Great Falls College MSU Faculty Senate Minutes Friday, September 27, 2019 10:00 a.m. Room B137

Members in Attendance

Faculty, Staff and Guests in Attendance

Doug Zander Mark Plante Roger Peffer Jana Parson Leonard Bates Brad Bechard Daisy Gibson Heidi Pasek Dugan Coburn Michael Shell Kate Peterson

I. Call to Order

Jana Parson calls meeting to order

II. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of minutes with edits from Leonard and Jana

III. Action Items

a. Policy 3.14 - Eagle Feather Ceremony and Distribution of Eagle Feathers, new policy - Dugan Coburn - Dugan discussed the levels of which students receive feathers, when they graduate high school, associates and a full headdress when they receive their bachelors, to give them incentive to continue on in their education. The Native American student group is going to pay for the costs that are associated with getting this policy in place. They need to be enrolled in a federally recognized tribe. Currently they have 90 feathers that they can distribute. They will have a representative from a surrounding tribe to present to the students. Kathy Meier is being trained at the point person for the process and the students will be doing the beading on the feathers. The question was raised if a student from an international indigenous tribe graduates, how that would be addressed; which Dugan states that student would receive a sash rather than a feather to avoid any customs issues that would occur. The College is able to use Dugan's permit for the eagle feathers for this ceremony. This policy was constructed by looking at other state and GFPS policies that have similar uses. It was ensured that this is culturally appropriate and legal and with this policy the college with be more in line with state and federal policies. Students who are able to participate must be enrolled/associated with or decedents of a tribe. The ceremony will take place the morning of graduation and takes approximately an hour. Last graduation there were 7 recipients and 90

attendees. They will work with the advisors to have them ask students if they would like to participate in the event rather than relying on email communications to generate interest.

This has been moved to a vote at next Faculty Senate meeting.

IV. <u>Vote</u>

V. Discussion Items

- a. Finding a way to increase CPBAC participation: finding senators to attend meetings, perhaps in rotation. CPBAC has asked Faculty Senate to fill the two open positions. Doug Zander stated he would talk to the trades faculty members to see about nominations and the Health Science would have a call out for nominations as well so all 3 divisions would be represented in the CPBAC.
- b. Changing Columbus Day on our local school calendar to align with Bozeman
 (Bozeman doesn't mention it http://www.montana.edu/registrar/academic-calendar/) Sent it to Julie Freshly to get on the agenda for the Calendar Committee
- c. Reports from standing committees. The standing committees that should be reporting are the committees which are listed in Faculty Senate's bylaws. It was also suggested to develop a closer relationship and formal interaction with Staff Senate.
- d. The Diversity and Inclusion statement review Establish a work group to periodically review and update the statement. Faculty Senate would like to work with the Division Directors to establish a scheduled yearly review date and time for the syllabus so there are not so many drafts sent for faculty members. It was also addressed that if needed the inclusion statement could be called the faculty inclusion statement on the syllabus to be compliant.

VI. Comment on Non-Agenda Items

VII. <u>Adjourn</u>

Meeting adjourns at 10:20 am