

**University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire**  
**University Senate Executive Committee**

Minutes from September 15, 2009  
Volume 46, Number 1

Present: Mitchell Freymiller, Thomas Hilton , Susan Harrison, Beth Hellwig, Jeff Janot, Patricia Kleine, Jennifer Lee, Brian Mahoney, John Mann, Linda Spaeth,

Absent: Brian Levin-Stankevich

Guests: Barbara Arnold, MJ Brukart, Andrea Gapko, Karen Havholm, Rose Jadack, Connie Russell Gail Scukanec, Kristina Tauchen, Susan Turell, Mike Wick, Melissa Weinzatl

The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Harrison at 3:07 p.m. on Tuesday, September 15, 2009 in the Alumni Room of Davies Center.

1. Minutes of September 1, 2009 approved as distributed
2. Open Forum
  - No discussion
3. Review of tentative agenda for September 22, 2009 University Senate meeting
  - List of Senate additions and vacancies will be emailed before September 22 meeting

**Without objection**, conversation with Higher Learning Commission was moved from agenda item 5 to agenda item 4 out of respect for the HLC and its time restraints.

4. Miscellaneous Business

- Conversation with Higher Learning Commission
  - HLC welcomed w/explanation that Chancellor absent so Senators could speak freely
  - HLC asked who knew about and had read the campus self-study; is it accurate?
    - ◆ Accurate as “snapshot;” historical
    - ◆ Centennial Plan has had an impact
    - ◆ General Ed has not moved as far forward as is wanted/needed
    - ◆ Proposal of GE will go up before October Senate Meeting
    - ◆ Lots of enthusiasm on campus to get things done
  - Role of Senate in planning; is whole Senate involved?
    - ◆ Shared Governance; motions go through Senate then to Chancellor
    - ◆ Senate conduit to faculty; example: today’s review of academic calendars & effect on students
    - ◆ Faculty charged with curriculum
    - ◆ UWEC unique with combined faculty and academic staff Senate
    - ◆ Liaison from Student Senate at University Senate
    - ◆ Self-study was “light on student life and heavy on academics”

How much does FERPA impact day-to-day activities?

- ◆ BluGold Beginnings has online documents to help parents understand; conservative approach
- ◆ Student Affairs partners w/parents when possible when alcohol and drugs are involved
- ◆ Faculty members may forward calls from parents to Dean of Students office
- ◆ Agreed that “Hypothetically” is a word lawyers like in touchy legal issues like this
- ◆ Kinesiology has lots of parent contact b/c the program is competitive
- ◆ Faculty members w/problems go to Chair Harrison as a confidential sounding board
- ◆ Academic staff rep and Faculty rep also used as sounding boards

Role of Senate at UW-Eau Claire?

- ◆ Seen as elected leaders
- ◆ Not a bargaining unit
- ◆ Senate deals with Budget, Facilities & Planning, Personnel Committee, Process, Terms & Conditions of employment , representatives to the UW-System, populates ad hoc committees
- ◆ Right for collective bargaining was a hard fight; each campus decides about unionization (HLC departed at 3:45 p.m.)

5. Review of Academic Calendars from 2010/2011 thru 2020/2021 by Barbara Arnold, Registrar's office
  - Barbara acknowledged her two student assistants, Melissa Weinzatl & Kristina Tauchen along w/ Connie Russell and Pam Scheible
  - Calendar on Registrar's site may change when Dreamweaver changed to Commonspot
  - New academic calendars are "built" to be exported
  - Eau Claire Area School District incorporates UW-Eau Claire's academic calendar into its own
  - A consensus was reached on the following calendar changes:
    - Move spring break to 9<sup>th</sup> week of classes during the spring semester in all years
    - Make 2011-2012 Fall match Fall 2016-2017 (final exam study day, etc. –will add another three-day MWF lab
    - 2014-2015:
      - Start academic contract year on M 8/25/09 (from 8/18/09) and end 8/24/09 (from 8/17/09)
      - Spring semester: move final exam week from May 11-15 to May 18-22
      - Spring semester: move commencement from Sat. May 16 to Sat. May 23
  - Arnold will e-mail agreed calendar changes to Chair Harrison who will forward to Executive Committee
  - Academic calendars will be presented to Senate as "information only"; not an issue for discussion
6. Announcements
  - None
7. Consultation with Karen Havholm regarding Committee Appointments for Confirmation: Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85 (c). The committee went into a closed session for the purpose of discussing candidates.
8. Adjournment
  - Meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

Submitted by,

Christine Webster for  
Tanya Kenney  
Secretary of the University Senate