

Minutes

Meeting of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay University Committee 1 December 2010 3:00 pm, CL 830

Previous Meeting: 24 November 2010

Present: Dave Dolan
Tim Kaufman
Illene Noppe (Chair)
Michael Draney
Derek S. Jeffreys
Brian Sutton

Guests: Provost Julia Wallace, Hebba Mohammad, Brent Blahnik, Andrew Kersten, Dean Scott Furlong, Georjeanna Wilson-Doenges, Steve Meyer, Dean Brenda Amenson-Hill.

1. Minutes: With minor corrections, the minutes of the 24 November 2010 meeting were approved.
2. Discussion of assorted topics. UC members briefly discussed Project Win-Win, the Honors Program, and agenda items for the upcoming Faculty Senate meeting. Brian Sutton talked about the Faculty Reps meeting.
3. Meeting with Andrew Kersten and members of the First Year Seminar Committee. Andrew Kersten requested feedback from the UC regarding the Faculty Senate and the First Year Seminar program. He described the history of the program, expressed a desire for its growth, and indicated frustration that the Faculty Senate voted against expanding the program. Chair Noppe described concerns about the quality of the presentation before the Faculty Senate. She maintained that it was presented without adequately considering the needs of various departments. Professor Kersten emphasized that his committee had no intention of insulting any department. Jeffreys indicated misgivings about how outcomes assessments dominate the First Year Seminar program. In particular, he argued that although NSSE data measure student engagement and satisfaction, they bear no necessary relation to a curriculum's quality. Dean Furlong responded that the First Year Seminars both enhance student engagement and promote UWGB's learning outcomes. He noted that we are in an "age of assessment." A lively discussion ensued about the value of outcome assessments. Sutton suggested that the First Year Seminar Program include more diverse pedagogical approaches. Dean Furlong responded that the First Year Seminar program is young and evolving. He emphasized that the importance of gaining support for it from the Provost. Tim Kauffman suggested that the lack of resources is the key question. Dean Amenson-Hill noted that First Year Seminars can enhance retention. Professor Kersten requested feedback on the meaning of the Senate vote. Chair Noppe suggested that it represented some "push-back" from the faculty, and also reflected confusion about the resolution presented to the Senate. She

also expressed concerns about academic freedom. Would young faculty members, she asked, find themselves participating in a program with which they were pedagogically uncomfortable? Dean Furlong noted that the First Year Seminar Committee has received very positive response from faculty members. Dave Dolan asked if UWGB plans to create a new General Education program.

4. Discussion with the Provost. After Andrew Kersten and his colleagues left the meeting, Provost Wallace arrived. Brian Sutton asked about the Fringe Benefit policy. The Provost indicated that an Advisory Committee at System Administration convened, and recommended that the System depool resources for Fringe Benefits. It sent its recommendation to the System Administration, but System has yet to respond to the recommendation. The Provost also noted that the Chancellor is open to creating a research foundation.
5. Partner-Friendly Policy. Chair Noppe recounted conversations with Cliff Abbott about some of the details of the UC's Partner-Friendly Policy.
6. Student Bereavement Policy. Hebba Mohammad reported that the student government is still discussing a Student Bereavement Policy. Student government President Derek Bergmann wants to work with the faculty on the policy.
7. New Business. At Illene Noppe's request, Provost Wallace returned to discuss Project Win-Win. She noted that it has already been publically announced. Jeffreys expressed concern about the proper role of the faculty in Project Win-Win, noting that faculty have jurisdiction over curriculum. Draney asked about incentives for students to claim their Associate Degrees. The Provost indicated that no special incentives exist. She asked for advice about how to present the WIN/WIN program to the faculty. Sutton suggested that the UC present Project Win-Win to the Faculty Senate. UC members considered how to proceed with Project Win-Win. They agreed that the Faculty Senate should vote on a resolution on how faculty should be involved in granting Associate degrees. Chair Noppe indicated that she would prepare a resolution for the Faculty Senate.
8. Faculty Senate Agenda. Cliff Abbott arrived to set the Faculty Senate Agenda. Chair Noppe provided him with agenda items. Cliff commented on the Partner-Friendly policy, indicating that a partner's email and office access would involve local decisions. However, he noted that titling is under system control. He also discussed how the Chancellor can grant the title of Honorary Associate Fellow.

The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.