University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
University Senate Executive Committee

Minutes from February 16, 2021
Volume 57, Number 9

Present: Jasmine Case, Chip Eckardt, Billy Felz, Abbey Fischer, Elizabeth Glogowski, Marquell Johnson, Patricia Kleine, Bridget Kurtenbach, John Mann, Colleen Marchwick, Jill Markgraf, Sean McAleer, Geoffrey Peterson, Kristin Schaupp, James Schmidt, Charlotte Sortedahl, Pedro Sottile, Ka Vang, Ryan Weichelt, Evan Weiher

Absent: Grace Crickette, Kelly Murray

Guests: Mike Carney, Margaret Cassidy, Marc Goulet, Debra Jansen, Teresa O’Halloran, Nichole Owen, Jill Prushieik, Katie Wilson

A meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Weiher at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 via online (Microsoft Teams) meeting.

1) Approval of the University Senate Executive Committee Minutes of February 2, 2021
   - Approved as distributed

2) Open Forum
   - Bookstore
     - RFP taskforce has not met yet so do not know about what changes they may discuss but the IRR committee will be looking at some of the issues
     - By partnering with Library, we hope to identify resources to minimize cost and extend access wherever possible
     - Been talking with bookstore to spend the surplus to assist students
     - Trew College of Business suggested electronic books to keep the costs down
     - Last summer the Library talked with CETL and Centers to identify open educational resources and it was successful as 10 faculty piloted open-source textbook materials and 10 more will try it this summer
     - Is funded by bookstore surpluses
     - Courses can be revised to use the open educational resources and CETL and the Library will assist instructors through this
   - I-UW System President Thompson talked of adding additional branch campuses with the technical colleges
   - Another initiative is being discussed as an academic strategic plan for UW System on merging on a programmatic level
     - It is said to be in the infancy stage but curious where it is actually at
       - There is a blueprint out and the Chancellor and Provost are paying close attention
       - There may be opportunities to working closely together but all the campus situations are very different so it can’t be a one size fits all
       - UWEC doesn’t have our back up against a wall and we make responsible decisions so the real question is should System solve this or trust the indvivial institutions
         - We are doing things locally to explore collaboration
         - Some campuses have a hard time making decisions, so they want system to clean up their mess
         - There may be too many institutions of higher education in WI so perhaps that should be talked about instead
   - Spring Break
     - A request was made to have an official message be sent to students about Spring Break as many students are still planning a spring break vacation
     - Would like them to know that they cannot come back to the classroom for a time if they leave
     - VC Crickette sent out quarantining and testing information for any kind of travel and we will continue to send this out as the spring break time approaches
• If no illness and continued testing, then after 7 days the student can return back to class
• Caution that if we send that out then it almost gives permission that they can leave
• Professors do not need to make accommodations if they are gone
• Sympathetic if the student is ill but you are expected to participate in class

Caregiver Resolution
• Shared Governance met yesterday to talk about policies and rubrics and encouraging this to be part of evaluations during COVID and moving forward
• Want language that is inclusive and appealing to all
• Senate will be putting forward a resolution to support this
• Urge us to support the recommendations as it is an equity issue and COVID pushed this to the forefront
• We are always looking for ways to improve morale

3) Review of the tentative agenda for February 23, 2021 meeting of the University Senate
• Approved as amended
  • “Elementary” Education Rename amended to reflect “Elementary”
  • Reports to close CIE programs to be separate

4) Discussion on Student Senate Resolution: Universal Feedback and Grading Timeframe
• Will not be bringing a motion forward to support this resolution
• Matters are at the college and department levels and reside with DPC to ensure a certain level of expectations are met
• There was a demand was that it be placed in the FASRP but that would not be appropriate so in the spirit of shared governance APC will craft a statement to Student Senate
• Some of the points they make are good, but this doesn’t seem to be a good solution
• There would be no way to enforce this

5) Announcements
• Chancellor will have a briefing tonight at 5

6) Consultation with the Chancellor/Administration regarding appointment(s) to committees, including the University Liberal Education Committee. 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, Abbey Fischer, Elizabeth Glogowski, Marquell Johnson, Bridget Kurtenbach, John Mann, Colleen Marchwick, Jill Markgraf, Sean McAleer, Geoffrey Peterson, Kristin Schaupp, Charlotte Sortedahl, Pedro Sottile, Ka Vang, Ryan Weichelt

Meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

Submitted by,
Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate