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

1. Without objection, minutes of February 19, 2002 approved as distributed

2. Open Forum
   - Kathie Schneider to receive Regents’ Academic Staff Award on April 4th in Madison

3. Review of tentative agenda for March 12, 2002 meeting of University Senate
   - Academic staff somewhat surprised at last Senate meeting when ruling made that faculty would vote on makeup of Academic Staff Personnel Committee
     - While is a constitutional change, seems to be conflict between state statutes, constitution, and bylaws (handout distributed)
       - Constitution says University Senate shall create and maintain standing committees
       - Bylaws of Academic Staff say University Academic Staff committees established by constitution shall arrange for their own organization, officers, and schedule of meetings
       - According to system legal, state statutes prevail over constitution which has precedence over bylaws
       - Chapter 36 states academic staff members have primary responsibility for formulation and review, and shall be represented in development, of all policies and procedures concerning academic staff members, including academic staff personnel matters and that they have the right to organize themselves in a manner they determine and to select their representation to participate in institutional governance
       - Not only academic staff matter; would also mean academic staff would vote for membership of Faculty Personnel Committee and Academic Policies Committee
     - Chair Harrison noted ruling was based upon procedures for amendment of constitution and University Senate bylaw stating committees set up by the constitution shall arrange for their own organization, officers, and schedule of meetings (handout distributed)
       - Since Academic Staff Personnel Committee is a University Senate committee, its structure is under ownership of University Senate, and all members of that body would vote
       - When structure of University Senate last changed in 1998, entire body voted on structure of all University Senate committees
     - Academic staff personnel matters are muddied because areas overlap in case of instructional academic staff (IAS) with faculty status
       - Have governance rights with faculty, but retain personnel rights with academic staff
       - Evaluated by faculty according to academic staff personnel policy
     - Question of who votes boils down to letter of the law vs. spirit of the law
     - Somewhat concerned about academic staff with faculty status having dual voting opportunity
     - Handout delineating IAS personnel policies distributed; establishes rationale for IAS voting on both sides
     - Question remains where ownership of structure of committees of University Senate lies
     - Academic staff right to organize exercised when chose to combine into University Senate
     - Support vote by academic staff only because they have primary responsibility for academic staff personnel policy
Although discussion would be by full Senate, believe structure of personnel committee to be part of personnel policy
Do not consider committee structure to be personnel policy; see distinction between structure and function
If have single Senate, then have a single representative body
Would hope faculty would respect work of Academic Staff Personnel Committee and be willing to vote that way
- Did not get sense at meeting that would necessarily be any other way
When seeking legal opinion, can make big difference what and how question submitted
- Must come from provost’s office in writing to be official opinion
- Important to raise question you want answered
Have one constitution, but are separate articles pertaining to faculty and academic staff
Precedence has been set, think should take chance and leave as chair ruled
This is not personnel policy, it is how Senate works
Could always vote to change constitution
Because of numbers in Senate, if situation reversed and academic staff allowed to vote on faculty committee structure, their vote would not make any difference; here it will
- Could make a difference if faculty split on issue
Willing to live with ruling to have entire University Senate vote to avoid putting issue off another year
- If voted down, could come back next time and discuss again
Possibility for action
1) Could take unified vote
2) Then have Provost Satz ask system when changes are made to University Senate committees, who should be voting
3) Based on that response, could determine if want to change language in constitution
Should ask legal if way vote on committees violates faculty or academic staff rights in Chapter 36
Would be interesting to see legal opinion because need to send all information so someone can understand and make knowledgeable decision
Last sentence on single page handout seems to be determining; that University Senate committees arrange for their own organization, officers, and schedule of meetings
If has not been problem before, might want to think carefully about what you do and what options might do to University Senate
Is provision in Robert’s Rules to ask for and record vote of minority on any given issue
Please be aware that literally holding up catalogue for admissions revision on agenda – would hope could get that through Senate at this meeting
Presentation of GE package
- Came from Academic Policies Committee (APC) with one explanation and then five parts
- Question is how to vote on package – on each motion, or on whole
- Robert’s Rules allows for presentation as one package
  - Question can only be divided if each part can stand alone
  - Items four and five refer to items one and two so cannot stand alone
- Each motion was dealt with individually by APC, but did present to Senate as a package
  - How presented is up to person at moment of framing the motions
  - Instead of dividing the question, also have the option of amending any of the motions
- Robert’s Rules also allow for consideration by paragraph to consider and debate each item individually, but vote on whole package
  - Will touch base with Barbara Lozar, Chair of APC, to determine how will be presented

4. Publicizing Open Discussion of March 19, 2002 – Chat with the Chancellor
- Will put in University Bulletin and distribute individual flyers to faculty and academic staff
- Will attempt to find room other than Schofield Auditorium

5. Miscellaneous Business
- Lots of questions on campus about early retirement and what being said and done with that
  - Was article in Milwaukee Journal discussing possibility
    - Senate Democrats have asked for a study to be sent to actuaries on ramifications of a five-year window
• Republicans are looking at freezing all government salaries
• Articles about budget implications are being published in *University Bulletin* each week; next one will address that issue, but no definitive answers at this point
• Chairs and deans also getting information on a weekly basis, including legislative update on such matters
• Historically such actions have not saved as much money as predicted

6. Announcements
• Women’s History Month in full swing with great slate of activities

Meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Wanda Schulner
Secretary to the University Senate