

MINUTES
UW Green Bay University Committee

Present:

Steven Meyer (Chair)

25 February 2009

Illene Noppe

3:00 pm, CL 825

Laura Riddle

Meir Russ

Previous Meeting

Brian Sutton

11 February 2009

Joel Diny, Student Government Representative

Excused: Dean VonDras; Lisa DeLeeuw, Academic Staff Representative

Guest: Professor William Laatsch, Interim Provost for Academic Affairs

- 1) Minutes of 11 February 2009 were approved.
- 2) Possibility of Spring break meeting—this would happen only if we meet in Paris or Toronto.
- 3) Recommendation of faculty status for Danielle Bina (ICS), Nicole Schneider (SW), Karen Jick (SW) and Joan Groessel (SW) were discussed and approved with a motion by Prof. Sutton and a second by Prof. Riddle.
- 4) Chair Meyer brought forth several issues from the UW System Faculty Representatives. At issue were apparently inconsistent policies across system regarding the Chancellors' approval of Senate resolutions. The UC will find out the current policy at UW-Green Bay prior to any further discussion of this matter. The second issue concerned a UW System committee with the ominous title of "Committee on Program Array." Little is known about the function of this committee, perhaps because there is no faculty representative. Chair Meyer will look into this further with his fellow representatives.
- 5) Early adoption of textbooks: A draft of a proposal that would encourage course assignments a semester earlier than is currently in practice was discussed. The aim is to reduce the prohibitive costs of textbooks. Whilst UC members all are in agreement that costs have gotten out of hand, we suggested that other avenues of cost reduction be seriously explored, such as the use of electronic texts.
- 6) In the category of "Other" on the agenda, information was presented on the procedures that are in place for resignation and retirement. We were interested in knowing how the guidelines differentiated between resignation and retirement, particularly with respect to the granting of emeritus status as this was not clear on the statement received from Associate Provost Sewall.

Chair Meyer proposed a First Year Experience Recognition Award based upon a similar type of award given at the University of Nebraska. For this award, parents are invited to submit the name of a faculty member who "made a difference in their child's life at the university." UC members were concerned this might eliminate some students from participating and thus it was encouraged that an e-mail be sent to students in addition to parents, informing them of this new awards program. This award would be different from the practice of graduating seniors writing a note of appreciation to their special faculty members.

Prof. Noppe presented the results of her search of existing Honors Programs and some of their main characteristics, with an eye towards developing such a program at UW-Green Bay. We also viewed the proposal for an Environmental Sciences Honors Program. We considered whether or not an Honors Program should be university-wide or specific to majors. It was decided that the UC would consult with the AAC and that we would also consider the creation of a task force to explore an Honors Program here at UW-Green Bay.

An updated version of the Student Government smoking policy, based on the feedback received from the Faculty Senate meeting of February 18, 2009, was examined. UC members discussed how the policy could be enforced. The new proposal will be presented at the March Faculty Senate meeting.

- 7) Meeting with Interim Provost Laatsch: Provost Laatsch updated us on current news from the administrative slice of life, especially the need for UC members to provide names for a search committee for a Dean of Professional Studies.

- 8) With glazed eyes, the UC called it quits at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Illene C. Noppe, secretary pro tempore