The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Wood at 3:03 p.m. on Tuesday, October 16, 2007 in the Alumni Room of Davies Center.

1. Minutes of October 2, 2007 approved as distributed

2. Open Forum
   • Question was asked about status of search and screen for associate vice chancellor position currently held by Andrew Phillips
     • Provost Tallant met with search and screen committee and suspended search pending resolution of budget and dramatic position changes that will be instituted following retirements of William Harms and Janice Morse
   • Area of Davies smells smoky due to air intake in vicinity of smoking area on veranda

3. Review of tentative agenda for October 23, 2007 meeting of University Senate
   • Agenda approved as distributed
   • Hope to complete motions on agenda in one reading to meet deadlines

4. Discussion of October Frozen Files relative to Senate Proportions
   • Graph distributed to illustrate number of faculty, instructional academic staff, and administrative and professional academic staff over past decade
   • Percentage of University Faculty to University Academic Staff now about 60% to 40%; respective percentages in senate are 65% to 35%
     • Don’t see reason to tamper with current numbers

MOTION by Vice Chair Gapko that accept report on October frozen files and leave senate representation as last year seconded.

Debate
   • Support motion, particularly as strategic planning process plays out; now is not the time for changes

Vote on Motion: Motion PASSED by vote of 14 for, 0 against.

Continued Discussion
   • Don’t want to lose second part of issue – concern for declining number of faculty
     • Would like to make certain that is part of strategic planning discussion so don’t end up like sister schools with minority of teaching positions held by faculty
   • Is some fluctuation of faculty numbers based on sabbaticals
     • Also results from quality reinvestment with elimination of faculty positions to bring up faculty salaries
Conversion of Chapter 37 faculty positions created as part of merger to academic staff positions as those faculty retired also removed academic staff positions from faculty ranks
- Does not take away fact that number of faculty has declined over past two decades
- Is complicated long-term trend resulting from variety of things, but still problematic

5. Miscellaneous Business
- Chancellor Levin-Stankevich indicated there was no new information on state budget
  - Assembly voted against governor's compromise budget
  - System preparing for worst case scenario – no state budget, in which case budget continues at last year’s level
  - Chancellors discussing all manner of options although two regents against any tuition increase including surcharge
  - Has been increased support for timely budget resolution from business leaders and others to get past failure of leadership in both parties
  - Don’t expect any movement toward compromise until after Friday rally by national anti-tax group
  - Even if do get compromise budget, will probably be budget gap of at least $25 million for UW System between what coming from state and increased cost to continue plus new initiatives
    - Do have indications from system that would be across the board reductions for all institutions
  - Decreasing number of students not always viable option because lose tuition dollars which can compound problem, as does not filling residence halls, etc.

6. Announcements
- Calendar to come back to Executive Committee at next meeting when Pam Scheible available

Meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

Submitted by,

Wanda Schulner
Secretary of the University Senate