University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
University Senate Executive Committee

Minutes from March 6, 2007
Volume 43, Number 10

Present: Judy Blackstone, Mitchell Freymiller, Andrea Gapko, Susan Harrison, Robert Hollon, Robert Hooper, Brian Levin-Stankevich, Donna Raleigh, Scott Robertson, Lois Taft, Michael Wick, Marty Wood

Absent: Meg Devine, Jennifer Lee, Steven Majstorovic, Steve Tallant

Guests: Mark Baccei, Donald Christian, Jan Morse, Andrew Phillips, Katherine Rhoades, Andrew Soll, Jan Stirm

The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Harrison at 3:08 p.m. on Tuesday, March 6, 2007 in the Presidents Room of Davies Center.

1. Minutes of February 20, 2007 approved as distributed

2. Open Forum
   - Member of English Department questioned department senator about Global Learning Community as reported at last senate meeting
     - Felt such program development should be driven by curricular needs
     - Including faculty and curricular development after the fact does not make sense
     - Would like to know how teaching will occur and how learning will be assessed
   - Mark Baccei, Hall Director for Katharine Thomas Hall, responded for Deb Newman, Associate Director of Housing
     - Program developed as result of research and what others in Wisconsin and United States doing
       - Currently no clear connection to academic outcomes
       - Title of living/learning community may be overstepping bounds of program; living community might be more correct
     - Still hoping to develop learning objectives with involvement of faculty
   - Discussion
     - Not a new concept – have had such living communities as far back as 1978
       - Concept also discussed in retention committee several years ago
     - If named learning community, should be centered in curriculum
     - Idea is to connect experiences in and out of classroom, however, at this point tie to curriculum not clearly defined
       - Intent was to foster appreciation for multiple cultures, and self-awareness and efficacy, and to create partnerships across campus
       - Did model after baccalaureate goals and felt there was some connection there
     - Strongly support living/learning communities – on other campuses often involves cohort living together and taking classes together
       - Encourage housing to move to that model as do not see curricular learning experience component here
     - In past, have had bridge program in summer as part of learning community – all classes in common first semester, but not living part
     - Do need to make curricular parts more intentional
     - Intend to use more active approach this year
       - Pamphlets were distributed to gain faculty interest and input for development of learning part with possible common classes
     - Strongly support developing curricular partnerships; however, is short-sighted to think learning only happening in classroom
       - Multicultural groups will always have learning
     - Heard from faculty supportive of concept, but dismayed that academic portions not present in current structure
3. Review of tentative agenda for March 13, 2007 and March 27, 2007 meetings of University Senate
   - Consensus reached to cancel senate meeting scheduled for March 13, 2007 and move all items on agenda to March 27, 2007 meeting
     - Promotion Eligibility motion referred back to Faculty Personnel Committee should be ready for second reading
     - Will be additional motion from Academic Staff Personnel Committee
     - Does not create problem as long as Growth Agenda endorsed prior to April Board of Regents meeting
     - Senate Office also granted permission to add any motions and agenda items that come up as will be no intervening meeting of Executive Committee due to spring break

4. Discussion of Support for UW System Growth Agenda
   - Most colleagues have officially endorsed

   MOTION by Vice Chair Gapko to support the resolution as distributed and forward it to University Senate for endorsement seconded and passed by vote of 9 for, 0 against.

5. Miscellaneous Business
   - Update on strategic planner position from Chancellor Levin-Stankevich
     - First choice for position unavailable; offer now out to one of other two candidates, but are some feasibility issues
     - Also talking to UW-Madison Office of Strategic Planning and Continuous Improvement about calling in contract people to facilitate brainstorming at chairs, directors, and other meetings to get issues on table while position is being filled

6. Announcements
   - None

Meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Submitted by,

Wanda Schulner
Secretary to the University Senate