

## **Adjunct Advisory Committee Meeting**

Oct 30, 2009 10:30- 11:30

In attendance: Elfie Neber, Jacque Evanson, Kim Schrenk, Courtney Johnsrud, Dennis Veleber, Kyle Gillespie, Renata Birkenbuel, Deb Richerson

Absent: Rich Rehberger, Lynn Ward, Angie Rolando, Michelle Storrusten, Sridhar Rajappan, Meredith Connie, Catherine Lowden

Minutes:

The phone bridge, intended to be the method of communication for those unable to come to campus, or who live in other parts of the country, was not working as intended and so many of the folks who are listed as absent would have attended had the technology been up and working as planned. Apologies are in order for those who had planned to attend but were unable due to this glitch. Arrangements will be made for the next meeting to be scheduled in a different room and have the phone bridge up and working prior to the meeting to ensure it will work so those people can attend.

We started with introductions around the room and a brief history of why the group was formed. The idea of “silver buckshot” rather than a “silver bullet” relates well to this committee as we work to tie in others from around campus and across distances to provide input and assist in making sure our adjuncts feel connected and an important part of what MSU – Great Falls is about. The more people we have involved in these efforts the greater the impact.

The mission statement was discussed, as Academic Senate had suggested that the group take a look at the mission statement and revise it if necessary. During the meeting, the group decided that the mission statement of: “One integrated body of faculty working toward a better student experience” was a good fit. Kim asked the group to continue thinking about it.

Adjunct Connection and Support was highlighted as an area of focus for this group to start with, as adjuncts have expressed that they didn’t feel very connected to campus when they first started here. The more recent invitations to participate in various activities around campus have been helpful. Some brief brainstorming was done and a recurring adjunct social/potluck was mentioned. It was also mentioned to think about how we might include adjuncts who teach from a distance or who must be at work during those times. Tree decoration around the holiday was also mentioned.

Adjunct involvement in student success attempts was briefly discussed and a few ideas went around the room (pizza parties to call students, etc...).

It was decided that committee meetings would occur twice per semester: once near the beginning and once right after the middle part of the semester. This would allow the group to collect input early enough in the semester and move forward with projects with time to implement them. The next meeting will be scheduled during the end fall semester FOA days.

A regular part of future agendas will be brief updates from several other groups, to keep the advisory committee informed of other campus efforts:

Division Director's- Kim

Academic Operations -Kim

Student Success Advisory Council - Courtney

The next project coming up related to adjunct faculty will be the Adjunct Feedback Survey. Kim will be looking for input regarding the adjunct feedback survey and questions that will go out in December. The questions will be discussed at the next meeting, prior to going out.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

*Next meeting TBA- during fall Faculty Orientation and Advising days in December.*