The regular meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Freymiller at 3:05 p.m. on Tuesday, February 3, 2015 in the Centennial Room of Davies Center.

1) Approval of the Minutes of February 3, 2015
   - Approved as distributed

2) Open Forum
   - Student Lease Issue(s)
     - This was an issue from Student Senate
     - May 22 is the last day of classes, which causes lease problems because students have to move out while still needing a place to store their belongings
     - Talk with Beth Hellwig
     - Students can contact the Director of Housing if they live in on-campus housing
     - Peggy O’Halloran is off-campus coordinator; see if she has any strategies
     - Concern that our calendar does not align with leases, but the 2014-15 academic year calendar has been public record for many years
     - It might benefit students to interact with landlords around campus, even though students may not have much influence with their landlords
     - Tenant Affairs intern should be contacted
   - Chancellor Schmidt
     - We are actively working with legislators
     - Congressman Kind was on campus today to talk about making college more affordable
       - He talked about the Promoting Education for Lifetime Learning (PELL) Grant Funding Act which directs any profit the government makes from federal student loan programs into federal PELL Grants
       - This would prevent the government from making money off of students’ debt
       - He also talked about how he wants to allow students to refinance their loans, when interest rates drop
     - UW Madison is using a non-profit approach
     - There is misinformation out there and the Chancellor is trying to correct this when he sees it
     - Taskforces will start meeting with better diversity, gender balances, and representation
       - Updated rosters were sent out yesterday
       - Taskforces will be looking at structural issues
       - Qualtrics survey will be distributed to provide quick feedback
     - It is surprising that we have not linked the Liberal Arts with national security
       - Not aware of a strategy and would like that argument to be made public
         - We train officers at war, diplomats, trainers, analysts, advisors, and so on, so liberal arts and national security meet head-on
       - Any data should be sent to the Chancellor
     - Office of Multicultural Affairs is not going to be cut altogether but they are going through the same procedures as any other office
Without objection, the review of the tentative Senate agenda will be heard later in the meeting.

3) Review of tentative agenda for February 24, 2015 meeting of the University Senate
   • Approved as amended
     • Move Recognition of Indigenous People’s Day out of New Business because it will be addressed by Chair Freymiller during Reports and linked to the agenda
     • UWEC Resolution on Budget Cuts will be the only item of New Business

4) Recognition of Indigenous People’s Day (Student Senate)
   • Student Senate passed this resolution in October
   • Student Senate representatives presented their rationale for including this issue on the agenda
     • One student senator commented that because he is an American Indian on campus, seeing Columbus Day on the calendar is a reminder of the genocide that American Indians experienced, which is like a slap in the face to him
   • Executive Committee support for this resolution would be appropriate
   • Students are looking to provide some sort of celebration of indigenous peoples
   • This terminology is used in Minneapolis
   • UWEC does not recognize Columbus Day, nor do we recognize other federal holidays, such as President’s Day
   • UWEC does not identify Columbus Day on its academic year calendar; Student Senate prefers to have Indigenous People’s Day listed
   • Foundation calendar identifies Columbus Day
     • Academic planners provided by the Division of Student Affairs might identify Columbus Day
     • Kim Way should be informed about this calendar issue
   • What authority does University Senate have regarding university materials
   • Student Senate would like University Senate to monitor inclusivity of this name change

Motion by Senator Wood to show support of the Student Senate’s Indigenous People’s Day Resolution, seconded

Debate
   • Don’t want to vote to change anything, but we should support the principles behind this resolution
     • No action will be taken, but will announce this support at the next University Senate meeting

VOTE on motion: PASSED

5) Resolution on UW System Public Authority Proposal (referred to Executive Committee by full Senate)

   Handouts: UWM Faculty Senate Resolution
             UW System Faculty Statements and Resolutions

Discussion
   • Concern about arguing over public authority instead of focusing on the budget cut(s)

Motion by Senator Peterson to propose the following language: “Whereas the proposed $300 million dollar budget reduction to the UW-System would irreparably damage the quality of the education we provide and our ability to serve our students, the citizens of Wisconsin, and the state economy, be it resolved the UW-Eau Claire University Senate wishes to voice their unequivocal opposition to this unprecedented cut. We also reaffirm our commitment to the Wisconsin Idea and to shared governance and tenure as essential to the existence of the University of Wisconsin System.”, seconded

Debate
   • Reaffirms Wisconsin IDEA, our commitment to tenure, shared governance, and UW System
   • We will send a separate communication to President Cross that all of Chapter 36 be moved into Regent Policy
   • Governor cannot issue orders to a public authority, but Governor can appoint new Regents
     • UW System is on our side and they are arguing on our behalf
• If we are tied to sales tax revenues, like UW Hospitals, who decides that?
  • We will be guaranteed a base revenue stream for the next ten years; after that there will be
    an agreement for a percentage of sales tax revenue
  • We still need tuition flexibility; if tuition flexibility goes away, this will not be such a good deal
  • Tuition could be tied to the rate of inflation
  • Resolution aims at the whole budget cut instead of just the cut at UWEC
  • We do not know what our cut will be until the budget actually passes and UW System divides
    the cuts among the different institutions
  • If some campuses are not held accountable, then previous practices will not offer
    accurate estimates
  • Is this resolution aimed primarily at the Legislature?
  • Resolution is appealing because, regardless of what we say in public, faculty are not happy
  • These cuts will cause damage and will affect our primary mission
  • Should Wisconsin National Guard and National Military Services be included in this resolution?

Motion by Senator Duckworth-Lawton to amend the resolution to read: “Whereas the proposed $300
million dollar budget reduction to the UW-System would irreparably damage the quality of the education
we provide and our ability to serve our students, the citizens of Wisconsin, Wisconsin National Guard,
and National Military Services, and the state economy, be it resolved the UW-Eau Claire University
Senate wishes to voice their unequivocal opposition to this unprecedented cut. We also reaffirm our
commitment to the Wisconsin Idea and to shared governance and tenure as essential to the existence of
the University of Wisconsin System.”

• Amendment dies for lack of a second

Continued Debate
• Should “well-being” be used instead of existence?
  • Wording of the resolution needs to be very strong
• Without objection, Student Senate Vice-President Jake Wrasse was recognized to shared his
  thoughts about the resolution
  • He asked permission for the Student Senate Resolution be distributed; explained how the
    Student Senate prepared their statement and their rationale

VOTE on Motion: PASSED
• Discussion on Proposed Joint Communication from Official Faculty Governance Units sent by
  UW-La Crosse Faculty Senate Chair Brad Seebach

Motion by Chair Freymiller for permission of this body to respond to this group stating that UWEC
supports this going forward to the BOR, seconded

Debate
• Feel comfortable with this and we need to support the concept even if the words aren’t perfect

VOTE on Motion: PASSED

6) Announcements
• Had a student death recently (Roxanne Accola)
  • Her family asked that we share that Roxanne’s death was a suicide
  • Counseling Services is available for students and Midwest Employee Assistance
    Program is available for faculty/staff

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Submitted by,
Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate