A meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Weiher at 3:02 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 via online (Microsoft Teams) meeting.

1) Approval of the University Senate Executive Committee Minutes of April 7, 2020
   • Approved as amended
     • A clarification was made in section 4 as follows:
       • We would have to make the decision soon if we were going back to online teaching in the fall
       • UW System has decided that all UW System schools will move forward after a decision has been made cohesively among the campuses

2) Ten Minute Open Forum
   • Questioning if the printer conversion be delayed due to the pandemic as there is concern over touching the same printers
     • Chip Eckardt, LTS will look into this
     • This seems to be supported
     • Minimally there should be disinfectant wipes provided near the printers
   • CARES Act and how it applies at UWEC
     • Just over $7 million to be given to UWEC with ½ given to students as financial aid
     • We have a hole in our collective budgets
     • Been working with UW System for 4th phase of investments in the country
       • Encouraging UW System to work with some of the larger systems (California, New York and etc.) for federal support
     • This is a different recession than in 2008
       • We shouldn’t have such a long period of unemployment
     • Waiting on the actual guidance for what we can do with this money
   • Cancelling of the equity and performance increases
     • I’m sure it was a difficult decision but wondering of that can be partially retained as it would preserve some appreciation
     • It is still postponed but we will revisit it
     • BOR will be having an emergency meeting Thursday afternoon to delay furloughs
     • Chancellor will get feedback from shared governance as we figure this out
     • Investing in faculty and staff is still our goal

3) New Business
   • None

4) Continued Discussion on Optional S/U Grading Discussion
   • APC voted to approve the policy for temporary S/U grading
   • Will be coming to the Executive Committee for next week
   • After the draft was sent for comments APC determined
• This is a multistep process
• Concerns were noted about the maximum of 12 S/U credits
• Dates were yet to be determined
  • Questioning how one office handles this workload
• The importance of the implementation of this policy in that if the students choose to opt into this policy that it is applicable to them
• Concern that the drop date for students is next Monday
  • APC is in favor of extending that date so students can think about if they want to drop a course or not
• Questioning why a student needs to have a sophomore standing or higher
  • Freshman will be able to take S/U option
• The hope is to make the e-form an easier to maneuver document
• The motion that will come forward will only be the policy itself
  • The policy is all that will be in the motion as the Registrar’s Office will construct the e-form and they, among others such as the deans, know more of the details that go along with that
• We took our current S/U policy and determined what we would want to be changed/modified
  • Some of the details will still need to be determined
• The motion from APC will be shared Thursday when the Executive Committee materials are sent out
  • Executive Committee to look at this next Tuesday with senators being given the opportunity to comment as well
  • Senate comments can be shared with the Executive Committee
  • This would also allow senators to get feedback from their departments
• The S/U policy and academic distinction remains the same
  • Incompletes are not and APC issue as that is a Registrar issue
    • Incompletes are NOT a student option, but the instructor’s
      • If the IN (incompletes) is not being changed within the time window the student has the option to change to S/U the letter grade assigned, then the student should not have the option to change
      • Questioning if a student decides they want an incomplete, then changes their mind in July will it be too late for them to change their mind
        • Once the final grade is entered then they would have the same amount of time as any other student
  • Colleges/Departments can increase their flexibility for this semester
    • It is at the discretion of the colleges/departments
    • This language might need to be inserted
  • It is not clear what changes are allowed
    • The change is up to 12 credits
    • Specific graded courses are not subject to this policy
• Concern about the difficulties that undeclared students might have with this policy
  • On the e-form there is interest in having statements that the students have to read and recognize as there might be costs involved if taking a course S/U and we want to make sure students are fully aware of that
  • This is another reason that APC wants to ensure that the students meet with an advisor first
• Many students do not typically take the S/U option
• Not sure this policy is helping many at-risk students

5) Announcements
• Executive Committee will be looking at the Spring Nominations next week

Meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Submitted by,
Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate