

## **Minutes**

### **Montana University System Staff Association (MUSSA)**

#### **11/29/12 Teleconference**

#### **Present:**

Christy Aamold and Janice Ouldhouse (MSU-Billings representatives)

Shana Wold (Montana State University representative)

Jane Stuart and Belinda Potter (MSU-Northern representatives)

Mary Ann George (Helena College representative)

Darlene Samson and Hannah Singleton (University of Montana representatives)

Also present: Judy Wellert (UM Staff Senate Administrative Associate)

Present for the first half of the meeting: Carol Bates (UM Staff Senate Secretary)

In the absence of an officer, Darlene Samson called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Everyone introduced themselves. The teleconference system worked well at each location – everyone was able to see and hear each other.

Darlene Samson called for nominations for MUSSA Chair. Two candidates were nominated: Christy Aamold (Billings) and Bill Van Horn (Bozeman). Christy received the majority of votes and will serve as MUSSA Chair. Bill was nominated as Vice Chair and was elected unanimously.

Christy Aamold took over leadership of the meeting and led a review of the drafts of the MUSSA Bylaws. Representatives discussed and unanimously approved wording for each section. Judy Wellert will send the new draft to all MUSSA representatives by December 3. If anyone has corrections or questions about the draft, please forward those questions to all representatives by December 7 for discussion via e-mail. If no corrections or changes are needed, the current Bylaws draft will be considered approved by MUSSA.

The representatives noted three goals for the business operations of MUSSA:

- That MUSSA will represent all campuses of MUS;
- That nominations for MUSSA officers will be made with adequate advance notice before elections;
- That more Senators will attend MUSSA meetings to become familiar with the work of MUSSA.

The representatives approved the plan by the Governor under House Bill 13 to advocate for a 5% pay increase over the next two years. Shana Wold has submitted a variety of anonymous staff “stories” to lobbyists for the upcoming legislative session. She will send those stories to MUSSA representatives.

MSU and Billings Staff Senates are both working to compare the income for various job classification codes between MUS employees and community/state/national employees to demonstrate areas where MUS employees are underpaid. UM Staff Senate has conducted a survey of their classified staff to identify factors that contribute to job satisfaction or dissatisfaction. MUSSA plans to share these reports with the Board of Regents at the January 8 BoR meeting in Helena. MUSSA representatives will meet at 8 a.m. on January 8 to prepare for a lunchtime presentation. Joan Ford is asked to find a meeting place.

MUSSA will vote via e-mail whether to ask Tammy Yedinak and Kevin Thane to come to the January 8 Board of Regents meeting as ex-officio attendees.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15.