

**University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
University Senate Executive Committee**

Minutes from March 3, 2020
Volume 56, Number 11

Present: Jasmine Case, Chip Eckardt, Elizabeth Glogowski, John Haven, Bob Hooper, Marquell Johnson, Patricia Kleine, John Mann, Colleen Marchwick, Jill Markgraf, Bill Miller, Kristin Schaupp, James Schmidt, Charlotte Sortedahl, Pedro Sottile, Ryan Weichelt, Evan Weiher

Absent: Warren Anderson, Geoffrey Peterson, Ka Vang

Guests: Melissa Allen, Kelly Holzer, Bridget Kelley, Clara Neupert, Mike Rindo

A meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Weiher at 3:01 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 in the Council Oak Room of Davies Center.

- 1) Approval of the Minutes of February 18, 2020
 - Approved as distributed
- 2) Ten Minute Open Forum
 - Coronavirus and pandemic planning
 - CIE has been great on keeping us up to date on the students but how are we planning to communicate on other preparations
 - Concern about teaching classes if we have a shut-down
 - Canvas can stream live, if need be, but wondering what we would do if we had to shut down
 - Conversations are all considerations and maybe's at this time
 - Students are coming back from Korea and Italy so we should all be taking normal precautions, such as washing your hands and etc.
 - The Italy program will be teaching online, but the Korea program is more unknown as it is an art program
 - Our concern is a lot less than for the larger metropolitan areas
 - It might be presented to self-quarantine
 - 130 students are still abroad
 - With the Spain program, all the students are at the same university, but they can be taught online if necessary
 - More things are being talked about tomorrow
 - Risk Management is working closely with CIE
 - We are engaged with the city and county and we are ready to put students in isolation
 - Is a major concern as some have immune deficiencies
 - We need to remind students to wash their hands and to use other precautions
 - Teachers do not want students to come to school sick
 - Odds are we are going to get it on campus, so it is important that we are prepared
 - General advisories could be put out
 - Purell dispensers have been put out and surfaces are being cleaned but we would like to see more communication regarding pandemic flu and a request was made for disinfecting wipes for things like keyboards in common areas
 - Computer Science Program
 - It is not true that the program is closing
 - We needed to have applied technology included so thought we should also include AI
 - New people are coming to campus in addition to the people that are already here
 - 5 new hires
 - All from different areas of expertise
 - We also use people from other departments to teach

- Exit Survey(s)
 - Curious about the exit surveys and if those exit surveys were read (and by whom) and if so, then why did it take a formal complaint to come to this
 - VC Haven will look into this
 - If moving from one department to another then the transferred person should also be given an exit survey
 - Chancellor is hoping to pull everyone's best thinking together as he would like to be more proactive
 - Want faculty/staff comfortable with bringing things forward and would like meaningful change
 - Question for the Chancellor on how common the 6-month clause is for administrators
 - It is part of the limited appointment position
 - Is a recruitment tool
 - The 6-month clause could change dependent on the result of the investigation
 - Comment that if we are making sure that an administrator has a safety net then we could think about ways to add 6-month safety nets for people who have been on campus for 5, 10 or more years
 - Unknown if this is possible
 - Would have to see if this would even be allowed through System or the State before we would look into process
 - Please let Tanya know by the morning of 3/17 if you will have any University Senate agenda items for the 3/31 University Senate meeting
- 3) Review of tentative agenda for March 10, 2020 meeting of the University Senate
- Approved as distributed
- 4) Consultation with VC Haven/Administration regarding possible reorganization of Procurement
- Request/reasoning regarding the above consultation:
 - We are considering moving the reporting lines of the two procurement staff who are within the facilities team to report directly to the university procurement director
 - The consolidated procurement team will retain staff offices in the facilities team area to continue to provide service
 - The delegation of authority for procurement actually flows from the university procurement director, so providing her with more direct oversight over the people makes sense
 - Because the two current teams are small, by consolidating them, more redundancy is created for both campus and facilities
 - The staff and supervisors have been involved in the discussion for several months now
 - We initiated combined staff meetings and cross training to ensure everyone is on the same knowledge base and to ensure everyone feels that this next step makes sense
 - Given the success of acting as one for a few months now, we think we are prepared to discuss taking the next step and making it formal
 - Workload issues
 - Two more annual evaluations would need to be done
 - Seems like the people involved are in support of this so this makes sense
 - Relevant stakeholders have been consulted unlike with the printing changes
 - Cons were explored and many discussions were held to work through the various issues
 - Purchases are seasonal
 - Putting these teams together will not change deadlines but we should be able to tighten up our deadlines
- 5) Consultation with Provost Kleine/Administration regarding (Interim) A&S Dean
- Asked Rodd Freitag (Interim Dean) to remain for an additional year
 - Will talk to the college on how we form the committee
 - Need the job description to be reviewed this spring then can put the advertisement out and can interview in the early fall
 - This search should not involve an external search consultant
 - State legislature and BOR want the names published in searches but that isn't always good
 - Comment wondering if FASRP language on external search committees would help

- Search committees predispose themselves to timelines so if we put regulations in the FASRP then we would wonder why the pool wasn't bigger
 - Would be leery to consider language
- We used to employ people to do background checks and we assume that the search firms now do that when they are more concerned on closing the deal
 - The search firm is responsible for doing the background checks but only have to share the results of that information with the Chancellor and not the search committee
 - What is the incentive for the search firm to do the search
 - Their entire political capital is at risk if they didn't do the work so there is big incentive
 - It is our job to ensure that we are asking them to do the search and to look for what we want
 - Some big issues with how the search committee's information is being used
 - We should share their information with the entire search committee
 - Why would you want to make a recommendation when you do not know all of the information
 - Background checks can still be done without a search firm
 - Want to ensure that all represented groups are at the table

6) Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Submitted by,
Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate