

**University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
University Senate Executive Committee**

Minutes from November 30, 2021
Volume 58, Number 7

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

Absent: Geoffrey Peterson

Guests: MJ Brukardt, Diane Christophersen, Emily Herwig, Nicole Owen

A meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Weiher at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 30, 2021 via online (Microsoft Teams) meeting.

1) Consultation with Administration on the budget

- Budget Update was given as the enrollment decline in the last several years left us in a structural deficit of \$4.5 million dollars, but Chancellor Schmidt would still like to consider a one-time (lump sum) retention payment to faculty and staff
- Chancellor Schmidt wants to invest in faculty and staff, so investment strategies were shown
 - A graduated approach was used for the one-time (base of salary) retention payment
 - Percentages were shown and base investments will also be addressed as we have had a tuition freeze for so long so also proposing a more sustainable system for equity, with that first payment in July 1, 2022
 - Projections were shown for enrollment and structural deficits
- Questions:
 - The slides projected out to 2025
 - This is understandable, yet concerning
 - The numbers on the slides included HERF funds
 - Concern was for those that earn less as need more of the funds
 - This is meant to let people know that they are appreciated and that we value everyone, and it was meant to be a balanced approach taking into account all the complexities
 - Instead of focusing on why students they leave it is nice to focus on why they stay but it would be helpful to know why students leave so we know what to focus on
 - This is appreciated and is a good investment
 - Skeptical that our enrollment will go up by that much
 - SSD will get an additional coordinator position to help, and the Student Senate also funded a position for two years and we will also be opening a test center
 - Registration and enrollment moving forward is looking promising according to VC Felz
 - We also need to remember the climate we create for retention for people of color
 - This may be a risk but as a campus, this is something we need to do

Meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Submitted by,
Tanya Kenney
Secretary of the University Senate