



Academic and Student Affairs Committee
Of the
Montana Board of Regents
Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2009
4:00 – 5:00 PM

Conference Call Meeting:
Helena: OCHE, 2500 Broadway

In Attendance: Regent Lynn Morrison-Hamilton, Regent Todd Buchanan, Regent Mitch Jessen, D'Ann Campbell, Brenda Hanson, Karl Ulrich, Nicole Hazelbaker, David Dooley, Joe Fedock, Leslie Taylor, Arlene Walker-Andrews, Royce Engstrom, Perry Brown, Pat Wise, Sylvia Moore, Cathy Swift

Information

- a. Identity theft policy proposal – to be listed on consent agenda for full May BOR meeting

Leslie Taylor briefly described the purpose of the proposed policy; the FCC requires certain entities to have a 'red flag' rule - a written identity theft program approved by a board of directors - in this case, the Board of Regents. The proposed policy is written with enough flexibility for campuses to design institution-specific programs. Regent Hamilton asked if there was any additional risk to the MUS in having a policy in place, Leslie responded that it does not increase the risk any more than NOT having a policy. Identity theft is a current reality and threat, posting a method of securing information, without too much detail, probably will not increase this risk.

- b. Level I memorandum

Regent Hamilton asked why FVCC was requesting a 'named' A.A. degree exception, as A.A. degrees are designed specifically for transfer. Brenda Hanson from FVCC responded that the proposal was put forward this way at the suggestion of OCHE staff because Montana Code requires an A.A. in Substance Abuse Counseling.

Regent Hamilton voiced concern regarding the possible duplication of programs in regard to MSU Billings COT request for an additional welding certificate. Provost Campbell assured Regent Hamilton that this is in response to local need, with a grant from the Montana Department of Labor being used to purchase all necessary equipment. She also suggested that this is a second year certificate, unique in the state.

Deputy Commissioner Moe suggested the need to clarify the difference/distinctions between certificate programs and C.A.S. programs, she is addressing this currently in the policy audit.

Regent Hamilton requested to move the MSU Great Falls item on the level I memorandum from that memo on the consent agenda to the action agenda on the Academic & Student Affairs committee agenda. The intent is to allow more discussion among the full board.

Regent Hamilton asked about the MSU Great Falls ITEM143-2852+R0509, is phase out the same as placing the program into moratorium? Provost Pasek responded that the program is simply changing from an A.A.S. degree to a C.A.S. degree due to requests from local employers. She assured the Regents that students currently in the A.A.S. program will be able to complete that degree.



Regent Hamilton asked whether the Institute for Leadership and Public Service is a new organization to be established that would need approval by the Board of Regents, or if it is simply mis-referenced in the award letter and is a program within the Mansfield Center. Provost Engstrom will research the item and will bring an action item forward, if necessary, for the next Regents' meeting.

Regent Buchanan asked for more information regarding the work Deputy Commissioner Moe is doing for the policy audit, especially regarding the designations C.A.S & certificate program.

Action Items - To be approved/denied by full Board at May meeting

a. Revision of Policy 706.1; Faculty Tenure

The language in policy 706.1 was adjusted in order to give flexibility to campuses as they compete nationally for highly qualified faculty who have already attained tenure at prestigious institutions;

The campus shall normally require four academic years of full-time service at the campus before making an award of continuous tenure. Exceptionally meritorious cases may be brought earlier to the board if supported by the campus's promotion and tenure process and recommended by the Chief Academic Officer and President.

Regent Hamilton requested clarification of the language on the last page, item 3 – that the exceptions written into the policy through these changes relate only to faculty positions, not to administrative positions which must still qualify for tenure under the original terms of this policy. OCHE Legal Counsel assured Regent Hamilton that tenure applies only to faculty appointments – administrative duties are separate.

Persons hired into administrative positions from outside the MUS may be granted faculty tenure status in accordance with the terms of this policy.

b. Hamilton Higher Education Center

Regent Hamilton requested more information regarding tuition structure of the proposal. Provost Engstrom clarified that the UM higher education presence (which has yet to be named) will have the same tuition structure as is currently being used for the UM COT in Missoula. He also commented that for the past two years, the cost of providing courses in the Bitterroot Valley has exceeded revenue due to limited enrollment, and UM is currently covering the difference. The director of the currently-named Hamilton Higher Education Center was able to secure more than \$30,000 worth of scholarships to defray costs. Provost Engstrom assured Regent Hamilton that there is not a plan to charge additional distance learning fees to those students. Provost Engstrom reminded participants that this is an interim plan. The intent is to hire an interim director, and UM will continue, with the guidance of stakeholders, to develop the programming and structure of the center.

c. A.A.S. in Insurance, Miles Community College ITEM 142-402-R0309 ITEM 142-402-R0309_sm

There were no questions or concerns about this action item. However, Provost Engstrom announced that UM is currently working with PLUS (Professional Liability Underwriting Society) to implement a new certificate program in Professional Liability Insurance at the UM COT in Missoula and assured participants that this would not interfere with MCC's proposed insurance program.

d. A.A.S. in Biofuels Energy, Miles Community College ITEM 142-403-R0309 ITEM 142-403-R0309_sm



MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

There were no questions or concerns about this action item.

- e. Certificate of Applied Science in Computer Aided Design, UM-Missoula COT
ITEM 142-1008-R0309 ITEM 142-1008-R0309_sm

Regent Hamilton voiced concern about the proposed program, regarding duplication in the Computer Aided Design field, among multiple MUS campuses, including MSU Billings, TECH, MSUGF, and MSU Northern. Provost Campbell voiced her support of the program at UM COT, stating her belief that the market is local and that she had been consulted by UM during a meeting discussing collaboration in program development among the two-year campuses. Regent Hamilton reminded participants that in the current economic climate, the campuses MUST consider the cost of new programs – there must be very clear transfer/mobility of coursework. Vice Provost Walker-Andrews responded that in an effort to keep materials concise, she had not included the many letters from local businesses and the advisory board, supporting the creation of this program. She will have those available at the BOR meeting on May 28th. The participants from MT TECH also offered their support of this program, with the stipulation that if it evolves to become an associate degree program that they be consulted.

- f. Masters of Science in Geography, UM-Missoula, ITEM 142-1009-R0309 ITEM
142-1009-R0309_sm

There were no questions or concerns about this action item. Vice Provost Feddock voiced his support for this proposal.

Perry Brown asked for clarification regarding the item in the Academic & Student Affairs committee agenda, Research Administration & Oversight – is this a continuation of the discussion from the March Board meeting? Deputy Commissioner Moore responded that Chairman Barrett requested the item be added to the agenda without giving her much more detail than the title.” She assumes that it is a continuation of the previous discussion. Provost Engstrom requested that any further information and guidance regarding this item be communicated as soon as possible so campuses can be prepared for questions and concerns.

<p>Action may be taken on any item listed on the Board Agenda. Public comment is welcome on all items.</p>
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