Chair’s Report for October 27, 1998

Senate update
- Remember to initial the roll call sheet when you enter the room
- Meeting agendas and minutes are available on the web site: www.uwec.edu/Admin/Usenate
- Important links to documents and other sites of interest are also available on our Senate web site:
  - Chapter 3, Faculty & Academic Staff handbook
  - Minutes of the Fall University Faculty and Academic Staff meeting
- Reminder:
  - Committee reports will first include informational reports. An opportunity will be given to ask any questions
    concerning the information presented. If the Report contains any motions, the motions will then be presented.
  - Motions that possibly require additional time for Senators to consult with colleagues may be postponed until the
    next Senate meeting.
  - During debate, a member who has spoken twice on a particular motion on the same day has exhausted his or her
    right to debate that motion for the day. An amendment to a motion is considered a different motion.

Open Forum Items from Senate Executive Committee Meeting minutes
- A policy for opening rooms in academic buildings in the evening and on weekends has been requested from
  administration in response to a faculty request. A policy for opening rooms was developed.
- Sexual harassment video shown by the Affirmative Action Office is available in Barbara Stevens' office.
- Currently no effective dissemination of information to students about various opportunities is available
- Some information requests follow a path from deans to chairs to faculty to students
- Presently, faculty are asked to announce items in the classroom
- Possibilities
  - Announcement in Spectator - Spectator is willing to support this request
  - Special notebooks containing information available at specific locations
  - Using bulletin boards
  - Using email, groupware, or student global server

Other Items from Senate Executive Committee Meetings
- Contact person from NCA on campus Thursday, October 15; met with NCA committee
  - Draft tentatively set to go to portions of faculty by Christmas
  - Final document to be printed by July, 1999
  - Visit date by NCA last week of September, 1999
- Email from Randall Ryder, Faculty Representative, UW-Milwaukee asking for examples of state regulations that
  hamper ability to respond to needs of students and overall institutional missions
  - Wisconsin Senator Alberta Darling, chair of Committee on Education, has requested a list of issues faculty and
    staff would like to be addressed for possible deregulation
  - Suggested possible regulations
    - Position control which decreases flexibility to meet personnel needs
    - Mandated start of school year
    - Prohibition from contacting legislators during work day
    - Charging out-of-state tuition for distance courses delivered out of state

Items discussed with the Senate Chair
- The UWEC Student Senate last evening passed a resolution "In Support of the Discontinuation of the UW-EC Course
  Evaluation Instrument". During New Business today, will entertain a motion to discontinue the Course Evaluation
  Instrument effective immediately.

Faculty Reps Meeting
• Concern for the timetable allowing for the involvement of Senates in discussion of Compensation plans was discussed. Typically data is not available until the System-wide Compensation committee meets just before the deadline for submitting suggestions for compensation to the Board of Regents. Little time is available for campus input.

• Some UW-System Compensation Committee campus representatives are elected by and report to the Senate. This method was recommended for all campuses.

Board of Regents Meeting

• The Higher Education Act of 1998 was passed by both the House and Senate and the President signed it into law. Some of the important provisions include: (as reported in the remarks by President Lyall)
  - Preserving Pell Grants; maximum grant will rise from $3000 to $4500 next year and annual increases until 2004 when the maximum grant will reach $5800. Nearly 25,000 students in the UW System receive Pell Grants totaling $36 million in 1997-98.
  - Interest on Federal Student Loans will drop from 8.25% to 7.43%. A loan forgiveness provision has been added for students who become teachers.
  - The bill provides $200 million for early intervention and college awareness programs and encourages state/university partnerships to provide support services to students who are at-risk of dropping out of school and information to encourage students to prepare for post-secondary study.
  - State Postsecondary Review Entities, a highly controversial requirement that would have added substantially to state and higher education administrative costs, have been eliminated and intrusive federal regulation of accrediting agencies has been reduced. At the same time, several new reporting requirements have been added dealing with campus crime, college costs, and teacher preparation.
  - Legislation also establishes a new grant program to improve teacher quality and recruit highly qualified students into teaching.
  - Institutions are called upon to take specific steps to combat binge drinking "in an effort to change the culture of alcohol consumption on college campuses."

Other:

• Committees should be working on the response to the University 5-Year Plan. Only one committee has reported to date. Comments are due in the Senate Office by December 15th.

• Special meeting of the University Academic Staff, 12:15 p.m. Schofield Auditorium to accept nominations to fill two at-large positions on the Provost/Vice Chancellor Search and Screen Committee.

• Special meeting of the University Faculty, 3:00 p.m. Schofield Auditorium to accept nominations to fill two at-large positions on the Provost/Vice Chancellor Search and Screen Committee.

• Remember to vote on November 3rd. The decisions made at the polls, especially in the Governor's race, will affect Higher Education. It is not only your right to vote, but also your responsibility.