The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Harrison at 3:02 p.m. on Tuesday, September 20, 2005 in the Presidents Room of Davies Center.

1. Minutes of September 6, 2005 approved as distributed
   • Introduction of new committee members

2. Open Forum
   • Senator Dave Zien, member of state building commission, will be on campus Monday
     • To tour new Materials Science Center
     • To tour Brewer Hall/Campus School to set stage for new academic building
     • Will also be shown good things being done here

3. Review of tentative agenda for September 27, 2005 meeting of University Senate
   • Nominations for vacancies on university committees also to be taken from floor
     • If no further nominations, elections to be held immediately; in case of further nominations, elections postponed to next meeting
   • Tentative agenda approved as distributed

4. Possible Issues to be considered by Executive Committee this Session
   • Letters in packets to all new committee chairs listed items from senate survey, reviews scheduled by past actions, or other items for committee consideration brought to attention of senate chair
   • Executive Committee letter includes
     • Following items from senate survey
       • Process of making strategic plans operational
       • Review of shared governance to see if fact or fiction
       • Suggestion for limiting debate and speaking terms
         • Incorporated into procedures for second readings without objection at first senate meeting
       • Suggestion for orientation for new senators
         • Also tried to cover in first senate meeting
     • Calendar item from discussion over last several years – suggested several times that seven fall calendars, which are generally most problematic, to cover all possibilities be approved by senate to negate need for debating year after year
       • Subcommittee of Mitchell Freymiller, Jennifer Lee, and Susan Harrison to look into issue
     • Web portfolio brought up as possible topic – see very little participation on part of students
       • Portfolios linked to assessment of student learning and goals of baccalaureate; looking to faculty to help students understand importance and significance of completing them
       • Currently participation strongly recommended to be good citizen of university; many students will not do until forced
• Actual numbers not immediately known, but are large number of participants from majors that push online portfolios

5. Miscellaneous Business
• Distribution of Affirmative Action Plan Summary
  • Direct questions to Director of Affirmative Action
• Guidance on Gallery Privileges
  • According to Robert’s Rules, only members of body permitted to speak at meetings unless chair specifically asks question or senator yields speaking term to people in gallery
  • Have gotten several comments regarding slightly more liberal use of gallery speakers last session; would like to hear comments from committee
    • Use of people in gallery to ensure accurate information not a problem
    • Encourage calling on gallery to get all information possible for shared governance process
    • Some things could as easily be said by senator themselves
    • Perhaps after senate has completed deliberations, chair could ask for commentary from gallery
    • University Senate open forum held in Executive Committee, unlike Student Senate open forum, which takes place at senate meeting itself
    • Comments may be result of controversial topics of last spring; don’t see including speakers from gallery as major problem
  • Consensus reached to continue with more relaxed policy and consider again if problems arise
• Chancellor spent time at senate meeting going through eight points of Board of Regents Review of Employment Policies and Practices – BOR document distributed to committee
  • Need to send campus reaction to those eight points contained in document to system by end of September
  • Process of discussing at senate meeting, again at Executive Committee meeting, and then seeking input from personnel committees, both faculty and academic staff, to determine issues involved deemed appropriate by committee
  • Some of items would not be an issue for either faculty or academic staff
  • Item #2 requiring immediate investigation and disciplinary action of any employee charged with a felony was discussed at length in provosts’ meeting – concern was interface with due process if dealing with charges, not convictions
  • Chancellor sees issue of backup appointments covering only those people coming in without academic credentials for tenure
    • Issue becomes whether people willing to come here without those backup positions
    • Legislators seem to be moving toward idea of three to five year contracts for limited appointments
    • Hearing from other chancellors that concurrent/backup appointments unique to Wisconsin – most other states use multiple year contracts
    • Problem with multiple year contracts is end up buying poor performers out of contract – often costs much more than if used backup positions
    • Such buyouts would not fit principle of getting paid for not working
  • Item #6 on developing sick leave policy requiring health professional certification after a specific time period for sick leave use discussed with Jan Morse
    • System recommending employees be required to provide written certification from health care provider of medical necessity for use of sick leave for more than 10 consecutive full work days
    • Would not require breach of confidentiality of medical information
      • Medical information not required, and if provided would be kept distinct from personnel records
    • Policy straight-forward – issue is more with implementation
      • Who has responsibility for retaining records, and where?
      • Who pays for any extra required health care provider visits?
    • Family leave is separate issue – would depend upon whether paid or unpaid leave
      • Paid would have to meet rules of sick leave
      • Assume standard for pregnancy would be six weeks
    • Policy would not distinguish between physical and mental illness – would simply need certifying health professional
    • Consequences of not providing certification still to be worked out
6. Announcements – None

7. MOVED and seconded at 4:10 p.m. that the committee go into closed session under Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(c) to consult with Chancellor Larson on appointments to the University Planning Committee.

Motion PASSED unanimously by affirmative votes from following members: Michael Wick, Steve Tallant, Mitchell Freymiller, Connie Russell, Robert Hollon, Gloria Fennell, Andrea Gapko, Scott Robertson, Bruce Lo, Judy Blackstone, Jennifer Lee, Rose Jadack, Susan Harrison (Todd Stephens left meeting prior to closed session).

Chancellor Larson present to hear committee comments on possible appointments.

Meeting adjourned out of closed session at 4:13 p.m.

Submitted by,

Wanda Schulner
Secretary of the University Senate