

Advisory Council Minutes

Date: March 26, 2026

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Present: Gregory D. Kegel, Jennifer Brown, Chris Wendland, Belinda Potter, Christian Oberquell, Eva Stokes, Grant Olson, Jodi Kueffler, Josh Gomez, Kasthuri Udayakumar, Laura Gomez, Lindsey Brandt-Bennett, Lourdes Caven, Rebecca Farr, Steven Don, Taryn Wallon, Valerie Guyant

October 30, 2025 Minutes

A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented. Said motion was seconded and carried.

Policy Review

Policy #304 University Facilities Planning Board

Provost Brown presented Policy #304 University Facilities Planning Board, which updated the membership and review dates. Following discussion, a motion was made to accept the policy as presented. Said motion was seconded and carried.

Policy #701.1 Classified Employees: Leave During Closure of Campus for Emergency Reasons

Chancellor Kegel presented Policy #701.1 Classified Employees: Leave During Closure of Campus for Emergency Reasons, which updated review dates. Following discussion, a motion was made to accept the policy with editing revisions. Said motion was seconded and carried.

Policy #804.2 Faculty and Staff Tuition Waivers

Mr. Chris Wendland presented Policy #804.2 Faculty and Staff Tuition Waivers, which was tabled for further updates.

Policy #804.3 Course Fees

Mr. Wendland presented Policy #804.3 Course Fees, which was revised to follow Board of Regents Policy 940.12.1 along with updating the responsible party. Following discussion, a motion was made to accept the policy as presented. Said motion was seconded and carried.

Policy #903.6 Tailgating and Parking

Chancellor Kegel presented Policy #903.6 Tailgating and Parking, which updated the review dates. Following discussion, a motion was made to accept the policy as presented. Said motion was seconded and carried.

Policy #905.1 Office Hours

Chancellor Kegel presented Policy #905.1 Office Hours, which updated the responsible party and review dates. Following discussion, a motion was made to accept the policy as presented. Said motion was seconded and carried.

Policy #1001.3 Non-Employees in Work Place

Chancellor Kegel presented Policy #1001.3 Non-Employees in Work Place, which updated review dates. Following discussion, a motion was made to accept the policy with editing revisions. Said motion was second and carried.

Policy #1002.1 Campus Appearance of Political Candidate

Chancellor Kegel presented Policy #1002.1 Campus Appearance of Political Candidate, which updated review dates and editorial revisions in the policy. Following discussion, a motion was made to adopt the policy with additional editorial revisions. Said motion was seconded and carried.

Policy #1004.1 Mail

Mr. Wendland presented Policy #1004.1 Mail, which updated review dates, responsible party and added clarifying language. Following discussion, a motion was made to adopt the policy with additional editorial revisions. Said motion was seconded and carried

Policy #1005.1 Sick Leave Fund

Ms. Rebecca Farr presented Policy #1005.1 Sick Leave Fund, which was tabled for clarification on the maximum time an employee may donate in a twelve (12) month period.

Updates/Announcements

Chancellor Kegel shared the spring semester is ramping up with events such as Spring Fling, Athletic Banquet, Powwow, Founders' Excellence Awards, Graduation, and Board of Regents.

Chancellor Kegel announced he will be attending the Inauguration of President Tessman at Montana State University next week.

Chancellor Kegel reported the planning for the Aurora Complex is ongoing.

Provost Brown shared that Dr. Chad Spangler is leading a research project focusing on resting metabolism.

Provost Brown announced that Summer Traffic Education will have a special offering in Miles City this summer.

Provost Brown reported Graduate Council is currently reviewing graduate programs.

Mr. Wendland shared the present law adjustment worksheets are out to begin preparing for the next biennium.

Dean Steven Don invited everyone to the GENCO sponsored BBQ on May 5th at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Christian Oberquell reported the coaches are out recruiting with cross-country and football doing really well.

Dr. Grant Olson reported at the recent Board of Regents meeting, MUSFAR has a good discussion on dual enrollment and OCHE would like to have a statewide onboarding system.

Ms. Farr announced open enrollment for benefits will be opening soon.

Ms. Eva Stokes reported Pershing Hall construction is wrapping up and should be completed soon.

Mr. Josh Gomez reported the Spring Career Fair had 240 students and 63 employers attend.

Ms. Lourdes Caven shared they are preparing for upcoming changes to Pell Grants.

Ms. Belinda Potter reported the library has new printers that are efficient and fast.

Dr. Valerie Guyant announced we will be having Jeff Ament of Pearl Jam for our commencement speaker this year.

Dr. Guyant shared the International Poetry Night will be held April 22, 2026.

Dr. Kasthuri Udayakumar announced they are planning for the Nurses Pinning Ceremony.

VC Lindsey Brandt-Bennett announced the Perkins Grant deadline is Friday, March 27, 2026.

Dean of Students Taryn Wallon shared the Student Excellence Awards deadline is Friday, March 27, 2026.

Next Meeting: August 27, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.