The University Senate Workshop was called to order by Chair Harrison at 1:02 p.m. on Monday, August 27, 2012 in room 330C of the Davies Center.

1) Welcome from Chancellor Bousquet and Chair Harrison
   • Thanks to Chair Harrison for helping during the Chancellor’s transition and for sharing the key features of shared governance
   • Welcome to the new academic year
     • Thank you for your work as part of the Senate and at the University
     • Looking forward to building formal and informal communication channels
     • UWEC is already beyond some of the aspects of the Strategic Plan
     • We cannot have an effective future if we do not have a shared plan and keep the channels of communication open
     • The Chancellor would like all to know that his door is open
       • Can talk about aspirations and frustrations but he would like to hear from you
     • There will be shared aspirations and guided aspirations
     • Sees his role as listening and moving some of these aspirations forward
     • Wants to do things with this university and make a difference in the time that he is here

2) Showing of Epic2020 video
   • Senators and guests were asked to watch the video found at: [http://epic2020.org/](http://epic2020.org/) prior to the meeting
   • Open Discussion/Reporting
     • What “truths” do you believe are in the 2013-2020 predictions
       • There will be some new models coming out over the next decade and one of the significant hurdles being employer acceptance
       • Some schools are already participating in this model and universities must evolve
       • Businesses are already pushing for individual payment or ownership of content
       • We need to change the way we do things but systems don’t change very quickly
       • Is a monopoly
       • Is a trend toward deregulation or leaning toward a more permissive approach to knowledge
       • Moving towards globalization is already happening
       • The technological developments seem to be way ahead of us
       • Socialization changes and trends are already in motion
       • Moving from creative problem solving to information distribution
       • The political landscape seems to be changing
       • Funding changes have already occurred
       • Students and parents are already protesting the cost of going to college
       • Loan debt is skyrocketing
       • For profit institutions are much more assertive in going after students
       • IBM and many of the large text publishers are now moving into electronic publications
       • Started out with the quality and now focused on highly skilled workers
       • Need for fluidity and keeping on top of rapid change
       • Badges made a lot of sense for various certifications in certain fields
       • This will grab the students that want to learn regardless of income, where they live and etc.
       • Universities are pricing students out
       • It is difficult for students to pay for their education even with student loans
       • The technology is already there
       • Traditional university education is being devalued
• Society is moving away from using taxpayer money for education and the private sector is supportive and interested
• Corporate interests are driving this trend and capabilities of technology are driving this trend
• Concerns that students are not socializing and interacting and the potential that employers will not be satisfied that people cannot work in groups based on this kind of socialization
• We need to respond and continue to respond to escalating costs of education and our willingness/unwillingness to pay for it
• You can access a larger number of students using this technology
• Corporatization of education is here

Critique of the video
• Questioned the premise behind the video as what was represented in the video was only a particular kind of knowledge that is being emphasized and if this is the future then it is potentially quite dangerous as it is very limiting
• We need to create bold students willing to stand up to this kind of educational model
• The idea of leading students into this kind of a model can be very problematic and is not a positive thing
• Existing inequalities will be exacerbated
• Not every student can learn in this type of environment
• In 8 years there will be no technological breakthrough that will enable this to happen
• This sounds like what happened in the 80’s and it sounds like the same kind of technological optimism

What would UWEC need to change to be prepared if the predictions become reality and what barriers exist that would need to be overcome for UWEC to be prepared
• UWEC could somehow eliminate that knee jerk response that this won’t work
• Provide more opportunities for faculty and staff to explore alternatives to traditional education
• Should welcome ideas and provide the resources needed to move in that direction
• State government doesn’t understand what higher education is all about
• Private sector is always talking about not having skilled workers but they need to partner with public higher education to get the skills that they need in those potential workers
• Reality is that most students are getting their news through YouTube
  • The web based media is where students are finding their information
• We need student desired courses
• How do we compete with the desire for a free experience that employers are also accepting
• The idea of the exploration of GRE courses moving to web based modules
• How do we expedite our assessment process to compete with real time assessments
• The software that the students use has to be available online
• What is the incentive for faculty
• We need to think about what we can we provide that isn’t already being provided and market that
• Figure out how to get students graduated in 4 years
• We need to find ways to be more flexible within our programs and in the university
  • Example: we don’t offer all the programs online that are required to get their degree
• Our high impact practices set us apart and we need to measure them
• Emphasize a public sense of good
• Need to broaden offerings of online courses to target nontraditional or underrepresented student populations
• UWEC needs to look for powerful ways to build community and become the center of our community; need to focus on building humanity
• Put emphasis on our students as students and not machines
• Help students not be afraid to confront these issues so they can reject or accept with confidence
• Creative and critical thinking skills should be put into practice
• Promote our ability to address each students needs
• Establish a model saying why we do what we do and not just use outside critiques
• Need to articulate what we do and why we do it
• Tuition being unsustainable as it is right now
  • It is a barrier that is system-wide
• We need to be poised for change
• What we can do, that these other online options can’t do, should be marketed
  • Need to be smart about technology
    • One way to market is accreditation; accreditation assures quality
  • High impact practices
  • What we offer students
• This is a beginning of an ongoing discussion that we should be having
• Tuition problems
  • Tuition compared to others is still quite a good deal but should still be addressed
  • We are not getting state support
• Cultivating a new student generation that is active in government/legislation
  • Remind students why they are here and that why the political support is not sufficient
• We have a wide curriculum but not all courses, such in the humanities, are geared toward online
  • But those that are geared toward online could be
• There are truths and untruths
  • How do you fight something that is free
  • If we buy into that then we are sunk from the beginning
  • Then we need to do the same
  • Nothing is free
• Maybe the top 25 percent should have their education paid for
• One point the movie missed is not just the free online stuff but are we either not being flexible or are we being too difficult with admission standards or are the students nontraditional and need certification
  • This is not just a cost issue or just a free education issue
  • We tend to be rigid in this institution

3) Centennial Plan - Transforming the University - Action items - Improve communications: items 7a, 8 (15 minutes)
• What should be the role of Senators in ensuring their constituents learn of the information provided within Senate meetings
  • It is necessary to have personal interaction, although, it has to be filtered to a certain extent
  • One individual sends out an email and has a bulletin board outside his door
  • Many people may not realize that the meetings are open to the public
  • Ask people to bring a friend to the meeting
  • An idea would be that anybody that comes to a meeting gets their name in a drawing for free parking
  • Senators need to read the agendas ahead of time and talk to their constituents prior to the meeting
  • Talk to senators if you have a question
  • Need to report out at any meetings
  • Direct colleagues to any issues that may be important to them
  • One faculty mentioned to someone that they have a standing faculty meeting template that includes an item that is a report from the senator(s)
  • Having better awareness campus wide of where agendas and minutes are located
  • Letting others know of items of interest
  • Classified staff have no ownership or part of senate so hard to get their feedback and involvement
  • Circulate highlights or important items to your department
  • Circulate the minutes when they arrive or guide colleagues to the Senate site
  • Talk about senate items at meetings or forums or have it added to your department/college agenda

• What has “worked well” or “needs to be improved” regarding the use of the “Topic of the Day” at Senate meetings
  • Topic of the Day was valued because we could see our colleagues
    • On the Topic of the Day some people may be interested and some may not but that is alright
  • University Senate having a Facebook page
    • It was thought that there wouldn’t be much interest
    • Yammer, which is like a Facebook page, is being experimented on right now
  • Topics of the day has to close the circle we sometimes don’t know what happens after the fact
• The topics should be more practical and we never have closure
• Many items seem to lack a sense of urgency so many didn’t take it seriously
• Many leave after the meeting and do not stay for the Topic of the Day
• Helpful if the Topic of the Day had a brief introduction as to why it was brought up and to be more flexible with the questions and allow groups to pass or offer new questions
• Would like follow through after the Topics have been brought to the Senate
• It is a good time to take that step back and is a nice philosophical discussion
• Want the loop closed
• It is very structured but that is a good thing so everybody knows exactly what they are to be talking about
• It is nice to have other issues brought up on fifth Tuesday’s
• Executive Committee sets the agenda and they could certainly take Topics of the Day off the agenda
• Some members miss the reports from the committees

4) Overview of UWEC Governance and Parliamentary Procedures
   • Brief description of Senate structure
     • Chair Harrison gave a brief overview of the Senate website, committee functions and vacancies and governance structure
   • The Power of Using Parliamentary Procedures – How it can help a Senator
     • Brief overview given by Chair Harrison on Parliamentary Procedures and myths

Without objection, meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

Submitted by,

Tanya Kenney
Secretary to the University Senate