The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Freymiller at 3:10 p.m. on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 in the Centennial Room of Davies Center.

1) Approval of the Minutes of November 4, 2014
   - Approved as amended
     - All of our University Center facilities are now e-cigarette free (which include Zorn, Hilltop, Schofield Auditorium and all of Davies)

2) Open Forum
   - An email was sent to Chair Freymiller stating the following:
     - I want to float the idea of having the University Senate examine the application process for sabbaticals and trends in sabbatical funding. I have concerns that there may be issues the sabbatical committee should consider when making recommendations that are not currently part of the process (e.g., bias against quantitative research, number of previous sabbaticals/faculty workload factors, etc.). Also, I'm concerned about the possibility of fewer numbers of approved sabbaticals due to declining support from UW-EC administrators (as opposed to external mandates). Maybe other people also have concerns that are similar to and/or different from mine.
     - Is the sabbatical committee against quantitative research?
       - The whole process seems to be set up for the hard sciences
     - Funding based on colleague's ranking of proposals, which went as far as the money allowed
       - Rankings come from a committee that Karen Havholm puts together
     - Freezing sabbaticals came up in budget conversations, but the Provost could not do that
     - There were not as many sabbaticals approved this year as in the past
     - Sabbatical funding needs to be self-supporting and each department is supposed to cover its sabbaticals for a semester, but sometimes they reach out to the Provost for funding support
       - Departments provide $8,000 to $10,000 for a semester sabbatical
     - University Senate Executive Committee decided not to pursue this any further at this time
   - Replace Columbus Day with Indigenous People’s Day
   - Student Senate VP Wrasse was encouraged to bring this to Executive Committee as an agenda item in the Spring semester
   - Bias Incidence Response Team
     - Team is trying their best to respond
     - There are resources and support available
     - Will be meeting with many groups across campus
       - Want them to know who we are and what we are trying to accomplish
     - A number of departments are represented
     - An incident occurred during intramural sports
       - Some incidents occur with student employees, who should be trained
     - Troy Terhark is committed to raising cultural confidence with staff
     - Working with Academic Affairs and training is being done
     - There is research on cultural competency in Student Affairs
     - Important to let VC Beth Hellwig know of any incidences
3) Review of tentative agenda for November 25, 2014 meeting of the University Senate
   • Approved as amended
     • Remove the First Reading of the Motion from the Academic Policies Committee to Establish a 36-credit Option within Organizational Leadership and Communication

4) Announcements
   • Centennial Celebration
     • Susan Harrison came to the Chancellor’s Executive Staff meeting on Monday to talk about how the Centennial celebration planning is going
     • Many events were “scheduled” and the price tag is quite high, so she has been asked to look at them again
     • Sponsors have not yet been obtained
   • Baltic Student Organization is celebrating Latvia tonight
   • Men’s and Women’s basketball tonight in Zorn Arena; Faculty and Staff appreciation
     • Spirit Friday is now Blue and Gold Friday; participate by wearing blue and gold
   • Student Diversity Conference is this Saturday and Sunday
     • There are free trainings on Saturday and Sunday, but you need to register

Meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

Submitted by,

Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate