UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING
VOLUME 58, NUMBER 9

February 22, 2022

Members Present:

Members Absent:
Ari Anand, Lisa Coen, Mary Elger-Lonzarich, Billy Felz, Ashley Galoff, Pat Kleine, Daniel Schumacher

Guests:
MJ Brukardt, Mike Carney, Margaret Cassidy, Emily Herwig, Mary Hoffman, Debra Jansen, Carmen Manning, Sonja Meiers, Nicole Owen, Jean Pratt, Jill Prushiek, Louisa Rice, Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn, Jake Wrasse

The regular meeting of University Senate was called to order by Chair Weiher at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 via online Teams meeting.

1) Approval of the University Senate February 8, 2022 minutes
   • Approved as distributed

2) Administrator Remarks
   • Appreciation to VC Grace Crickette for acknowledging our recent weather concerns
   • UWEC will remain conservative, but faculty can provide online instruction if deemed appropriate
   • NCAA celebrating 50 years of women’s sports
   • This year we won the women’s national championship for volleyball
   • Would love to see UWEC win a triple crown for the first time
   • COVID
   • Mask policy
     • Our emergency management group was called together last week because of Systems announcement to lift our mask requirement but people should still feel free to wear a mask
     • A number of people on campus have extraordinary circumstances so please be respectful of that
     • Health care experts ensure us that n95 masks provide significant protection
     • ASK Center has n95 masks available and all you have to do is ask for one
     • EC County rates have dropped so we felt comfortable removing the mask mandate and we can still make adjustments if needed
   • On 3-13-2020 we announced we were closing our doors and moving to remote instruction
   • We are grateful for the resiliency of our dedicated faculty and staff to help keep things together
   • March 4 is national Employee Appreciation Day
   • The retention bonus that was recently given was a way to say thank you
   • Thank a Blugold
     • If you thank a Blugold then System will email the card to the person you’ve selected
     • UWEC went above and beyond for a thank a Blugold will be automatically be put into a drawing for gift cards and prizes

www.uwec.edu/usenate/
- Questions/Comments
  - The March 11th date for ending the mask mandate was to work with other campuses and we are one of the latest campuses to end the mandate
  - You are not allowed to ask students to wear a mask in your class, but you can ask for a mask to be worn if they are in your office
  - Academic Affairs working with instructors who are compromised on options to address their concerns

3) Reports

a) Report from University Senate Chair Weiher
  - It’s been a busy week
  - There is a bill in the assembly that would require us to allow students to take a course on the US constitution in lieu of a “diversity” course
  - Arguments presented is that state legislators are simply unqualified to judge the curriculum, in terms of both training and experience
    - The faculty controls the curriculum and is charged to do so by state law
    - In Ohio, the faculty have been somewhat successful in fighting these state laws by bringing up the risk of losing accreditation
    - There was a story in the chronicle that outlines the argument
    - Accreditation requires a lack of undue influence from outsiders and so any risk to accreditation scares the legislators
  - At senate exec. there were three notable discussions:
    - Vice chancellor Diaz consulted with us on her plans to merge OMA and BB
      - There is a lot of overlap of operations and by merging the offices, the staff can transition OMA to a pro-active operation where coordinators will engage with students throughout their college years
      - The merger was planned for the summer, but recent turnover has left both units short-staffed and so the two offices need to work together to get through the semester
      - The executive committee was mainly concerned with whether there will be sufficient staffing to be successful at reaching all the students
      - A letter of concern was also shared that was critical of the merger
        - VC Diaz met with those faculty to address their concerns
        - One senator was critical, but there was no strong pushback
        - The students are very unhappy with the plan, and we had a meeting on Thursday morning
        - Chair Weiher has had many meetings/discussions/phone conversations
          - There is another meeting scheduled for next Wednesday
  - Total Title: We sent a list of 14 questions to the head of HR David Miller and at our meeting he addressed a couple of broad issues and he agree to give us written answers to the questions so they could be share with everybody
    - If you can be patient, let’s wait for his written answers
    - He did state that the “teaching professor” title is not available at this time because senate will have to be involved with defining the attributes of the title and so this is something that could come up later
  - VC Crickette introduced to a new University-wide committee that she is forming CARE (Compliance Audit Risk Ethics) with very broad membership across campus (police, housing, faculty, staff, everything) and she along with Teresa O’Halloran have asked that we consider moving the university ethics committee from senate executive to the CARE committee or a subcommittee within CARE
    - There weren’t a lot of details on who exactly would be on the ethics committee because this was just the start of the discussion
    - Our discussion was limited because many of us needed to attend the Covid emergency response meeting

b) Student Campus Climate Survey Update
  - A PowerPoint Presentation was shared
    - Ideally, we would do a survey like this every three years to see what differences are reflected
    - It would be nice to see the differences in the responses from the students of color
      - Campus climate is impacted by gender more so than race
      - System may offer us a small stipend to do follow-up work
      - Menard’s Center might look at the political affiliation concerns
      - Every campus only got his own data, but System might have all the data
4) Special Orders
   a) Nominations for University Senate and senators on University-Wide Committees

   Nominations taken from the floor of the 2/8/2022 University Senate meeting with elections taking place at the 2/22/2022 University Senate meeting

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
   Meets alternate Tuesdays from 3-5 p.m.
   (1) Academic Staff Senator vacancy
   Term ends 2023
   Any Area

   Continuing Members:
       Officers:
       Evan Weiher, Chair
       Kelly Murray, Vice Chair
       Geoff Peterson, Political Science, Faculty Rep.
       Jasmine Case, ARCC, Academic Staff Rep

   Continuing members of the Executive Committee:
       Sean McAleer, Philosophy & Religious Studies
       Marquell Johnson, Kinesiology
       Jill Markgraf, Library
       Abbey Fischer, Barron County
       John Mann, History
       Colleen Marchwick, International Education
       Charlotte Sortedahl, Nursing
       Pedro Sottile, Accounting & Finance
       Kristin Schaupp, Philosophy & Religious Studies
       Ryan Weichelt, Geography & Anthropology
       Elizabeth Glogowski, Materials Science & Biomedical Engineering
       Kent Gerberich, LTS

   Nominees:
       Academic Staff Senator: Nichole Miller, ARCC

   Without objection, the rules were suspended to allow Nichole Miller to serve on the Executive Committee.

   Elected to serve on the University Senate Executive Committee: Nichole Miller

UNIVERSITY SENATE ACADEMIC STAFF PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
   2 vacancies
   2 APAS Senator vacancies
   (1) Term until 2022 (end of this academic year) and (1) term until 2024
   Meets alternate Tuesdays from 2-3 p.m.
   Vote Code: 5, 6, or 7

   Continuing members:
       Elected Senators:
       Samantha Pearson, Nursing, APAS
       Mary Elger-Lonzarich, Biology, IAS

       Academic Staff Rep.:
       Jasmine Case, ARCC
Elected by Academic Staff at-large:
  Craig Ernst, LTS, APAS
  Lori Snyder, Geology, IAS
  Pam Baughman, Accounting & Finance, APAS
  Jeff DeGrave, Student Services, APAS

Nominees:
  2022 APAS Senator:
  2024 APAS Senator:

Nominations: None

PHYSICAL PLANT PLANNING COMMITTEE
  1 University Academic Staff Senator vacancy
  Term ends 2024
  Must be university academic staff senator

Continuing University Senate members:
  Jim Boulter, Watershed
  Jill Markgraf, Library
  Linda Pratt, Housing & Residence Life
  Gunnar Larson, Nursing

Elected at-large members:
  Karen O’Day, Art & Design
  Sean Hartnett, Geography
  Paul Soden, Barron County
  Bill Hoepner, LTS

Nominees:
  University Academic Staff Senator:

Nominations: None

COMPENSATION & BUDGET COMMITTEE
  1 Vacancy
  University Faculty Senator vacancy
  Must be from with EHS or NHS
  Term ends 2024
  University Faculty Vote Code: 1 or 4

Continuing University Senate members:
  Ellen Mahaffy, Communication & Journalism
  Robert Berg, Mathematics
  Tom Sulzer, LTS

Continuing members and US Council members:
  Sasha Showsh, Biology
  Linda Carlson, ARCC
  Paula Collins, A&S
  Brewer Doran, BUS
  Kati Morley, Library
  Sally Eckwright, LTS
Nominees:
EHS or NHS University Faculty Senator:

Nomination from the floor: Carol Koroghlanian

Without objection, the rules were suspended to allow Carol Koroghlanian to serve on the Compensation & Budget Committee.

Elected to serve on the Compensation & Budget Committee: Carol Koroghlanian

UNIVERSITY-WIDE NOMINATING COMMITTEE
1 University Academic Staff Senator Vacancy
Term ends 2023
Must be a University Academic Staff Senator
Vote Code: 5, 6, or 7

Continuing University Senate members:
Christa Garvey, Music & Theatre Arts

Elected at-large members:
Liliana LaValle, Library
Mary Worley, CJ
Christy Mulock, ARCC
Jacqueline Nevarez, OMA

Nominees:
University Academic Staff Senator: Isabel Walters, Admissions

Without objection, the rules were suspended to allow Isabel Walters to serve on the University-Wide Nominating Committee.

Elected to serve on the University-Wide Nominating Committee: Isabel Walters

UNIVERSITY SENATE TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
2 vacancies
(1) University Academic Staff Senator Vacancy and (1) Any Area Senator vacancy
Term ends 2023 for UAS and 2024 for Any Area
University Academic Staff Senator:
Vote Code: 5, 6, or 7

Continuing members:
Ellen Mahaffy, A&S
Kate (Kyoungmi) Kim, BUS
Robert Stow, Nursing
Andy Hanson, NHS

Elected Senators:
Dave Nesvacil, Any

Nominees:
University Academic Staff Senator (2023):
Any Area Senator (2024):
Nominations: None

5) Unfinished Business
   a) Second Reading: Motion from the Academic Policies Committee
      Department of Languages to establish a new emphasis in Spanish – Spanish, Comprehensive Major –
      Teaching Spanish and TESOL

Continued Debate
   • There is pressure to reduce majors and minors so this is the first of three proposals that will be coming
     forward
   • The existing major and minor already exists so this major just puts those two things together and there is
     really only a two-course substitution happening so this seems to be more of an advising issue
     • This comes at a cost for other courses, certificates or minors
     • Seems like we are prioritizing
   • There is a need for this kind of major as they can pursue a teaching certification with a major and TESOL
     • Many teachers pick TESOL as a minor
     • DPI is not based on courses but rather outcomes
     • It can save time to degree
     • They do not have to take the comprehensive major
     • This is advantageous to students who will be future educators
     • Only a two-course difference but some of the outcomes are covered in some of the Spanish courses but it
       would depend on what courses those particular majors offer
     • Need to keep sequencing in mind as this will help people get done in 4 years where otherwise they
       might stay 4 ½-5 years to get the courses they need in the appropriate sequence
     • Is beneficial to the students
     • The TESOL minor can also be taken by others with a teaching licensure

Vote on Motion: PASSED

6) New Business
   • None

7) Announcements
   • The next meeting of the University Senate is scheduled for Tuesday, March 8, 2022
   • Student loan debt
     • There is a program for public service loan forgiveness and UWEC is a qualified employer so please
       check into this if you have loans or contact Eric Jamelske if you’d like to have further conversations

Without objection, meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

Submitted by,

Tanya Kenney
Secretary to the University Senate