The regular meeting of University Senate was called to order by Chair Harrison at 3:06 p.m. on Tuesday, November 27, 2012 in the Dakota Ballroom of Davies Center.

1) Minutes of November 13, 2012 University Senate meeting approved as distributed

2) Administrator Remarks – Chancellor Bousquet
   - Feedback on the recent trip to China
     - It was an intense trip as 12 universities were visited in 9 business days
     - Had specific goals: strengthen existing partnerships, open up some new opportunities for students and faculty, and increase visibility of UWEC
     - Exceeded our expectations and goals
     - Visited 8 companies and 2 business organizations
     - Is a wealth of opportunities, including new places such as Hong Kong
     - Will sort through the opportunities and get back to the Senate
       - Field experiences, study abroad, and faculty/staff collaboration
     - Will have at least one presentation for the community
     - Brilliant idea to have a student as part of the delegation
       - She did a wonderful job
       - Was an indication that we are a student centered institution
     - Concern brought forward that faculty were not on the group
     - Important to have somebody involved
     - Hong Kong
       - Pushed to be a little longer in Hong Kong because they have a relatively open and free press as well as a creative society
       - Hope is that, in particular, our Social Science and Humanities majors will be interested in an experience in Hong Kong
       - The internet is censored on mainland China and it is not in Hong Kong
     - The Chancellor considers himself a small representative of the Liberal Arts perspective
   - Confluence project
     - The project is on track
• Having a little more time to work with our partners is very good for us so we can nail down some of the details
• Will keep one posted as we move forward
• In the words of the leadership: This is the most interestingly and complex project they have seen
• Next week the Eau Claire Chamber of Commerce and UWEC will be co-hosting one of 3 sessions on the Be Bold 2 Report on workforce needs
  • A very high level event
  • Opportunity to bring together leaders from business and education
    • Included: the Chancellor’s from Stout and River Falls, Tony Evers: the State Superintendent, and Chancellor Bousquet
  • Want to make sure that whoever is shaping the workforce policy understands that while it is important to educate for positions that need to be filled it is also important to educate for jobs that do not exist yet
  • Important investment in developing the talent that is needed
  • The Be Bold 2 Summit will be next Tuesday and we will have press releases about it
  • Will strengthen the voice that universities play a critical role
  • Wednesday, December 5th, Dakota Ballroom, 8:15-12:15
    • You must register and it is $35
    • If interested please notify Provost Kleine as she will be sponsoring people to attend

3) Reports
a) Faculty Rep’s Report
  • Faculty Rep’s will be meeting this Friday

b) Academic Staff Report
  • Next meeting is scheduled for Friday
  • The minutes from the previous meeting will be coming out soon

Reports from Committees:
• Academic Staff Personnel Committee
  • Held a meet and greet today at noon
    • It went well as there were about 30 attendees and we were able to answer any questions
• Academic Policies Committee
  • Have made it through all the requirements that were in the first reading of the Liberal Education Committee proposal
  • Plan to have it posted on Liberal Education website then will attempt to get it to Senate in the spring semester
• Executive committee
  • Heard suggested guidelines for granting degrees posthumously
  • Emeriti Dean Katherine Rhoades, chair of the Priory Development Taskforce gave an update on the Priory’s short and long term goals
  • At the next meeting the committee will be discussing agenda topics for future meetings
  • If anyone has any ideas on what still needs to be clarified, added, or deleted, or if you have any suggestions of big picture changes that the Executive Committee should consider please share with Chair Harrison prior to next week’s Executive Committee meeting

4) New Business
a) First Reading: Motion from the Academic Policies Committee
  Eliminate Pre-Theology

  Debate
  • None

Without objection, we will vote on this today
Vote on Motion 49-AP-06: PASSED

b) First Reading: Motion from the Academic Policies Committee

WRIT Prefix
- The prefix distinguishes courses
- Kind of a package deal in many ways but see making WRIT a new prefix as a way in this liberal education reform to emphasis that these are writing courses, not English courses
- Will not cause confusion as WRIT courses are specific to meeting LE outcomes
  - Think of it as a re-envisioning of the curriculum
- Focus on freshman composition courses
- This prefix will help distinguish this array of courses that are specifically targeted to teach writing content
- Haven’t gone to the 200 level yet
- Lots of potential for how writing gets taught
- Question on what is the basic difference between 114/116/118/120
  - Same course in the sense that they have the same outcomes and that they have many of the same writing experiences within them but they are targeted to different populations
  - Depends on placement score, previous experience with another writing course, perhaps
    - 114 is for students who need more support
    - 116 is what the bulk of our students will take
    - 118 and 120 essentially replaces English 112 and divides out students who score high on placement or AP exam
      - 120 for transfer students

Debate
- None

Move to postpone the question until after the next item is taken up on the agenda, seconded

Debate
- The prefix can stand on its own
- The new courses are already being piloted
- This is a separate issue

Vote on motion to postpone: FAILED

Without objection, we will vote on this today

Vote on Motion 49-AP-07: PASSED

c) First Reading: Motion from the Academic Policies Committee

University Writing Requirements

Debate
- Question on the amount of time it takes to check/evaluate the portfolio that the student submits
  - Expecting 200 or so students a year to submit a portfolio
  - Plan is to provide guiding information to the students so they understand if they should take the chance at submitting a portfolio and then expect that it will take 15 minutes or so to look through the portfolio after graders have been trained
- There is a process of training graders and then double scoring portfolios for consistency and also expect that it be paid for like the credit by exam process
  - The students would pay to have the portfolio evaluated
- Summer orientation
  - Working through the issues with Debbie Gough about this process and are working through the issues that come up with this
  - Have piloted lots of these processes for the last year and a half and still have a year and a half left to get these things figured out
  - ½ of our students take their first year writing course in the fall and the other ½ take it in the spring
  - Can submit the portfolio in the summer as well
- Question on how it might affect students that have less than stellar skills in writing
  - Had staffing issues and a high failure rate in 099 and 110
    - What we looked at instead is something more keeping with current practices in composition studies which is to create a more rigorous curriculum then cut down the class size and increase the in and out of class support
    - We are seeing that it is working better
      - Doing that in the Writing 114
    - Want to meet their needs in ways we have not been doing before
  - The students will be asked to submit a specific set of papers
    - Outcomes based rather than credit based
    - Have to be purposeful, make an argument and it must be clearly evidenced
- Is for incoming freshmen and transfer students
  - Thinking that the portfolio is sort of a placement mechanism not an outcome in and of itself
  - The portfolio is pre not post
- Funding
  - Blugold Commitment funding to provide the number of sections that we need
    - Hope that there will be faculty across campus that will go through our training and then the Blugold Commitment funding is there to pay for that section
  - There is an increased number of sections in this course
    - What we were doing was not adequate and our students were not prepared for the demands
    - Our proposal through Blugold Commitment was that we can fix this and we can fix it by increasing the rigor of what the students are asked to do and in order to do that we needed to reduce the class size and better train faculty
    - We have increased sections in English 110 now
    - Hope that the students will see the value of the courses but if funding does not come through Blugold Commitment dollars then changes will have to be made to the courses
  - Use of the English placement test allows for movement
    - Once classes have started there is no plan in place yet on how to move students

Vote on Motion 49-AP-08: POSTPONED

d) First Reading: Motion from the University Senate Executive Committee Amendment Process for Part III, Article Four

Debate
  - None

Without objection, we will consider the entire motion without separation

Without objection, we will vote on this today

Vote on Motion 49-SE-03: PASSED
5) Unfinished Business
   a) **Continued discussion of Liberal Education Goals and Outcomes**

   Discussion
   - Minor editorial change made to the handout
   - The Chairs Council will discuss this at their meeting
     - Could Chairs group include directors?
       - this could be sent to directors in order to get their feedback
       - The issue with including others at this point is that this has been in the minutes and it creates other timing problems
         - There is learning that happens on campus in many different forms
     - The best way to serve this discussion would be to forward it to the directors and supervisors to provide input
     - Should then also be done for Academic Affairs directors
     - Alternative ways of meeting competencies could also be addressed with APC

6) Announcements
   - Next meeting of the University Senate is December 11, 2012

Without objection, meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

Submitted by,

Tanya Kenney
Secretary to the University Senate