Present: Jason Anderson, Cathy Berry, Selika Ducksworth-Lawton, Julie Eklund, Mitch Freymiller, Marc Goulet, Martin Hanifin, Patricia Kleine, Abe Nahm, Anne Papalia, Geoffrey Peterson, John Pollitz, Jean Pratt, Sherrie Serros, Johannes Strohschänk, Ganga Vadavkar, Katie Wilson, Marty Wood

Absent: Julia Diggins, Beth Hellwig, Rose Jadack, James Schmidt

The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Freymiller at 3:04 p.m. on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 in the Chancellor’s Room of Davies Center.

1) Minutes of October 7, 2014 approved as distributed

2) Open Forum
   • Status of the Academic Year Calendar motion
     • Chancellor approval just arrived, but the implementation date needs to be changed
       • Academic Year Calendar motion cannot be implemented until 2017-18 because of UW System policy regarding the timetable for modifying academic year calendars
       • New calendars for 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 will be brought to Executive Committee for preview
       • Fall and Spring semesters will be equal length (14 full weeks) and Winterim will be expanded to 4 weeks, with a minimum of 18 contact days
       • New calendar permits other changes to be implemented
         • First day of Fall semester can occur on Wednesday after Labor Day
         • Wednesday before Thanksgiving can be added to Thanksgiving recess
       • These are merely guidelines to follow
       • At other schools, most calendars are developed in the Provost’s Office
       • Looking at several calendars with the guidelines in mind
       • It is a common misunderstanding that Commencement is the last day of the semester
   • Campus Clock
     • The old campus clock is being stored behind Phillips
     • When the Garfield Avenue Project is completed, it will be prominently displayed
   • LE Reform
     • Mike Carney sent out an email yesterday announcing an LE Reform site that will continually be enhanced
   • Out-of-Pocket Expenses for Health Care Premiums
     • The email that was sent to senators was to inform them to be aware that costs are rising; whether we can do anything about that is doubtful
     • Information sessions are being offered by Human Resources so people to know what choices there are available
   • Open enrollment period for same sex spouses is slightly longer

3) Review of tentative agenda for October 28, 2014 meeting of the University Senate
   • Approved as amended
   • Motions entitled “China Study Abroad” and “Thailand Study Abroad”, along with corresponding documents, should be presented during Reports, as “For the Record” items
   • Academic Policies Committee intends to present two additional motions
     • “Notice of Intent”
     • “Credit-Bearing Certificate Programs”
4) Update on THE FUTURE OF WISCONSIN’S PUBLIC REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE UNIVERSITIES: The Crossroads of the Affordable Quality Education Crisis
   • On October 16, 2014 Chair Freymiller attended the conference in Oshkosh
   • Chair Freymiller shared some remarks about the conference
   • This will also be reported to the full Senate next week
   • Issues with remedial math were discussed
     • It was felt that DPI standards already impact this
     • System might come up with a common range for all schools
     • Boot camps have a positive impact on students
       • There is a program called The Pathways Program that is similar to our Boot Camp that is about positive persistence
       • Math anxiety and confidence is real and the data shows that 50% of the students that participate in this program are finishing their math requirement in a year, where the traditional method is 15%
       • These programs are often quite expensive
     • Secondary schools do not do a good job persuading students to take more math than the minimum DPI requirements
   • Additional conversation ensued

5) Announcements
   • All are invited to the Biology Department’s seminar on Thursday at 4:00 p.m. in Phillips 319 entitled: What We Did On Our Summer Vacation
   • About the Galapagos Islands
   • A visiting minority scholar is on campus this week
     • Robin DiAngelo author of “What Does it Mean to Be White?” will be in CETL on Thursday, October 23rd from 12:30-1:45 for discussion on her book and a public talk is scheduled for Wednesday, October 22nd at 7:00 in Centennial Hall

Meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Submitted by,

Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate