The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Harrison at 3:06 p.m. on Tuesday, May 1, 2007 in the Presidents Room of Davies Center.

1. Minutes of April 17, 2007 approved as distributed

2. Open Forum
   - Introduction of Mary Jane Brukardt, Assistant to the Chancellor for Strategic Planning, who started on campus today
   - Chair Harrison indicated many contacts regarding national search for Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean of Graduate Studies; all wondered why search would not be internal for following reasons
     - Required familiarity with institutional personnel policies, including workings of Faculty Termination Review and Faculty Complaint and Grievance Committees
     - Required overall view of curriculum and academic programs
     - Understanding of campus culture required for part to play in strategic planning
     - Opportunity for advancement of faculty on campus
     - Position has consistently been filled by internal search
     - Save additional costs and energy expended in nationwide search
     - Comments and discussion from committee
       - One danger of internal-only search is that with current interim serving in position, may deter others from applying
       - Internal-only search could suppress additional applications from within and leave appearance that search is not wide open
       - If prevent external candidates from applying, do not know who is out there that is interested; may not get best possible candidate if restrict pool
       - If only internal candidates can apply, people would feel it is a done deal
       - May be less internal applicants if search is external
       - Are no system guidelines to cover this aspect of search
       - If do nationwide search, person hired has stood rigorous process to gain position
       - Chancellor Levin-Stankevich noted duties of this position generally completed by two people at this level at institutions of this size
         - Diversity has been consideration since outset of search
         - Provost will meet with committee to make determination whether to do internal or external search
         - Reconfiguring position is possibility; because of resources and FTE involved with separating duties, chancellor will not do unless strategic planning process shows a bottleneck at this level

3. Review of tentative agenda for May 8, 2007 meeting of University Senate
   - Senator Wood brought up possibility of including resolution in support of domestic partner health insurance benefits on senate agenda
     - Much of state seems ready for this
     - Our passing resolution would provide political support and cover for those at state level
     - Comments and discussion from committee
• When health insurance benefits provided for first six months of employment, individual institutions had to pick up cost of that benefit
• Domestic partner benefits would be decided at system level, not as institutional option; Vice Chancellor Soll indicated costs would not be passed on in same way
• This addition would require change in health insurance program and would have to be worked into specifications

MOTION by Senator Wood that resolution be included on senate agenda with support of Executive Committee seconded.

Debate
• Should add paragraphs to indicate support of Board of Regents and inclusion by governor in budget recommendation
• If motion passes, revised version with additional ‘whereases’ will be included on senate agenda

Motion PASSED by vote of 14 for, 0 against.

• No suggestions

5. Summer Responsibilities of University Senate Executive Committee Members
• Executive Committee may be called on behalf of University Senate during summer; can vote with full power of senate
• First meeting of Executive Committee in fall will be of current members; new members of committee will be elected at first senate meeting

6. Miscellaneous Business
• Vice Chair Gapko indicated system has made changes to recommendations on leave reporting guidelines
  • Changed part II.2.a. to reduce sick leave accrual on annual basis (instead of by payroll period) if employee failed to report leave usage during year and eliminated part II.2.e. which required refusal to certify sick leave conversion credits when an employee’s leave reporting was incomplete
  • So UW-Eau Claire response would change to eliminate response to part e. and require a grace period for submitting missing leave reports in part a.
• Administrative Officer Morse reported at meeting of human resources directors and unclassified personnel officers discussion included reporting leave by tenths of hours instead of hourly as indicated in document
  • Were basically applying classified rules to unclassified staff
  • Few others spoke up against such a move, so might want to strengthen language covering that part of proposal
  • Chair Harrison and Vice Chair Gapko will include stronger language in that portion of response
  • Chancellor will bring up subject with other chancellors when next meet

7. Announcements
• Provost Tallant announced that in second year of annual UW System liberal arts essay competition, UW-Eau Claire student Brian Reisinger was one of two winners and UWEC student Matt Brewer was one of three runners-up
  • Impressive showing for UW-Eau Claire

Meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Submitted by,

Wanda Schulner
Secretary to the University Senate