The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Harrison at 3:04 p.m. on Tuesday, November 17, 2009 in the Presidents Room of Davies Center.

1. Minutes of November 3, 2009 approved as distributed

2. Open Forum
   - Students can currently show their ID cards and get a discount at UWEC events
     - Would be nice to open this up to faculty/staff as well
     - Students get this benefit as they have student segregated fees that support this as well as having fundraisers to continue this program
     - Would be great but probably not financially feasible
     - May increase event attendance
     - Would be a nice gesture as instructors make accommodations for students on a regular basis
     - Are a couple of times per semester that faculty/staff are let into events at no charge
     - Worth looking into – Vice Chancellor Hellwig will inquire

3. Review of tentative agenda for November 24, 2009 University Senate meeting approved as distributed with permission to revise based on outcome of Executive Committee meeting

4. Blugold Commitment Update
   - Students groups formed out of the Student Senate brought forward a more concrete proposal
   - That gave a starting point and will go forward from there
   - They laid out a range and came up with what was workable
   - All points are subject to discussion at this point
   - Students focus was on oversight
   - Collaborative effort between Academic Affairs and the Student Senate
   - Has to be long term investments
   - Students want to make adjustments with the categories
     - Categories funded by differential tuition
     - Categories become hard in terms of what the money is spent on because it ultimately has to effect student/faculty ratio
   - Needs to make us a distinctive institution
   - Need more international experiences integrated
   - Will meet growth agenda items
   - Also built in financial assistance component
     - In any society we are paying for everybody else
     - Accommodated concern based on estimated family contribution
     - No way to please everyone
     - Fundamentally this is a tuition discount
     - Allows us to focus on scholarships
     - It all adds to the capacity of the institution
   - Cannot keep over performing before we start to erode
• Alumni understand the value of their degree and the doors it has opened for them
• To some extent we are leveling the playing field between UW-La Crosse and UW-Madison
• Purpose is to maintain quality and flexibility
• Need more resources and bodies to be the premier undergraduate institution in the upper Midwest
• Will be pressure to reduce time to degree no matter what but that is not the purpose of this
  • Improvement in advising and experiential experiences will improve time to degree
  • Students don’t want to be forced into this
• Students define how big of a pie slice goes into each category
• Through collective process we will see how we use the funds to be able to deliver
• Permanent positions as opposed to one time funding
• More sustainable model
• Will plateau after 2013/2014 but will not affect permanent positions as those are commitments
• Will have to pay and argue for additional FTE to cover benefits
• Fundamentally this becomes GPR money
  • May be a more stringent annual accountability
• Students have to be on board with this as well as the regents and the legislatures
  • Need their endorsement
• Cost compared to capacity to pay is askew compared to other states
• May create additional student jobs on campus
• Attempting to go face to face with students
• Want students to be informed

5. Speaking Rights Bylaw Revised
• Chair was asked to revise the language and bring it back
• Language sounds reasonable
• There is a difference in speaking rights versus speaking turns
  • A speaking turn gives a person one opportunity to speak

MOTION by Senator Freymiller to forward the Speaking Turns motion to the University Senate for discussion and debate, seconded and PASSED without dissention.

6. Ways to gather input for the Proposed Textbook Policy - Draft
• Want feedback from the campuses before it is sent to the regents
• VC Hellwig will send out a response from Candy Wilson from the bookstore
• Should not be asking reps to function as a governance body
• Senate should take a stand
• As a rental institution we should try to save students money
• Senator McAleer will inform Senate when giving the Faculty Representatives report and ask for feedback
• Need response by February 8, 2010

7. Continued discussion on language for committee membership consultation
• Sent out an email to those above the deans level to see what committees they are on and what committees report to them and got an excellent response back
• Put on hold until we look at the list
• All committees should be listed in the handbook
• If updates are done on a regular basis then it wouldn’t get so out of hand
• Send suggestions to Chair Harrison

8. Discussion of Senate Executive Committee membership
• Was mentioned that the Executive Committee membership could be made up of Committee Chairs
• This topic has been visited before
• Wouldn’t encourage anyone to be the Chair of a Committee
• Executive Committee could be a designated rep from each committee
• Don’t get the sense that our Executive Committee is failing to perform
In its current design we have the advantage of achieving a balance of faculty and academic staff in the membership of the committee and if changed there would be no guarantee of balance.

A lot of experience is gained by serving on Executive Committee, whether one has served on Senate or if they are in their first year.

General sense is that the existing membership of Senate Executive Committee is fine as is.

9. Miscellaneous Business
   - The Senate meeting originally scheduled for January 26, 2010 has no Executive meeting scheduled prior to it.
     - Option for a joint meeting with Faculty and Academic Staff to include an Open Dialog with the Chancellor and Provost.
     - Would be nice gesture to have treats and hot chocolate as well.
     - Chair Harrison will check to see if this can be accomplished.

10. Announcements
    - None

11. Adjournment

    Meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

Submitted by,

Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate