University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire  
University Senate Executive Committee  
Minutes from October 7, 2008  
Volume 45, Number 3

Present: Jennifer Brockpahler, Mitchell Freymiller, Andrea Gapko, Susan Harrison, Rose Jadack, Jeff Janot, Brian Levin-Stankevich, Brian Mahoney, John Mann, Sean McAleer, Rick Richmond, Linda Spaeth, Todd Stephens, Jan Stirm, Chuck Tomkovick, Marty Wood

Absent: 

Guests: Donald Christian, Gail Scukanec

The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Interim Chair Harrison at 3:02 p.m. on Tuesday, October 7, 2008 in the Alumni Room of Davies Center.

1. Minutes of September 16, 2008 approved as distributed

2. Open Forum
   - None

3. Review of Tentative Agenda for October 14, 2008 meeting of the University Senate
   - Approved as distributed

4. Suggested bylaw language to facilitate low college representation on University Senate
   - Request came from the College of Nursing and Health Sciences as there is not enough representation
   - At least 3 Senate committees require the CoNHS have representation and there are not enough senators from the CoNHS to fill the positions on those committees
   - If there is a change in department representation it would require a constitutional change
   - The way the suggested change is written it is only a bylaw change
   - Should look at frozen file numbers to verify proportions
   - Need to look at the make-up of Senate representation
   - Think about Senate as a whole this year
   - There are 16 additional IAS without faculty status and 1 less IAS with faculty status this year
   - Academic staff have increased from 278 to 295
   - At-large and IAS have certain representation on Senate
   - If Senate is restructured this change would not have too large of an impact
   - 10 at-large senators, with 6 spoken for so think about if 3 is enough or if there should be 4 so they would have a choice on what committee they would like to sit on

5. Discussion of requiring biographies on election ballots
   - Nice way to learn about colleagues
   - Feedback from colleagues was that they really liked it
   - Shouldn’t be mandatory but do support the idea
   - Spoke against it because of the timing, not the concept
   - Like the idea of recommending it but not requiring it
   - Make the link in the email more obvious
   - Shouldn’t have it for all committees but would be nice for university-wide committees as many don’t know people from across campus
   - Should have bios for university-wide committees or high profile searches/committees
   - Interim-Senate Chair will come back with language to look at for the next Executive meeting

6. Miscellaneous Business
• Diversity Awards
  • In the opening meeting, the faculty nominee was mentioned but the academic staff nominee was not mentioned
  • There is a formal process for how candidates are selected
  • Can send up to 3 names
  • Email about the Diversity Awards may have been sent by Affirmative Action office
  • One nominee last year got name by working through the Chancellor’s Diversity Advisement Council
  • Email states that there are 3 separate opportunities for nominations
  • Chancellor or Provost to get something in place
• Putnam Park Commission
  • Since the Physical Plant Planning Committee does not have any active members the Putnam Park Commission is missing one member
  • Question raised asking if the Executive Committee should search out volunteers to serve as a liaison on this committee
  • Should get committee connection
  • If someone is already on the Putnam Park Commission they can share information with the Executive Committee
  • Might want to reestablish the Physical Plant Planning Committee
  • Physical Plant Planning Committee may have no place in governance as it does not involve any personnel or curriculum issues
  • There is a need to look at the numbers of committees and the committee structures in order to tailor down the committees
  • Interim-Chair will contact Putnam Park UWEC committee members and ask them to share information with us

7. Announcements
  • None

Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Submitted by,

Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate