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 Four: Governance Committees and Councils Section A – University Senate Committees be changed as follows (the language reflected below includes the changes previously adopted by the University Senate on October 14, 2014):

SECTION A - UNIVERSITY SENATE COMMITTEES

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4. University Senate Budget Committee
   a. Membership: The committee includes at least 11 members: seven senators elected by the University Senate, one from each of the Colleges, two from the University Academic Staff, and one from Housing and Residence Life; one academic dean selected by the deans of the four Colleges in consultation with the Provost. Members shall serve three-year terms unless membership is terminated by expiration of University Senate membership as described in the bylaws. The committee also includes three ex officio and non-voting members from the Administrative Staff selected by the Chancellor. One classified/university staff member, who will be non-voting, may be selected by the Classified/University Staff Council to serve on this committee for a three-year term. One student, who will be non-voting, may be appointed by the Student Senate to serve on this committee for a one-year term. (US 3/05, 3/11, 4/13, 10/14, 3/15)
   b. Functions: The Budget Committee serves two roles. First, it observes the budget process – giving ongoing feedback to all participants on how well the process is executed and suggestions to improve it; in this role, the committee will meet regularly throughout the year at appropriate times with the Chancellor, Provost, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, deans, and other participants in the process to develop and discuss the feedback and suggestions. Second, each year shortly after the budget process is complete, the committee will submit a written report to the University Senate formalizing the feedback and suggestions. (US 4/09)

8. University Senate Physical Plant Planning Committee
   a. Membership: The committee includes at least nine members: three University Faculty senators and two University Academic Staff senators elected by the University Senate; one member elected by and from the department of Art & Design; one member elected by and from the department of Biology; one member elected by and from the department of Geography and Anthropology. Members shall serve three-year terms unless membership is terminated by expiration of University Senate membership as described in the bylaws. One administrative representative appointed by the Chancellor will be a non-voting member of the committee. Two classified/university staff members, who will be non-voting, may be selected by the Classified/University Staff Council to serve on this committee for three-year terms. One student, who will be non-voting, may be appointed by the Student Senate to serve on this committee for a one-year term. (US 3/11, 4/13, 10/14, 3/15)
   b. Function: The committee shall recommend policies for the long-range development of the physical plant, for utilization of campus space, and for landscaping. It shall also be charged with policies for protection and development of Putnam Park.

9. University Senate Technology Committee
   a. Membership: The committee includes at least seven members: three senators elected by the University Senate, one of whom must be from the University Academic Staff; four University Faculty members, one elected by and from each of the Colleges. Members shall serve three-year terms unless
Classified Staff Voting on Committees

membership is terminated by expiration of University Senate membership as described in the bylaws. The Chief Information Officer shall be an ex officio and non-voting member of the technology committee. One classified/university staff member, who will be non-voting, may be selected by the Classified/University Staff Council to serve on this committee for a three-year term. One student, who will be non-voting, may be appointed by the Student Senate to serve on this committee for a one-year term. (US 4/10, 3/11, 4/13, 10/14, 3/15)

b. Function: The University Senate Technology Committee shall follow activities of school-, college-, and university-wide technology-related committees and all technology-related matters to provide guidance to either the full Senate or to Senate committees on items requiring University Senate action which may affect instructional, resource, and personnel policies and procedures. The committee may provide guidance to the University Senate Executive Committee or the Chancellor on Regent and System Administration documents and proposed policies. Such advice or reaction shall be reported to the University Senate and channeled through the Chancellor to the Regents or System Administration. The committee shall consult with information and technology management on the development of the campus Learning and Technology Services’ Strategic Plan and the setting of priorities on the use of resources and distribution of technology-related monies.

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

Signed: _Mitchell Freymiller___
Chair of the Committee

Send to: University Senate Office