

University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
University Senate Executive Committee

Minutes from September 15, 2020
Volume 57, Number 2

Present: Warren Anderson, Jasmine Case, Chip Eckardt, Elizabeth Glogowski, Marquell Johnson, Patricia Kleine, John Mann, Colleen Marchwick, Jill Markgraf, Bill Miller, Geoffrey Peterson, Kristin Schaupp, James Schmidt, Charlotte Sortedahl Pedro Sottile, Ka Vang, Ryan Weichelt, Evan Weiher

Absent: Bob Hooper

Guests: Mike Carney, Debra Jansen, Jean Pratt, Jill Prushiek, Kelly Murray, Christina Prust, Katie Wilson, Linda Young

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

- 1) Approval of the University Senate Executive Committee Minutes of September 1, 2020
 - Approved as distributed
- 2) Review of the tentative agenda for September 22, 2020 meeting of the University Senate
 - Nominees will come in later in the week and will be updated on the agenda prior to distribution
 - Approved as amended
- 3) Open Forum
 - Worried that the perception of administrator's is that faculty have more free time now that many of us are online, when the faculty are extremely overwhelmed
 - Most senior administrators feel that people are at a max right now and know that they are swamped, which is also probably why we are not getting people volunteering for committees
 - It is a challenging time so hats off to all the faculty and staff who are putting in so much time and work
 - Ray Cross's role in UW System
 - Heard that Cross still had involvement with the development of a college degree pathways program for nontraditional students as well as initiatives to increase diversity for those of color
 - Chancellor has had no interaction with Ray Cross in regard to the above but do know that Cross was in conversations regarding the COVID antigen tests
 - Each institution does not have autonomy to make changes
 - This Spring things happened quickly so perhaps at that time things were more in our hands
 - We are always to consult with System and we are not to act until we discussed it with System as the answer could still be "no"
 - Interim President Thompson makes it clear that he is to be consulted then a decision comes from there
 - We may have influence but there needs to be an agreement with System administration
 - Blugold Briefing messaging
 - Is concerning as the messaging says that things are going well, and everyone is doing great, but it seems to make people not take things as seriously as they should
 - Worry about the students who feel like they are completely underwater and because of the messaging they think they are alone because everyone else is doing so great
 - We should not downplay those obstacles as many are struggling and they're stressed
 - Chancellor Schmidt agreed that the language used should be looked at
 - Athletics Department investigation update
 - Coronavirus happened so things have not happened as quickly on this front as people have been busy in other areas

- The preliminary data has been given to Athletics but focus groups are still pending
 - Once the focus groups are completed UWEC will be given a comprehensive report
 - Ongoing training for Athletics is likely
 - The initial data is more than satisfactory but more data will come from the focus groups
 - We picked this company as both quantitative and qualitative things are being done
- 4) Upcoming Fifth Tuesday Discussion
- We will tentatively schedule a Senate meeting but could have an Executive Committee meeting in lieu of, if necessary
- 5) Announcements
- None
- 6) Consultation with the Chancellor/Administration regarding committee appointments to committees including the University Assessment Committee as well as an informational item. Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85 (c) the committee contemplates going into closed session for the purpose of discussion.

Without objection it was MOVED and seconded that the committee go into closed session under Wisconsin Statute 19.85 (c) for the purposes of discussion.

Motion PASSED without objection by Jasmine Case, Chip Eckardt, Elizabeth Glogowski, Marquell Johnson, John Mann, Colleen Marchwick, Jill Markgraf, Bill Miller, Geoffrey Peterson, Kristin Schaupp, Charlotte Sortedahl Pedro Sottile, Ka Vang, Ryan Weichelt, Evan Weiher

Meeting adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Submitted by,
Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate