University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
University Senate Executive Committee

Minutes from June 15, 2020
Volume 56, Number 21


Guests: MJ Brukardt, Mike Carney, Margaret Cassidy, Marc Goulet, Kelly Holzer, Debra Jansen, Angela Milas, Jean Pratt, Jill Prushiek, Lisa Schiller

A meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Weiher at 3:02 p.m. on Tuesday, June 15, 2020 via online (Microsoft Teams) meeting.

1) Approval of the University Senate Executive Committee Minutes of May 19, 2020
   • Approved as distributed

2) Consultation with Administration regarding restructuring
   • Mike Rindo announced his retirement
     • This makes for an unusual package to search for so would like to move Facilities through John Haven as it is a more standard model
     • Some reporting lines were already moved and would want to temporarily move Athletics and Recreation to VC Warren Anderson and the operations of Barron County moved temporarily to Billy Felz
     • These moves would divvy up the labor distribution
   • Given the economic situation and to make sure administration is trimmed down it was proposed that this be filled with an interim University Relations Director then we would continue to evaluate
   • IMC to report to MJ Brukardt but we are still missing true strategic communications
   • With the late notice of Mike’s decision, the Chancellor has identified someone for the interim position mentioned above with a maximum of two-year appointment
     • This is the person who is the face for the media
       • Phase two of the science building has been moved back two biennia (six years)
       • Is now an uphill fight so we need to make sure we are communicating with appropriately
       • Phase two of the process is the other half of the money we need
     • Want one design and to only build it once
     • Goal is to get enough of the design completed so we can know exactly how much we need

   • Student Health Services
     • There have been a number of institutional changes since the last time we met about SHS so VC Anderson Wanted to look at more creative ways to lead SHS
     • The main change is the reporting line and structure of the positions
       • All are still university employees in SHS
         • Day to day reporting lines report up through the Director
     • Forecasting for a decline in funding as well as student enrollment so we have to expect a decline in funding from Student Senate
       • Want to do this without the threat of eliminating positions to keep up with the drop in student enrollment
     • The University Medical Director will oversee all operations of SHS
       • So will mirror what Pat Kress is doing now with an additional person to help (less than full-time)
• Student Health Educators are part of a larger organizational structure that will not be a part of SHS
• Questioning why the Administrative Coordinator is also coming from MAYO
  • If not a medical professional, then this wouldn’t pose the same problem so why should we go through MAYO to fill this position
    • Benefit of going through MAYO is the rotational benefits and since the Director is MAYO then could understand the needs of the physician
    • Would not be interim
  • Concern that MAYO has non-compete clauses so that is why we have problems hiring – they have cornered the market and by hiring through them then we would essentially be supporting those agreements
    • The Administrative Coordinator would not be held to a non-compete clause so concern over outsourcing that position
    • This position was previously at the director level but now many things are under the Medical Director position and didn’t want a director level person that doesn’t have full administrative oversight, so it was changed to a coordinator
    • Hiring, supervising and evaluating the SHS staff would fall to the Dean of Students and up through VC Warren Anderson
  • VC Anderson stated that he follows protocol but hasn’t brought this to the full SHS staff so do not know how they feel about this
    • They know the process, and this will be fully vetted through the unit
    • FASRP language on the search committee requirements was shared with VC Anderson as well as informing him that these are open meetings, so the information is available to everyone
  • UWEC selects the persons that are being hired
    • MAYO is giving us the people for us to consider
    • “They” are not package deals
    • Candidates will come from an internal process from within MAYO
    • We are well below market for these positions, so MAYO is contributing to both of these positions
    • The Director oversees the staff, the coordinator does not oversee the staff

3) Ten Minute Open Forum
• The process for CDC guidelines for those that are more at risk is to fill out a form
  • Concern that those that have a family member that falls under the at-risk category do not qualify
    • We are trying to get clarity on the process for ADA accommodation(s) as this may allow for this
  • CDC talks about 6 feet but there are also other considerations, such as ventilation
  • Worried about ventilation so 6 feet may not be appropriate as many of the buildings do not have adequate ventilation
  • This is a work in progress
    • We just got through the first run this last week on what we can fit into our complex
    • Now we can start talking about which rooms are inadequate
    • Can we share space that are usually utilized for other things
    • We have cascading effects so many things will have to be revisited
    • We are trying to balance things for the students and the staff
    • Rooms are figured out by a computer and we kept everyone 6 feet apart
    • Looked at all rooms, even non-traditional rooms
    • In the “25lives” first pass we looked to see if we can offer the curriculum
      • It will determine how many classes we can offer face-to-face vs. online
        • Then we might look at ventilation and etc.
    • Did not look at not having more than 50 people per room
      • Since it is not a public gathering, we should be good on those numbers
    • Will have seating charts for every classroom as well
    • Most rooms are under 50 per room
    • In labs we are testing out things with 144 sq. feet per person
    • How are we working with the county on these recommendations
• Interpretation is a primary work environment, not an office
  • Risk Management sees this differently according to what they said
  • VC Haven is the Risk Management supervisor and VC Haven also works
    with the County so bring questions or concerns to him directly
• Worries and concerns about the app
  • Concern over how long data will be kept
    • Will work with the vendor so we can figure that out
  • Concern over who has access
    • Trying to confirm this but think it will be our own server
    • Will be working with the vendor
  • Concern over who is liable in case of data breaches and concern over access to internet
    • Will be a couple of weeks before we know more
  • Concern that we shouldn’t be asked permission as if we want to stay employed or continue to be a student
    • Not an acceptance, but a disclosure
  • Concern that the data can be used to figure out several things, such as when a female is ovulating
    • This is an app developed by MAYO but MAYO doesn’t have access to the information
      • It is our data
    • This will enable us to open with integrity
  • CDC guidelines for reopening the university is to conduct daily health checks with students and employees
• UW System President Search
  • Candidate withdrew
  • There has been silence so do not know how they will proceed
• Line of credit is not clear and is unlikely that the campuses will get it, except for maybe Madison
  • We do not have revenue bonding authority
  • Since System has to sign for it then they are probably on the hook for it
• Regulatory relief
  • Would like fewer rules that we have to follow if we are getting less money
  • If we can buy something cheaper from a local competitor then why can’t we buy it from them
  • Early start may be able to be done but we are running out of time
    • We submitted the request 6 weeks ago and it was just forwarded on
  • We are required to purchase from Badger State Industries so wondering if this is something to push back on
• As we move forward that we have it in the front of our minds that if we feel marginalized that we need the voice of many to impact change
  • Support your students
  • Ideas or suggestions can be forwarded to the executive team and VC Warren Anderson
  • Optimistic that we might see change
  • Campus has been closed for any outside rentals
• Enrollment is looking like our freshman class will be down about 5%
  • Our retention rate is almost identical to last year, but we cannot control outbreaks
  • Many schools will not require facemasks so we might lose students because of that rule
    • May also have additional students enroll because we are requiring it

4) Announcements
  • None

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Submitted by,
Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate