The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Harrison at 3:03 p.m. on Tuesday, November 15, 2005 in the Presidents Room of Davies Center.

1. Minutes of November 1, 2005 approved as distributed

2. Open Forum
   - Interesting that State Senator Kreibich and Governor Doyle support adding non-traditional student to Board of Regents at same time position dealing with these students cut at UW-Eau Claire
     - Interim Provost Tallant responded that vacated position was not filled due to first phase of budget reductions which could not touch classroom positions
     - Cut vacated positions so would not have to resort to layoffs
     - Did take heat for decision not to fill that particular position
     - Currently position being funded out of money in that office
     - Also working on proposal with Chippewa Valley Technical College for joint position

3. Review of tentative agenda for November 22, 2005 meeting of University Senate
   - Will go with agenda as distributed with change in order of miscellaneous business to ensure catalogue copy items receive first readings and to reflect only those items passed by Academic Policies Committee

4. Selection of Administrators
   - Issue came out of shared governance group as result of lengthy process required for formation of search and screen committee to replace Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research and Sponsored Programs

MOTION by Vice Chair Gapko to forward revisions of search and screen committee formation process to full University Senate for approval seconded and passed without dissention (14 for, 0 against).

5. Discussion of October Frozen Files relative to Senate Make-up
   - Significant decrease in faculty numbers and increase in administrative and professional academic staff over last decade, as illustrated on chart distributed, discussed
     - Decrease in faculty positions terrible considering no corresponding reduction in student numbers
     - Only half of reduction appears to have been compensated for by increase in instructional academic staff
     - Increase in administrative and professional academic staff due to various factors
     - Positions resulting from new grants and other soft money
     - Chapter 37 faculty members, grandfathered in as faculty upon merger to a university system but fulfilling administrative and professional academic staff roles, replaced by academic staff upon retirement over past decade
     - By consensus, University Senate representation not changed for upcoming year

6. Miscellaneous Business
7. Announcements

- Interim Chancellor Larson reported UW-System President Reilly has asked state attorney general to rule on issue of resident assistants (RA) leading Bible study groups in their dorm rooms
  - Practice of limiting leading, organizing, or recruiting for religious, political and sales purposes by RA’s is long standing at this university
    - Applies only to RA’s place of employment (own dormitory); free to engage in those activities elsewhere
  - No current UW-System policy on issue
    - UW-Eau Claire not only institution in system to have such policies
    - UW-Madison has written policy; at UW-Eau Claire, policy not written, but presented at orientation of RA’s
  - At first thought issue would make ideal case study of first amendment rights at an academic institution
    - Has become heated and political instead of open discussion and internal review; has become major controversy of national proportions
  - Will revisit policy guided by attorney general’s decision and announce results
- University Senate Open Forum in two weeks to have three segments – how faculty advising viewed, how assessed, and how acknowledged and rewarded
  - Participation encouraged by Interim Provost Tallant

Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Submitted by,

Wanda Schulner
Secretary of the University Senate