

University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
University Senate Executive Committee

Minutes from June 29, 2020
Volume 56, Number 22

Present: Jasmine Case, Chip Eckardt, Elizabeth Glogowski, Bob Hooper, Patricia Kleine, John Mann, Colleen Marchwick, Jill Markgraf, Bill Miller, Geoffrey Peterson, James Schmidt, Pedro Sottile, Ka Vang, Ryan Weichelt, Evan Weiher

Absent: Warren Anderson, John Haven, Marquell Johnson, Kristin Schaupp, Charlotte Sortedahl

Guests: Mike Carney, Margaret Cassidy, Jean Pratt

A meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Weiher at 3:02 p.m. on Tuesday, June 29, 2020 via online (Microsoft Teams) meeting.

- 1) Approval of the University Senate Executive Committee Minutes of June 15, 2020
 - Approved as distributed
- 2) Ten Minute Open Forum
 - Tommy Thompson has been named the Interim UW System President
- 3) Discussion on the opening of campus this fall
 - A letter from the Provost came out but many faculty felt they should have the autonomy to teach online with consultation with their chair
 - Provost said there will be a lot more flexibility in regard to this as UWEC will be open in the fall
 - Provost Kleine stated that there are many that cannot be on campus come fall
 - Many campuses have policies on when teachers can teach online, but the policy typically allows this for pregnant women, for example, but the COVID criteria also fits into ADA guidelines
 - System Legal was consulted with this
 - 25 people have already applied through ADA thus far
 - We are going to be in-person for our instruction, but we will take many precautions for safety
 - We will have an app for health check-ins, and we will have limited seating and etc.
 - Some do not want to teach online for a multitude of reasons
 - If there is an outbreak, then we will all stay in place and we will all go to online completely for instruction
 - Some classes cannot be accommodated so they will have to go online
 - Music will be online almost entirely
 - Mike Carney on the Density Study
 - We are still finalizing the actual capacities in the classrooms in a socially distanced world
 - The people who have the expertise in this area are in facilities and are reanalyzing our COVID caps
 - Is still a work in process
 - Mike Carney will not make the call if a class goes online as many will be involved
 - As a campus we are being overly cautious
 - Masks will be required on campus
 - “Language” people need to read lips, so we are looking at clear masks and face shields or behind plexiglass
 - There are some policies that we should put in place
 - The non-HR route is through the Chair and the Dean to make the decision

- Question on who will be monitoring the students and verify they are wearing a mask
 - Faculty members can ask a student to leave the class
 - We are a community, so we want to protect each other
 - Student Affairs is looking at how to de-escalate a situation
 - Hand Sanitizer will be required before entering the classroom and extra masks will be needed
 - Progressive discipline will happen for those that do not follow the rule
 - Staff need to model the use of masks
 - Students so far seem to be good at wearing masks but not good at staying 6 feet apart
 - A lot of furniture will be removed to help with distancing
- Would like Freedom to front load the classes
 - Records and Registration would need to be worked with so unsure if and how this would be done
- Question on classroom vs. online
 - When the instructor is not in the classroom with the students so we could have the students in more than one classroom while the instructor is somewhere else
 - This type of situation is in the gray area on how to file how one is teaching
 - The technology piece is doable
 - The departments can work this out
 - Could we get everything out of teams and link it to campus
 - We are also purchasing zoom as that has those kind of features
 - Teams and Canvas could be turned on for our campus
 - More options and alternatives would be better
 - Not sure how CETL would feel as far as support
 - Webcams are being ordered
 - To be put in all the classrooms
 - 4k1's were purchased so should have good resolution
 - Not sure we have enough budget to hire students in classrooms all day long
 - Concern about enforcing compliance outside the classroom in some of our shared spaces
 - When outside this will be more difficult to monitor and some furniture may need to be moved out
 - Staff do not want to police in this climate
 - People on the front lines are women who are undercompensated
 - Do not want to be in a confrontational situation
 - The students need to be told and it should be reported to the Dean of Students
 - Risk Management shared link to a draft UW System training for employees but this could also be done for the students
 - If we are trying to minimize the risk, then the Chamber should be talked to
 - If stores are requiring masks, then it will make it more palatable for students to wear masks on campus

4) Announcements

- July 1st the Library will be beginning their curbside delivery
 - If interested, go to the library website and follow the instructions
- There is no plan for a next meeting but will see how things go

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Submitted by,
Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate