

# *Welcome Back Update/Faculty Senate Report*

## *October 19, 2005*

Submitted by Sue K. Hammersmith, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay

### **I. CHANCELLOR'S DIVERSITY INITIATIVE**

Recently the American Intercultural Center (AIC) was provided bridge funding to enable that unit to hire two qualified minority advisors. The AIC had two vacant advisor positions. One of those positions was being searched, while the second position was to remain vacant this year as part of our one-time budget reductions in 2005-06. The search in progress yielded two outstanding minority candidates, one Southeast Asian and one African-American. Aided by "bridge funding" from the Chancellor, the AIC was authorized to extend offers to both candidates, and both have accepted.

Of course, we expect the AIC to be diverse. The challenge is to achieve more diversity on the faculty side as well. The Chancellor's Diversity Initiative encourages academic units to be creative in looking ahead toward opportunities to hire faculty who belong to one of the underrepresented ethnic or racial groups (as defined by DOE and UW System), even if that requires additional funding or making an additional hire before another vacancy becomes available. Search committees, interdisciplinary units, and deans are encouraged to be on the alert for and take advantage of such opportunities when they arise and are consistent with the needs of the academic program.

A more detailed statement of this initiative will be circulated to the campus community soon.

### **II. SEARCH FOR DEAN OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES**

The Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences Search and Screen Committee has been formed as outlined in UWGB's "Search and Screen Procedures for Administrative Appointments." The following individuals—nominated by the University Committee, Academic Staff Committee, or Associated Student Government, respectively—have agreed to serve on that committee:

Cliff Abbott (Information and Computing Science)  
Greg Aldrete (Humanistic Studies)  
Brent Blahnik (Office of International Education)  
Sheila Carter (Student Life)  
Tim Kaufman (Education)  
Bob Kranzusch (Student Representative)  
Donna Ritch (Human Biology)  
Georjeanna Wilson-Doenges (Urban and Regional Studies)

Dr. Lori Weyers will serve as the Community Representative on this committee. The campus community will be kept informed throughout the process, which I hope can be concluded early in the Spring semester.

### **III. INTERNATIONAL VISITING SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

The International Visiting Scholars Program is hosting Professor Robin Palmer, from Rhodes University in South Africa, from October 17 to November 27. Dr. Palmer studies the indigenous peoples of South Africa and issues related to land usage, land rights, and environmental protection. He will participate in a number of events at UWGB, St. Norbert College, Oneida Reservation, and in the Green Bay community. Dr. Palmer's sponsors during his visit are Troy Abel (Public and Environmental Affairs) and Mark Everingham (Social Change and Development).

Faculty, staff, and the public are invited to welcome Dr. Palmer at a reception to be held Thursday, October 27, 5:30-7:00 PM, at the UWGB Downtown Learning Center in Washington Commons. Also on October 27, the International Visiting Scholars Program will sponsor a "Bridges to the World" benefit from 7:30-9:30 pm at Oxford's Café, 217 N. Washington, in Green Bay. The evening will include a South African perspective on democracy, South African wine tasting, dinner, and entertainment by the John Salerno Jazz Trio. For tickets (\$50 each), contact Brent Blahnik at extension 2889.

#### **IV. WHOSE LAND IS IT? CONFERENCE**

The third International Social Justice Symposium is scheduled for November 14th and 15th. Internationally known scholars from the United States, Latin America, and South Africa will discuss the "many faces" of land claims and indigenous struggles to enhance understanding of the dispossession of indigenous peoples from their ancestral lands.

This year's symposium is a collaborative effort by UWGB, St. Norbert College, and the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin. Sessions will be held on the Oneida Reservation and the UWGB campus. All sessions are free and open to the public. Pre-registration is encouraged. Additional information or registration may be found at <http://www.uwgb.edu/out-reach/events/socialjustice>.

#### **V. TRANSFER AGREEMENTS**

UWGB and the College of Menominee Nation (CMN) have signed articulation agreements to facilitate the transfer of CMN graduates into our baccalaureate programs in business administration, education, and social work. A fourth agreement with CMN is being developed for the computer science program.

UWGB also has been working with Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC) to articulate the ideal program of study for students who enter NWTC with the intention of transferring into UWGB. The result is a 30-credit General Education Certificate consisting entirely of NWTC coursework that our faculty have determined will transfer into UWGB and count toward specific UWGB general education curriculum requirements. Currently, 21% of the new students entering NWTC say, on their first-year survey, that they intend to transfer to UWGB. Governor Doyle is expected to be on hand for the "signing ceremony" for this certificate, to be held November 7.

UWGB and UW-Oshkosh have applied for UW grant funding to facilitate development of an AAS-to-BAS degree completion program. Under this initiative, UWGB's adult degree program, Interdisciplinary Studies major, would provide liberal learning as a complement to technical education. A proposal will be developed for consideration through our regular curriculum approval process. The program, if approved, would be self-supporting so as not to divert resources from other academic programs.

#### **VI. AWARDS**

Two of our UWGB colleagues were recently singled out for State-wide awards. **Deb Anderson**, UWGB archivist and coordinator of our Area Research Center, was selected to receive the 2005 Governor's Award for Archival Advocacy. **Sandy Deadman**, Director of Academic Advising, received the 2005 WACADA Outstanding Achievement Award.

I am well aware of the behind-the-scenes work that both Deb Anderson and Sandy Deadman do to support our faculty, students, and academic programs. I was delighted to see them receive these awards and the professional recognition they represent.