: Design for Society
11. GDSN 378: Guerrilla Advertising

GPHY 426: Remote Sensing
- Credit change from 4 to 3
- One credit less of lecture

Course Inactivations – Second Reading

CSCI 482R : Interdisciplinary Project Instruction
- Changing the 2 semester Computer Science Interdisciplinary Option B.S. capstone from CSCI 482 (1 credit in the fall) / CSCI 483 (3 credits in the spring) to CSCI 483 (4 credits in the spring) will reduce curricular dependencies and help students graduate more easily.

Graduate Courses and Programs

Courses – Second Reading

ERTH 586 : Geology of Earthquakes

MSSE 512 : NGSS Crosscutting Concepts

NUTR 540 : Nutrition Education and Counseling

Course Changes – First Reading

Moving from face-to-face to online-part of online program

- EDU 511 : Teaching Culturally and Linguistically Diverse K-12 Students

- EDU 512 : Literacy Development for Culturally & Linguistically Diverse K-12 Students

- EDU 513 : Assessment of English Language Learners

- EDU 514 : Culturally Responsive Pedagogy

Course Changes – First Reading, continued

LRES 564 : Fundamentals of Environmental Monitoring
- changing from 2 credits to 3

LRES 584 : Soil Science for MIddle and High School Teachers
- Title change from Twelve Principles of Soil Science for Teachers

MUSE 575 : Professional Paper and Project
- Credit change from 1-4 to 3

NUTR 520 : Nutrition, Public Health, & Systems Change
- Title change from Advanced Diet and Disease Systems

Senate Open Discussion

Public Comment

(Two minutes per person)

Do I have a motion to adjourn? Second?

Q&A, Lambent spaces

What is the new Lambent Spaces Technology and how does this work?
The system works by processing wifi connection data from the many access points in the building. That data is already collected by UIT, this program just anonymizes it and then processes it to help us understand how the building is occupied. We work with Lambent to map zones in the building based on where the wifi points are to help granulate the data in a way that can be more useful such as a classroom or group or a group of offices all associated with the same department.

How the data will be used?
Exactly how the Space Management Committee and Space Planning will use the data is TBD. We are excited about the pilot project and seeing what the data output generated looks like but need to see some of that before we can really assess how it can best be utilized. Having real data on how space it used, not just the anecdotal data provided by users will be helpful though.

How granular is this data - what is the size that can be resolved by this technology?
The area zoned is dependent on the number of access points and their location. We can look at areas as small as 1 specific room potentially, if it has a wifi access point in it and there are other access points around it that could help separate connections. We have some small groups of just a couple rooms but generally they are larger groups like an office suite or a lab and associated support and office spaces.

Does this mean that students/faculty/staff need phones or computers connected to wifi while working to count as using the space?
Correct, if an individual is in a space and has no connected device they would not be counted. It's 2025 though so the number of people walking around with no wifi enabled devices is virtually 0 at this point.

Do the devices have to be in use or just connected?
Just connected.

Lambent Spaces Q&A, continued

What is the plan to roll out this software (timeline and next buildings?)

The pilot is for 1 year, we will make decisions based on that, probably after 4-6 months so we have time for procurement and such. The next building will likely be Barnard due to the backfill needing to happen when Gianforte Hall opens.

Would you be comfortable with me sharing this information with faculty senate, and if so is there anything else you would like faculty to know?

I don't have any issue with you sharing the information with Faculty Senate. We are happy to answer questions if others come up, there

is nothing else specific that I can think of to share at this time.