University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
University Senate Executive Committee

Minutes from October 19, 2021
Volume 58, Number 4

Present: Jasmine Case, Olga Diaz, Billy Felz, Abbey Fischer, Kent Gerberich, Elizabeth Glogowski, Marquell Johnson, Patricia Kleine, John Mann, Colleen Marchwick, Jill Markgraf, Sean McAleen, Kelly Murray, Geoffrey Peterson, Kristin Schaupp, James Schmidt, Pedro Sottile, Ryan Weichelt, Evan Weiher

Absent: Grace Crickette, Charlotte Sortedahl

Guests: MJ Brukar, Margaret Cassidy, Mary Hoffman, Debra Jansen, Nichole Owen, Jean Pratt, Jill Prushiek, Alexis Sternfeld-Dunn, Kimera Way, Jake Wrasse

A meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Weiher at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 19, 2021 via online (Microsoft Teams) meeting.

1) Approval of the University Senate Executive Committee Minutes of October 5, 2021
   • Approved as distributed

2) Review of the tentative agenda for the October 26, 2021 meeting of the University Senate
   • Approved as amended
   • Combine the new business items into one motion from the Academic Policies Committee with the title: Change of Major Names in Chemistry

3) Open Forum
   • Calendar
     • Provost Kleine is concerned that students do not stick through a class but thinks they might with coaching as they would not withdraw
     • We are working on coaching techniques and may change deadlines
       • Would like to try a pilot for two years to see if the withdrawal deadline was moved to the 12th week (December 1) to see if it influences anything
     • Provost Kleine open to ideas
     • Right now, withdrawal is about week 10 so it adds 2+ weeks
     • With midterm grades due on the 27th this would be favorable
     • Many students couldn’t get in to see their advisor until after the withdrawal deadline
       • This is a good idea so is nice to see this talked about
     • It gives students a chance to hang in there
     • Other schools give more time
     • Comment on if this could be more intentional on the student’s side if this is implemented
       • There should not be more pressure on faculty
     • This has been effective in other schools
     • Want to pilot this to make sure it is not a covid effect
   • Testing
     • Additional spaces have been added so people are happy to see that but there is a concern that students no longer need to set up that accommodation on their own as the e-form went away
     • The accommodations process is a way for the students to be verified that they are eligible, and we are working on a staffing model now to return to the student scheduling component
     • Implementing AIM software to self-schedule a testing time but it is not running yet
     • That is a high demand area with not enough staff or space
     • Those are the problems
     • Comment that when you make changes part way through the semester and when you have staff members take on more then that needs to be acknowledged
• They also need to know that it is only temporary
• This is also a complicated area of law that needs to be navigated and not everybody keeps up with these rules, so trainings are also being talked about
• What it means to provide an accommodation, privacy issues and how to respond to the student
• Large surplus in the state
• We know what happens when they have less so it’s good that there is a surplus, but we are not positive that any of it will come our way
• Interim UW System President Thompson not happy that he hasn’t been able to get more money than he has
• We need our advocates to go to the capital

4) Frozen File Discussion
• Looks like this can be updated with the information we received so this will be coming back to the Executive Committee for further discussion in the future

5) Announcements
• None

6) Consultation with the Chancellor/Administration regarding a nomination for an honorary degree. 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 regarding a nomination for an honorary degree.

Motion PASSED without objection by Jasmine Case, Abbey Fischer, Kent Gerberich, Elizabeth Giogowski, Marquell Johnson, John Mann, Colleen Marchwick, Jill Markgraf, Sean McAleer, Kelly Murray, Geoffrey Peterson, Kristin Schaupp, Pedro Sottile, Ryan Weichelt, Evan Weiher

Meeting adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Submitted by,
Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate