REPORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

University Senate Committee: University Senate Executive Committee

Brief History of Issue—why the issue is being considered:
In April of 2013, the Classified Staff Council proposed to the University Senate Executive Committee that classified staff members be elected by the Classified Staff Council to serve on the University Senate Budget, University Senate Technology and University Senate Physical Plant Planning committees. Their intent was that those members would be full members of those committees. Subsequently, the University Senate added language to the Budget Committee membership and the Technology Committee membership that “One classified/university staff member may be selected by the Classified/University Staff Council to serve on this committee for a three-year term”, and added language to the Physical Plant Planning Committee membership that “Two classified/university staff members may be selected by the Classified/University Staff Council to serve on this committee for a three-year terms”.

Later it was discovered that Article Three, Section E, under Committee Organization, that University Senate Bylaws included the provision “Student or classified/university staff members noted in committee memberships (1) shall serve as non-voting members upon appointment to the committee through appropriate Student Senate or Classified/University Staff Council procedures; (2) should not be counted when determining quorums; (3) should be granted speaking rights accorded to voting members of the committee; and (4) may request for specific items of concern to students or classified/university staff to be placed on meeting agendas.

Classified staff members believe that their shared governance rights should include voting rights on those University Senate committees identified above (and also on any university-wide committees on which they have membership).

Points Discussed by Committee
The classified/university staff intentionally chose not to become part of the University Senate. This conscious decision was based upon the divergent issues covered by the various employment groups. Since not all policies are relevant to faculty, or to academic staff, or to classified staff, it would be an inappropriate use of time for all employment groups to attend meetings and discussions of those policies that were not relevant to their particular employment group. However, the issues that the University Senate Budget, Technology, and Physical Plant Planning committees deal with are campus-wide matters for which there are classified staff with expertise. The Classified Staff Council chose not to create their own committees to cover these matters in order to avoid duplication of effort. They believe that they have important contributions to make in those areas and should have voting rights on those committees.

Pros of Recommendation: The recommendation embraces the concept of greater participation in shared governance at UWEC. It could help these committees work more efficiently by bringing additional expertise to the committees’ discussions.

Cons of Recommendation: None.

Technology/Human Resource Impact: None.

Committee Recommendation:
That the University Senate bylaws be amended as shown below to remove voting restrictions on classified/university staff who serve on specific University Senate committees.
MOTION FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

The University Senate Executive Committee,

by a vote of _12_ in favor and _0_ against on March 17, 2015

That in the Faculty and Academic Staff Rules and Procedures Part III, Article Three: University Senate: Section E – Committees be changed as follows:

SECTION E – COMMITTEES

1. Committee Organization

University Senate committees provided for by the Constitution of the University Senate and described in Article Four of these Bylaws shall arrange for their own organization, officers, and schedule of meetings. Student or classified/university staff members noted in committee memberships (1) shall serve as non-voting members upon appointment to the committee through appropriate Student Senate or Classified/University Staff Council procedures; (2) should not be counted when determining quorums; (3) should be granted speaking rights accorded to voting members of the committee; and (4) may request for specific items of concern to students or classified/university staff to be placed on meeting agendas. (US 3/11, 4/13, 3/15)

Implementation Date: Upon publication in the July, 2015 Faculty and Academic Staff Rules and Procedures.

Signed: __Mitchell A. Freymiller___

Chair of the Committee

Send to: University Senate Office