

University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
University Senate Executive Committee

Minutes from October 6, 2009
Volume 46, Number 3

Present: Robin Baker, Mitchell Freymiller, Andrea Gapko, Susan Harrison, Beth Hellwig, Jeff Janot, Scott Lester, Jennifer Lee, Brian Levin-Stankevich, Scott Lowe, John Mann, Joe Morin, John Pollitz, Sheila Smith, Linda Spaeth

Absent: Sean McAleer

Guests: MJ Brukardt, Teresa O'Halloran, Gail Scukanec, Susan Turell, Mike Wick, Marty Wood

The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Harrison at 3:05 p.m. on Tuesday, October 6, 2009 in the Alumni Room of Davies Center.

1. Minutes of September 15, 2009 approved with correction to reflect bullet as Blugold Family Connection
2. Open Forum
 - Welcome new Executive Committee members
 - Survey results confirmed that strong majority preferred electronic Senate mailings
3. Review of tentative agenda for October 13, 2009 University Senate meeting approved as distributed
4. Review 10 years of academic calendars 2010-2021 as amended
 - Some do not like the format
 - The Registrar's webpage offers different versions
 - The Executive Committee recommended that commencement in Spring 2015 be moved to Memorial Day weekend and this recommendation has not been made
 - Chair Harrison will verify and follow-up with the Registrar's Office
5. Senate Procedures
 - a. Motions from non-Senate committee, task forces, working groups
 - Task force working groups are helping to facilitate the gold arrows so many will result in curricular policies
 - Typically APC handles these
 - Makes sense that any group charged by Senate can bring motions forward to Senate, otherwise, it can go forward to Senate pending approval of the Executive Committee
 - b. Speaking terms for non-members
 - Robert's Rules does not allow speaking terms unless it is specifically in our bylaws
 - Historically, the gallery could add after everyone has finished or a senator could yield their time to allow them to speak
 - Students are currently mutually recognized and this should be in our bylaws
 - Should think about if we really want the gallery to have 2 speaking terms and limit it in no other way than that
 - Discussions should be limited to a certain length of time
 - Chair can recognize for points of information, factual information and clarification
 - c. Consultation for committee membership
 - Our handbook does not require consultation for most committees
 - Precedence has been set and it has worked well
 - Provides protection
 - All are appointed committees and are brought to the Executive Committee in closed session
 - Seems like a broad sweep
 - Policy making Committees should go to Executive Committee for consultation

6. Miscellaneous Business

- University Senate representative
 - Senators must have at least a 50% appointment and have been here at least 3 semesters
 - Executive Committee has made exceptions in the past
 - Social Work is in a bind and is requesting an exception
 - Don Mowry meets the requirements but is already overloaded
 - Chair is new to the University and is willing to serve but does not meet the criteria
 - Others in the department are emeriti and thusly, do not meet the criteria

MOTION by Senator Morin **to allow an exception for the Social Work Chair to serve as the representative to University Senate**, seconded and PASSED without dissention.

- Mission Statement
 - The Chancellor wanted additional information from the general body regarding the Mission Statement as some were not happy that they did not have time to share thoughts and etc. with Senate due to a motion and a second to suspend the rules so a web survey was sent out
 - If the Chancellor does not pass the motion then it comes back to the Executive Committee
 - If any changes are made or if we still do not agree then would go back to the full Senate for discussion
 - By System rule it has to go to a public hearing
 - Tried to find a way to hear those voices but didn't want to trigger a rejection kind of mode
 - Would rather hear concerns internally rather than through media
 - Do our business first then take to the board
 - Web survey still open for response
 - Deans have been asked to remind faculty and staff to take the survey
 - While many voices want to be heard there are also many ways to be heard
 - Have been talking about this for over a year
 - More than 2/3's of our elected representatives had heard enough
 - Some voices will not be heard even if we re-open the discussion
 - Sense that the body was tired of word-smithing
 - This Mission Statement was so good that the majority of Senate agreed
 - Those most vocal will speak out against it no matter what
 - Email survey was not sent to students
 - People have had a chance to contribute over the last year
 - Refreshing that the Mission Statement was passed almost unanimously
 - The vote speaks loudly
 - Classified staff are not represented on campus by University Senate
 - State statutes gives Academic Staff, Faculty and Students governance rights
 - At one time Academic Staff did not have governance rights either

7. Announcements

- None

8. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate