The regular meeting of University Senate was called to order by Chair Harrison at 3:03 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 in the Tamarack Room of Davies Center.

1. Minutes of February 22, 2011 University Senate meeting approved as distributed with the following corrections: ‘John Mann’ should be listed as present and ‘Mark Morgan’ is to be placed in the Guest list

   - Chancellor to speak at noon tomorrow in Schofield Auditorium as to the status of the State Budget
   - What we know at this time
     - Will be talking about the Biennial Budget Proposal presented by Governor Walker that will take effect the beginning of July for the next two years
     - Will be making some specific comments about the impact on this institution if that bill legislation passes and it is signed into law without having some modifications made to it
     - Are preliminary remarks at this time as nothing has been finalized
   - Current legislation proposed by the Governor
     - The overall total reduction during the biennium to UW System is $250 million
     - A proposal to also remove UW Madison from UW System and to establish it with public authority
       - That makes the budget more complicated to understand
     - Specifically identified reduction to System Administration
       - $4.8 million during the biennium
     - Remaining UW institutions is 60.1 million in reduction
     - UWEC’s share of that budget would be 5.2% when Madison was in the System but if Madison is out of the System then it is 8.45%
     - Again, these are proposed numbers
     - Of that $60.1 million UWEC’s share is $5,080,000 in reduction beginning July 1st
     - That number is very large and is larger than we’ve experienced before but governor has built in to his proposal up to a tentative 5.5% increase in tuition
     - Is helpful to the University but not so helpful to our students
If the Board of Regents approves a tuition rate increase in June or July then there will be some relief that comes back to UWEC as a tuition offset to the budget reduction.

- The dollar amounts that will come back from that tuition offset is unknown at this time.
  - Under one model with the tuition offset it would leave UWEC just shy of a $3 million reduction - this is the most conservative model.
  - Under another model, which is the most optimistic model, gives UWEC a 8.45% share of the total $35,750,000 of tuition revenue that is projected in the Governor’s proposed budget.
  - This model would leave us with a net budget reduction of $2,060,000.

- Is a pretty big range and would have a big impact on what we could do operationally on the campus.
- Will know more in the next month or so.
  - The actual impact not known until late summer or fall.
- A 5.5% base tuition increase is significantly less than the double digit base tuition increases a few years ago.
- The overall fees go up roughly 6.35%, including the 5.5% base tuition increase.
- The total difference in fees and cost of attendance fees averages out to about $306 per semester per student.
- In 2009-10, the last budget reduction, our reduction was $2,160,000.
- If we look at the optimistic model we would be less than the budget reduction we experienced in 2009-10.
- Anything above $2,160,00 would be a larger reduction than we have had in recent history and we have had a series of base budget reductions since 2001, with one or two years of breathing in between.
- Still tentative and unknown.
- Hoping to have the ability to identify base reductions and where we can’t, reserves will have to be pooled and hopefully we should have enough resources to delay the impact until the second year of the biennium.
  - The entire range that is being talked about is using the 5.5%
  - If tuition cap is less, then will have to take a proportionally larger reduction as it is a dollar for dollar exchange.
  - GPR fee budget is about $103 million per campus.
    - If you take out fringe benefits then what we can control is just over $60 million dollars.
    - We are still expected to meet enrollment growth - teach more students with less.
  - The only correct way to split from UW Madison is to establish how to legally go about doing that.
  - Are also looking at making UW Milwaukee a public authority.
  - Might be something that we want to pursue with other institutions and would need a separate analysis to see if feasible and if could survive financially and serve our students.
  - Over 60% of our money comes from student tuition so we cannot afford to let our enrollment decrease.
  - Students already feel that have already raised their own tuition and so it is obviously concerning because when/if things stop getting funded out of GPR dollars then the students usually have to pick up the tab.
  - May be an issue with enrollment.
  - High school graduates in Wisconsin is declining so our POTENTIAL pool of applicants will get reduced.
  - The result will be having to work harder to recruit students to maintain enrollment levels.
  - Differential tuition goes down as enrollment goes down.
    - Differential tuition models are based upon 9,800 FTE in an academic year and we have been above that for 2-3 year.
  - The 5.5% reduction is for each year.
  - Signed contracts should be fine.

3. Unfinished Business
   a. Second Reading: Motion from the Academic Policies Committee
    ULEC Principles
Continued Debate

- None

Vote on Motion 47-AP-06: **PASSED without dissention**

Without objection, a brief report will be heard from Dylan Jambrek, Student Body President

- The Student Senate at UWEC passed a resolution, unanimously opposing the break-away of UW Madison and Milwaukee
- A 26% increase at UW Madison is proposed
- United Council of UW Students has taken a stance and is opposed and want to fight it at the State Legislature
- Student Representative’s meeting
  - UW Madison students would be losing all control over differential tuition
  - All their control will be going away
    - UW Madison students were not aware of this
- UWEC is looking at revising differential tuition, specifically the Blugold Commitment Process, especially relating to assessment pieces for multi-year proposals
- Student Senate passed a resolution that students have positions on university senate committees
  - Student Senate bylaws say the Chair or designee have speaking rights at the students’ meetings as well
  - Ballots soon to be out to replace the current Student Senate President
- At a meeting last night it was discussed that it is important to have an Oath of Office implemented

4. New Business

- None

5. University Senate Chair’s/Vice Chair’s Report – Chair Harrison/Vice Chair Spaeth

- Retirement
  - Many have contacted the Human Resources Department and the Employee Trust Fund (ETF) in Madison
  - Human Resources will be providing two retirement workshops this Saturday at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. in the Davies Theatre
  - ETF has seen increasing numbers in telephone calls, foot traffic, requests for appointments, retirement estimates and etc. since November so be prepared for longer turnaround times
    - Currently there is a five week turnaround but that time may increase if the demand continues
  - The next Retirement Board meeting is Thursday this week
    - If you have any general questions that you would like Chair Harrison to ask about ETF please let her know
- Senate Meetings
  - Only 4 Senate meetings left this semester
  - Any proposed bylaw changes or general motions need to be on the Senate agenda no later than April 26th and on the Executive Committee agenda no later than April 19th

6. Faculty Representative’s Report – Senator Peterson

- Haven’t had representative’s meeting but did attend a Board of Regents meeting
- Will meet this Friday and agenda will be interesting as it is all about the budget and the budget repair bill
  - System leadership is getting pretty worked up
  - System Administration is supposed to lose 25% of their operating budget and are concerned

7. Academic Staff Representative’s Report – Senator Lee

- Have not met and the agenda items for the next meeting will be similar to the Faculty Representative’s

8. Reportable items from Committees
• Executive Committee
  • At the last Executive Committee meeting the proposed language for including students on some Senate committees was reviewed and agreed to vote on the language at the next meeting after the language was circulated to the affected committees
  • At next week’s meeting, the committee will also discuss the possibility of forwarding the American Association of University Professor’s statement on Professional Ethics to the Senate for discussion and adoption
  • The next meeting is scheduled for March 15th

• Faculty Personnel Committee
  • Discussing the role of faculty and academic staff in the selection of administrators

• Physical Plant Planning Committee
  • Will have a meeting immediately following adjournment

9. Special Reports
   • None

10. Miscellaneous Business
   • None

11. Announcements
   • Please remember the Chancellor’s campus forum to discuss the Budget
     • Held tomorrow, Wednesday, March 19th from 12-1 p.m. in Schofield Auditorium
   • Upcoming Open House for Academic Affairs
     • Chat times with the Provost between now and the next University Senate meeting will be held in Nursing 156 on March 17th from 9-10 a.m.
   • The next University Senate meeting is scheduled for March 29th
   • Have a great spring break

Without objection, meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Submitted by,

Tanya Kenney
Secretary to the University Senate