University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
University Senate Executive Committee
Minutes of March 31, 1998
Volume 34, Number 16

Members Present: Tom Bergmann, Greg Conderman, Margaret Hallatt, Susan Harrison, Timothy Leutwiler, Ivar Lunde, Barbara MacBriar, David Nelson, Bobby Pitts, Marjorie Smelstor, Tom Miller

Guests: Andrea Gapko, Janice Morse, Jim Oberly, Cleo Powers, Connie Russell

Meeting was called to order by Chair Harrison at 3:05 in S202.

1. Open Forum:
   - Jim Oberly presented an update of the progress of the Chancellor Search and Screen committee. He reviewed the 3 phases of their work, provided and highlighted information from a handout, and answered questions regarding procedures involved in the process assigned to the 17 member committee. There was discussion regarding 1 day campus visits, upcoming faculty/staff meetings, and future communications and actions which will involve President Lyall.
   - Marjorie Smelstor shared information regarding the naming of the Fine Arts Center. She provided a historical context regarding its dedication in 1986, recalled the policies regarding the naming of buildings on campus, and shared steps which have been recently taken to name the building the Leonard and Dorellen Haas Fine Arts Center. She reminded committee members that such action requires board approval. After such approval, an appropriate spring ceremony will be planned to honor those for whom the building will be named.
   - Ivar Lunde and Timothy Leutwiler indicated that there has been an improvement in the cleanliness of the restrooms in Hibbard.

2. Discussion of Senate Executive Committee Membership
   - Chair Harrison distributed a handout containing a new recommendation detailing proposed membership on the Senate Executive Committee. She shared 5 concerns with previous proposals on this topic.
   - After a brief discussion, it was moved by MacBriar and seconded by Miller to (a) present this proposal to the Senate for its consideration and (b) allow this proposal to replace our earlier, existing proposal regarding this topic. Motion passed.

3. Discussion of Instructional Academic Staff draft report from System
   - Margaret Hallatt distributed and discussed handouts that summarize the results from a recent survey of teaching academic staff at UWEC. She indicated that the overall survey findings were positive, that respondents provided constructive suggestions, but that there seems to be some lack of understanding regarding personnel terminology and certain procedures and policies. Results from this survey will be forwarded to Buff Schoenfeld to be included in further discussions at the System level.
   - Jan Morse briefly reminded committee members of the procedure/requirements which must be met for academic staff to receive faculty status.
   - There was considerable discussion regarding various issues associated with academic staff at UWEC. The committee discussed historical perspectives, hiring practices, salary issues, the need for flexibility, indefinite appointments, nontenure/tenure faculty status, and implications of various issues in the draft report from System.
   - Chair Harrison will summarize and forward the salient points of this discussion to Tom Miller who will ensure that such comments are received in Madison.

4. Discussion of additional constitution and by-law changes
   - The Committee discussed a proposed language change in ARTICLE TWO, Section H in the University Faculty Constitution and in the University Academic Staff Constitution regarding faculty concerns. Lunde moved, MacBriar seconded to submit the motion to Senate. Motion passed.
Text of Changes proposed by Motion:

For University Senate or Faculty concerns:

(a) If the recommendation deals primarily with matters of concern to the University Faculty, a subcommittee composed of the University Faculty members of the Executive Committee will consult with the Chancellor concerning those aspects of the recommendation which are unacceptable. For University Senate concerns, the Executive Committee will consult with the Chancellor concerning those aspects of the recommendation which are unacceptable.

(b) If the Executive Committee or subcommittee feels that a modification of the recommendation would be acceptable to both the Chancellor and the University Senate, they may work with the Chancellor in an attempt to modify the recommendation.

(c) If the parties agree on the modification, it shall be presented to the University Senate for action.

(d) If the Executive Committee or subcommittee does not agree to a modification suggested by the Chancellor, the Chancellor's objections to the recommendation shall be reported to the University Senate along with the Executive Committee's or subcommittee's position.

(e) If the University Senate does not agree to a modification of its original recommendation, the original recommendation shall be returned to the Chancellor for final action.

- The Committee discussed a recommendation to merge the Constitution of the University Faculty and the Constitution of the University Academic Staff within Chapter 3 of the Faculty and Academic Staff Handbook into the Constitution of the University Faculty and University Academic Staff using a proposed outline. MacBriar moved and Leutwiler seconded to submit this proposal to Senate. Motion passed.

- The Committee discussed a proposed language change in the Bylaws of the University Faculty concerning the Faculty Representative. The proposed new wording would reflect the constitutional amendment recently passed concerning the role of the Chair or Vice-chair serving as Faculty Representative. Leutwiler moved and Miller seconded to submit this motion to Senate. Motion passed. {Chair's note: Upon further investigation, it was discovered that this item was included within a motion during the last Senate meeting and would not need to go forward to Senate again.}

5. Discussion of the definition of "faculty status" for instructional academic staff

- Committee members referred to a handout that proposed a recommendation for modifying an existing requirement needed for instructional academic staff to receive faculty status. Specifically, the recommended modification was to eliminate the phrase "and whose letter of appointment does not contain the statement that there is 'no intent to renew'."

- It was moved by Leutwiler and seconded by Lunde to approve the recommendation. After considerable discussion, it was moved by Hallatt and seconded by Conderman to table this discussion and refer this issue to the appropriate personnel sub committees.

6. Review of April 7 University Senate agenda

- With minor additions, the agenda for the April 7 University Senate agenda was approved by consensus

7. Announcements: No announcements were shared.

8. Closed session. The Senate Executive Committee voted to go into closed session in conformance with Wisconsin Statue 19.85 (1) (f) to consider an appointment to the Ad Hoc Instructional Technology Committee of the University Senate. A roll call was taken with all members giving approval to go into closed session. The committee entered closed session. Bill Ogden of the College of Business was appointed to the Ad Hoc Instructional Technology Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:57.

Secretary for the meeting,
Greg Conderman