University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire
University Senate Executive Committee

Minutes from April 4, 2000
Volume 36, Number 10

Present: Andrea Gapko, Margaret Hallatt, Susan Harrison, Gretchen Hutterli, Kate Lang, Tim Leutwiler, Barbara MacBriar, Donald Mash, John Melrose, Mark Olsen, Cleo Powers, Connie Russell, Todd Stephens, Steve Tallant

Absent: Ronald Satz

Guests: Jan Morse

The meeting was called to order by Chair Harrison at 3:02 p.m. in Schofield 202.

1. Minutes of March 7, 2000 were approved as distributed

2. Open Forum Issues
   • Committee members suggested the following rationale for classes beginning at 6:00 p.m. on the Monday after April Break
     • Gives students traveling long distances time to enjoy Easter with family and then return to campus Monday
     • Allows Monday evening classes to meet, thereby not canceling equivalent of full week of class
     • Classes held earlier in afternoon (3:00, 4:00, or 5:00) may have counterpart that meets earlier
       • Not holding these classes keeps sections of classes even
   • Availability of present and past college catalogues
     • Brought to attention by several students that Registration Office is out of current catalogues
     • Available on web site, but not the same
     • At times also a problem to find copies of old catalogues
     • As of last week, catalogues still available from Admissions Office
     • Responsibility for catalogue shifted to Registration, unknown who determines number ordered
     • This is first Chancellor Mash has heard of problem
       • Will look into matter since important that catalogue readily available
   • Question raised about distinct faculty/academic staff designations in schedule of classes
     • Came out of statewide Accountability Task Force
       • Was problem in Madison relating to faculty versus graduate assistants teaching classes
     • Probably will end that designation in future

3. Tentative agenda for April 11, 2000 meeting of University Senate
   • Two motions added to Academic Policies Committee Report
     • Entitlement to plan major in performing arts
     • Academic distinction for part-time students
   • Consensus to refer Student Senate resolution on clarification of Service Learning to Academic Policies Committee rather than put on agenda for full Senate
   • Chancellor Mash will include short presentation regarding services and supplies budget as part of his remarks

4. Brainstorming for Advising open discussion to be held at end of April 11th University Senate meeting
   • Could start discussion by looking at University Senate motions of October 1996
   • Requested input from Advising, Academic Policies Committee and Student Senate
   • Would like to know what exists around campus to get better sense of concerns
     • What are expectations across campus?
     • How is advising load distributed in departments across campus?
   • Inclusion of advising in Department Personnel Plans
   • Report on number of advisees is obtainable; not necessarily indicative of workload
• Advising comes under Personnel rules  
  • Under authority of shared governance with chancellor and regents signing off  
• Move into gray area where departments have had responsibility to this point  
  • Will be spirited discussion if change suggested  
• Student surveys indicate need to improve advising  
• No understanding of what good advising is  
  • Much inconsistency  
  • Different perceptions for different programs  
• Internal department reviews do cover advising  
  • Determine whether standards met, so is some accountability there  
• Defining/evaluating advising may be avoided because harder to come to consensus on that than other three areas of teaching, research and service  
• Katharine Rhoades of Foundations of Education has done a study on advising  
  • Available in College of Professional Studies Dean’s Office  
• Equity in advising loads is huge issue  
• Advising in relation to retention/perception of students  
  • Need to be concerned if interested in retention  
• Complexity of degree plans also an issue  
  • Frustrating to students who then consider it an advising problem  
• Students vote with feet on who is good advisor  
  • Need incentives to support quality advising  
• Other areas of advising hard to quantify but all take time  
  • Career advising of students  
  • Advising of prospective students and their parents  
  • Advising that borders on counseling  
  • Difficult issue of when and effect of referral  
• Perhaps listing of best practices would address some of these issues  
• Standards for advising are available  
• Two weeks before classes in fall would be good time for advising inservice  
• Topic on Board of Regent agenda this week  
  • Also topic of credit to completion of degree discussion  
  • Advising initiative in budget request  
  • Will be listening to students  
• Administration needs to illustrate advising valued by rewarding good advising  
  • Handbook provides for department to weight advising  
  • Model of outstanding advising from top would not hurt  
• Advising not currently considered in compensation plan  
  • Perhaps should be included although plan already complex  
• Student Senate has passed initiative on ‘Advising your Adviser’  
  • Student Senate Outstanding Advising Award  
  • Renamed to Owen Marshall Award  
  • Awarded to Harvey Gunderson from Management and Marketing  
• Advising should be covered in recruitment process for new faculty  
• Possibility of faculty working in their strong area be it research, or advising, or service and not made to fit in mold as established  
• Decentralization of decision making makes it difficult to improve the system  
  • Perhaps illustrates place for guidelines  
• Advising load currently doesn’t count toward student credit hours  
  • Perhaps need to have formula to provide for that  
• School of Nursing alternative pay plan at one time included option to weight one area an extra 10%  
  • Could be advising  
• Need to have some flexibility at department level
5. New Business - None

6. Announcements – None

7. Adjournment at 3:51 p.m. to Cargill Technology center for completion of university marketing plan survey

Respectfully submitted by,

Wanda Schulner
Secretary to the University Senate