Chronology of Shared Governance Highlights at UWEC, 1931-1987


- 1931—tenure policy established; tenure granted after two years of probationary service
- 1943—Administrative Council established, with faculty membership to advise President Davies
- 1948—Faculty Handbook published, listing faculty rights and responsibilities
- 1954—faculty ranks established (instructor; assistant professor; associate professor; professor); tenure awarded after completing four years of probationary service
- 1961—College Senate established (student majority; faculty minority) to advise President Haas
- 1964-65—Establishment of Faculty Senate, elected by University Faculty (all faculty and administrators with faculty appointments). Senate Committees included Executive; Academic Policies; Budget; Facilities; “Student Personnel.”
- 1964-66—Reorganization from Wisconsin State College-Eau Claire into Wisconsin State University-Eau Claire; separate schools with separate faculty appointments, and with separate school curriculum committees: Arts & Sciences, Education, Business, Nursing;
- 1967—RST Committee (“Rank, Salary, Tenure”) established to review all reappointments, tenure decisions and promotions. Membership of RST Committee=President Haas, Vice President for Academic Affairs Hibbard, relevant school dean, relevant department chair
- 1968-70—in response to Roth case from WSU-Oshkosh, State University Board of Regents approved due process appeals for probationary faculty in denial-of-tenure decisions
- 1970—Faculty Senate voted to accept an ROTC program on campus; University Faculty voted to overrule Faculty Senate.
- 1971-73—merger of Wisconsin State Universities and University of Wisconsin; Chapter 36 (1973-74) gave faculty primary responsibility for the curriculum and for faculty personnel decision; Chapter 36 established that candidates for tenure needed an affirmative vote from their department faculty. Department Personnel Committee established for every academic department; tenure decision made in sixth year of service. New personnel category of “Academic Staff” established; academic staff invited to take part in “institutional governance”
- 1972—Faculty Senate overhaul of General Education, replaced by “General Studies”
- 1973—Faculty Senate established Faculty Complaint, Grievance, and Termination Committee
- 1973-74—Chancellor Haas notified eight UWEC tenured faculty they would be dismissed because of enrollment changes (later rescinded)
- 1974—Faculty Senate appointed “University Target Average Committee” (UTAC) to review and revise student credit hour/faculty member targets for every department
- 1975—Legislature established that the UW Board of Regents may only dismiss tenured faculty for a) “just cause”; and b) “financial emergency”
- 1978—“General Studies” revised back to “General Education”
- 1980—First faculty-led chancellor search and screen committee (12 of 17 committee members were faculty)
- 1981—First faculty-led chancellor search and screen committee
- 1983—Faculty Senate established University Administrator Review Committee
- 1985-86—Ad Hoc Committee to Revise Faculty Senate; resulted in recommendation to include academic staff in shared governance
- 1987—University Senate constitution passed; University Senate represents faculty and academic staff