Present: Don Bredle, Robert Erffmeyer, Andrea Gapko, Susan Harrison, Robert Hooper, Rose Jadack, Donald Mash, Andrew Phillips, Connie Russell, Ronald Satz, Kathie Schneider, Nick Smiar, Alex Smith, Todd Stephens, Karen Welch, Jean Wilcox

Guests: Jan Morse, Andrew Soll

The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Harrison at 3:02 p.m. on Tuesday, October 7, 2003 in Schofield Hall, Room 202.

1. Minutes of September 16, 2003 approved as distributed

2. Open Forum – No Items

3. Review of tentative agenda for October 14, 2003 meeting of University Senate
   • Approved as distributed with addition of Academic Staff Personnel Committee motion

4. Calendar Guidelines for Developing Academic Calendars in less than Ideal Years
   • After major discussion and then overturning of academic calendar 2004-2005, was suggested Senate look at calendar issues to set guidelines/priorities prior to considering specific calendars
   • Administrative Officer Morse distributed State, System, and UWEC Guidelines and sample calendars
     • Key problems have been
       • Uneven semesters
         • Tough to avoid if start after September 1st and finish before Christmas
       • Commencement also problematic
       • Get major complaints if too near holidays and/or split exams around commencement
       • Difficult to fit Winterim in without backing it up to first day of spring semester
       • Fall Break complicates picture more; although supported as mental health day
       • This year backed off faculty returning two weeks prior to start of classes
       • Also problem of scientists or any classes with labs and multiple sections
       • Everyone agrees on principles, it’s when they can’t all be met that problems arise
     • Don’t think more rules and regulations necessary; stick with guidelines that allow flexibility
   • Consensus reached to bring working draft of calendar for 2005-2006 to next Executive Committee meeting and forward more finalized version to full Senate
     • Chair will generate list of items for possible discussion that arose in past Senate discussions

5. Discussion of College/School Representation on Senate Committees
   • Suspended rules number of times during elections because slate did not include more nominees than number of vacancies
     • Shouldn’t have to suspend rules regularly
     • Either change rules or fix problem permanently
   • Still see input from schools and colleges as key
   • One possibility is to require committees to have
     • A majority of members be senators
     • A senator as chair
     • Representatives from specific areas elected by and from those areas at-large
     • Any-area members from Senate
- Basically like Academic Staff and Faculty Personnel Committee are now; works fine
- Having representatives be from colleges rather than schools may lessen burden
  - Already is case with College of Business
- Schools and Colleges reluctant to give up representation on committees
  - Partially healing process from when College of Professional Studies formed
- Would like to see committee membership opened up so more people could serve; not limiting membership to senators
- Also wonder why administrative appointees have vote on committees; other campuses surprised to find that the case
  - Not many other campuses have University Senates; mostly separate Faculty or Academic Staff Senates
- Have always gotten enough people to staff committees; don’t see them here saying they have had it
- Year ago inquired of deans whether this needed to change – got no response
- Could ask schools/colleges to discuss – have it on agenda of school/college meeting
  - Not opposed to non-senators being selected by schools and college and sent to committees
- Should first do survey of some sort to determine whether people would be interested in serving on committees if did not have to be a senator
  - Shame to rework everything and still not be able to get people to run for committees
- When served on University Nominating Committee, pool of people willing to run tended to be senators
- Little duplication on committees
  - Student Life Committee disbanded several years ago because of duplication
- No positions have remained empty for a full year
- Logical that if can’t get someone to serve, then get someone from College in general to serve – for example, would rather have a non-senator than non-education member
- Advantages to having committees being mostly senators include knowledge of what is going on, shared governance, global thinking, and hearing different perspectives
- Non-members can also have voice heard as all committee meetings are open; if interested can attend
  - People not always inclined to do this
- Seems could simplify structure so not every position pigeonholed as currently the case at Eau Claire

6. Miscellaneous Business – None

7. Announcements – None

8. Moved by Nick Smiar and seconded at 3:52 p.m. that the committee go into closed session under Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(c) to consult on appointments to the University Research and Creative Activity Council, the Professional Development Advisory Committee, the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, and the University Planning Committee.

Motion PASSED unanimously by affirmative votes from following members: Robert Hooper, Robert Erffmeyer, Don Bredle, Ron Satz, Todd Stephens, Andy Phillips, Kathie Schneider, Andrea Gapko, Rose Jadack, Jean Wilcox, Connie Russell, Karen Welch, Nick Smiar, Susan Harrison, and Alex Smith.

Chancellor Mash present to hear comments on appointments to University Planning Committee. Comments concerning other committees to be relayed to Assistant Vice Chancellor Lind.

Meeting adjourned out of closed session at 4:00 p.m.

Wanda Schulner
Secretary to the University Senate