UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING
VOL. 45, NO. 7

December 9, 2008

Members Present:

Members Absent:
Robin Baker, Ned Beach, Janice Bogstad, Jacqueline Bonneville, Cheryl Cutsforth, Margaret Devine, Kirby Harless, Larry Honl, Robert Hooper, Andrew Jepsen, Karl Markgraf, Mike Morrison, Geoffrey Peterson, Mehdi Sheikholeslami, Nick Smiar, Sharon Westphal, Rebecca Wurzer

Guests:
Julie Adler, Kris Anderson, Mary Jane Brukardt, Margaret Cassidy, Karen Havholm, Kate Lang, Andrew Phillips, Patricia Stoffers, Aaron Wingad

The regular meeting of University Senate was called to order by Interim-Chair Harrison at 3:04 p.m. on Tuesday, December 9, 2008 in the Tamarack Room of Davies Center.

I. Minutes of November 25, 2008 University Senate meeting approved as distributed

II. Chancellor’s Remarks – Chancellor Levin-Stankevich
- Don’t know anything new on the budget besides what was said at Board of Regents presentation in La Crosse last Thursday and Friday
  - Unsure if there will be a federal bailout for state municipal governments
  - May be a reason to gear up at the state level for construction projects
  - Federal stimulus may take the form of capital projects and infusion through building infrastructure, that could help the system on the capital side of the budget
  - Concern is on the operational side, which is where we all work on a day to day basis
  - It is going to be difficult if there are reductions as this is where the reductions will have to be
- Board approved proposal of 2.5/ 2.5 salary increase
  - Stated that we really need a 5%-8% increase annually to catch up to the median levels of salaries but recognizing the current environment and the public backlash against the university system in the past a 2.5/2.5 increase seemed appropriate
- Had gotten request from President Reilly to curtail travel costs and now have to report on all hiring
  - This is not a ban on travel but we need to exercise discretion
  - We are keeping some positions vacant but it may not be enough
  - Saving more and looking for alternatives is a really good idea
  - Report on a master list of all vacancies and the status of those vacancies; what has been approved/approved for search/offered
  - Demonstrate to System that we are not just hiring every vacancy and we are already cutting back on our expenses
  - We will also give them a list of our travel expenses and a list of the trips we didn’t take
  - This will demonstrate plus and minus
• Congratulations to those in Phillips Hall, Materials Science major was approved
  • Was cited as an example
• Facilities also approved for use of some funds to renovate the Materials Science Center
• Congratulations to Physics for achieving a top listing for producing Physics graduates and also increasing number of women in physics as well
• Kudos to Music Program
  • Had a dinner Saturday night
  • Able to see the talents of students and faculty
  • Christmas concert well attended
  • Reminds the community of all the things we do here and all the interactions we have
  • UWEC does a lot for its citizens
• Talked with staff this weekend about budget issues
  • Important to keep focused on where we want to be
  • Need to figure out a plan to be at full speed when the sun shines again economically
  • Need to be in a competitive position
  • Demographics in the state are heading downward in terms of 18 year olds and that has been our only business
  • Important to protect the quality of our undergraduate programs as it is our bread and butter
  • Need to grow some things that generate enrollment around that program
  • Not to take away from it but to create some things to generate some enrollment so that we don’t continue to dig deeper into an applicant pool that may well shrink
  • Need to support the growth agenda
  • Talked about preserving the core undergraduate program and the quality of it
  • Talked about growing more access to the community for adult education
  • Talked about growing some selected graduate programs that could address targeted marketed areas
  • Increasing retention
• Got a commitment to move down the road in terms of equity, diversity and inclusivity
  • 4 institutions (Oshkosh, La Crosse, Whitewater and Milwaukee) have gone through the climate study already and the findings are interesting
  • Consistent reference in the campus climate studies separating and dividing the status groups
  • Faculty, academic staff, instructional academic staff and classified staff
  • Hard issues to deal with and we will be attentive to how we can bridge those concerns
  • Interesting that it wasn’t race or gender
• David Shih is serving as our Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity Fellow
  • Thank you for putting yourself forward for that and accepting the role; it is an important one
• We are in the PEEQ process and we entered this PEEQ process saying this can be used to allocate new money or identify if we have shortages of money
  • Committed to be loyal to the PEEQ process
  • Look at what we do well and what we don’t do well and how we can do it better
  • Hopefully Madison will allow us to follow through
• Focus has been on the pay plan
  • If it won’t get us up in median what next
  • Looking at domestic partner benefits and also looking at tuition benefits for employees and children
  • Those are investments rather than costs
  • Great benefit to the state and buys allegiance
• Have a good break
• UWEC has incredible talent and if we continue to move forward with our vision we will be the premier undergraduate institution in the Midwest

III. Unfinished Business
Second Reading – Motion from Executive Committee
Calendar Guidelines

Continued Debate
Amendment to proposed calendar language 45-SE-01 as follows: Guidelines for creating Academic Year Calendars are established by the Regents and the University Senate. The Provost’s Office has the primary responsibility for developing calendars meeting the guidelines. Once developed, the University Senate Executive Committee will review the proposed calendar(s). Calendars for at least eight years in advance will be made available on the University web site. Suggestions for revising the academic year calendars should be directed to the University Senate Executive Committee. However, calendars for the current academic year and the two subsequent academic years cannot be modified. Upon approval, the calendar(s) will be presented to the University Senate for information.

Amendment 45-SE-01-al
MOVED by Vice Chair Gapko and seconded that we accept the proposed calendar guidelines as amended.

Vote on Amendment 45-SE-01-a1: Amendment PASSED without dissention.

IV. New Business
A) First Reading – Motion from Academic Policies Committee
Modification of Cultural Diversity Category Definition for “Asian American” Within Historically Under-represented Racial/Ethnic Groups – Senator Hollon
- This is an effort to be more inclusive
- Opens up some opportunities for additional courses
- Would be more closely aligned with other institutions

Motion 45-AP-05
MOVED and seconded by Academic Policies Committee by a vote of 8 votes for and 0 votes against, recommends to the University Senate that the Cultural Diversity Requirement at UW-Eau Claire be modified to include course work on all Asian American populations.

Debate
- None

MOTION by Senator Lozar that we suspend the rules to vote on this today seconded and PASSED without dissention.

Continued Debate on Motion
- None

Vote on Motion 45-AP-05: Motion PASSED without dissention

B) First Reading – Motion from Academic Policies Committee
Proposal for Testing Accommodation for Students Who Are Non-native Speakers of English – Senator Hollon
- This is the result of a lot of discussion
- To try to find ways for students who are not native speakers of English to show what they have learned and not be limited by language specific issues

Motion 45-AP-06
MOVED and seconded by Academic Policies Committee by a vote of 8 votes for and 0 votes against, recommends to the University Senate that the following language be added to the academic policies section (Chapter 7, immediately preceding “Early Testing in Freshman Courses”) of the Faculty and Academic Staff Handbook:
In courses that require tests taken during class time, students who are non-native speakers of English may request extended test-taking time (time and a half). To determine eligibility, English proficiency is evaluated by the Academic Skills Center (for U. S. permanent residents/citizens) or by the Department of Foreign Languages (for international students). Students approved for the accommodation are given a verification form to present to their course instructors. Students must provide verification during each semester at least one week before the test for which accommodation is needed. Verification is valid for one semester.

The accommodation policy does not apply to other forms of evaluation (e.g., papers, projects, group presentations) or to situations in which students must demonstrate clinical or similar skills.

Debate
- One semester is unrealistic
- Students can have the accommodation for more than one semester but they have to request it
- Should be for one full year

Amendment 45-AP-06-a1
MOVED by Senator Wright, seconded that verification is valid for the extent of their stay at UWEC.

Continued Debate
- Some students do not need it for the extent of their stay
- Students would need to seek the accommodation
- Not a matter of influencing the test but the time to familiarize with the instructions
- No intention to lower the bar
- We have to draw a line somewhere and we have a reliable test to determine their need level
- Students should be able to ask for extra time if they think they need it
- Need to have a way to control that it isn’t taken advantage of
- Is equitable for all students
- Believe there are English speakers that are at a disadvantage when taking tests in another native language
- Removes incentive for improvement

Vote on amendment 45-AP-06-a1 to change language to reflect that verification would be valid for extent of stay at UWEC - FAILED.

Amendment 45-AP-06-a2
MOVED by Senator Day, seconded and PASSED.

Amendment 45-AP-06-a2:
In courses that require tests to be taken during class time, in which the primary language of instruction and assessment is English, students who are non-native speakers of English may request extended test-taking time (time and a half).

MOTION by Senator Gapko that we suspend the rules to vote on this today seconded and PASSED by two-thirds vote.

MOTION by Senator McAleer to postpone the discussion until the next meeting, seconded and PASSED without dissention.

Continued Debate on Motion
- Next University Senate meeting is in February
- Implementation on this motion is fall 2009
- No different than extending time for a student with a disability
- Not opposed to the content but there is no reason to postpone
- Would like to hear more information about the diagnostic portion and how it will be administered
- In support of main motion but also think that allowing time to go back and talk to faculty would be beneficial
- If there is a disability then there are clear procedures
- Questions can be directed to Senator Lozar prior to the next University Senate meeting so she can be prepared to answer them at the next meeting

**Vote on motion is postponed until the next University Senate meeting of February 10, 2009.**

V. University Senate Chair’s Report – Interim-Chair Harrison
- The Senate Action of last May changing the Handbook language in Chapter 5 related to Promotion Eligibility to Senior Lecturer is out of UW System and we are waiting to receive final word on its standing

VI. Faculty Representative’s Report – Senator McAleer
- Meet this Friday in Madison
- Will be discussing the 3 year baccalaureate degree

VII. Academic Staff Representative’s Report – Senator Brockpahler
- Academic Staff will be meeting on Friday in Madison

VII. Reportable items from Committees
- Executive Committee – Interim-Chair Harrison
  - At the last University Senate Executive Committee meeting it was decided to cancel the University Senate meeting scheduled for January 27, 2009. It is recommended that this time be used for discussing PEEQ reports
  - Next University Senate Executive meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2009
- Academic Policies Committee – Senator Hollon
  - For the record
    - Dual emphasis with UW Platteville
- Budget Committee – Senator Eckardt
  - Have met a couple of times and are discussing what our roles should be
  - Stephanie Jamelske has talked with us about how the new budget process will work with PEEQ and the Centennial Plan

VIII. Special Reports
A) Equity Scorecard Progress – David Shih
- First interim report on access
- Just released this interim report on diversity webpage
- Access, retention, institution receptivity
- Team members:
  - David Shih, Associate Professor, Department of English (Team Leader); Robin Beeman, Associate Professor, Department of Nursing; Scott Lester, Professor, Department of Management and Marketing; Andy Nelson, Institutional Planner, Office of Institutional Research; Teresa O’Halloran, Assistant to the Chancellor, Affirmative Action Office; Gail Scukanec, Dean, College of Education and Human Sciences; Patti See, Senior Student Services Coordinator, Educational Support Services, and Senior Lecturer, Women’s Studies; Marty Wood, Interim Provost, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Salvador Carranza, Senior Institutional Planner, UW System Administration; Christine Navia, Institutional Planner, UW System Administration
  - See website for additional information at: [http://www.uwec.edu/diversity eqs.htm](http://www.uwec.edu/diversity eqs.htm)
- Need to be aware of what is in our control and what is outside our control
- Share and talk about this with your colleagues

B) General Education Reform Committee – Kate Lang
• Committee is collecting feedback
• Using feedback to write new draft
• 3 messages have been consistent
  • Want more integration
  • Breath of knowledge
  • Ready for change
• Learning outcomes and proposing a structure
• Propose something that the campus can manage
• We have 10,000 students that we need to serve
• Need to be realistic
• Plan from here on out is to go to the faculty and staff think tanks this spring
• Ask for feedback on things we have made decisions on
• Plan for us to bring final draft through governance in fall semester
• What you are seeing in the new draft is fore grounded in the learning outcomes
• Contact Kate Lang if questions, comments, or feedback

IX. Miscellaneous Business - None

X. Announcements
  • Next University Senate meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2009

Without objection, meeting adjourned at 4:27p.m.

Submitted by,

Tanya Kenney
Secretary to the University Senate