MINUTES
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay University Committee

Present: 2 September 2009
Mike Draney 3:00 pm, CL 825
Dave Dolan
Tim Kaufman
Steve Meyer
Illene Noppe
Laura Riddle
Previous Meeting:
Brian Sutton (Chair) 26 August 2009

Guest: Katrina Hrvnak, Assistant Registrar

1. The minutes of the meeting of 26 August 2009 were approved with minor wording changes.

2. The University Committee welcomed Professor Meyer who has agreed to serve as a one semester replacement for Professor Draney. Since Professor Meyer is only a one-semester replacement and UC meetings are open, we will inform the Faculty Senate of the temporary replacement. Professor Noppe moved (seconded by Professor Kaufman) that the UC express their gratitude to Professor Meyer for going above and beyond his duties by agreeing to serve for an additional semester. The motion was passed unanimously. Professor Draney stated that he will try to attend meetings whenever possible this fall and that the time conflict will be resolved for future semesters. When Professor Draney is able to attend he will take part in the discussions and vote as a UC member.

3. Professor Sutton distributed the vita for Brenda Tyczkowski, lecturer in Nursing. After a brief discussion, Professor Noppe moved (seconded by Professor Riddle) that Ms. Tyczkowski be granted faculty status. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Professor Sutton distributed an e-mail from Associate Provost Sewall explaining the current policy on faculty earnings from UWGB over the summer. This was in response to a request from Professor Merkel that the Faculty Senate pass a resolution requesting that the Regents suspend the current cap on summer salary. Since the e-mail explains that the salary cap is not on summer salary but on overload payments for the entire calendar year, Professor Draney suggested that the UC forward this information to Professor Merkel and ask if he wishes to revise his request.

5. Professor Sutton reported that the Student Government Association has made no proposal for creating a child care center on campus. Since the idea was supported by the UC already, the next step would be the formation of a task force to address the issue. Professor Noppe noted that this would take considerable effort and that the UC should discuss this with the Provost when she attends a UC meeting. Professor Riddle pointed out that UWGB is the only system campus without a child care center and that this is one of the keys to attracting diverse faculty. Professor Sutton could also bring up the idea when he meets with the Chancellor’s cabinet.

6. Professor Riddle is drafting a proposal on the issue of faculty workload and it will be ready for the September 9th UC meeting. Professor Sutton shared the results of his research of the minutes of the Spring 2009 Faculty Senate meetings for what had been said about faculty workload. He also gave Professor Riddle the notes from the Faculty Senate caucus on the subject.
7. Professor Noppe discussed her efforts to obtain information on honors programs at other campuses, noting that seven UW-system schools already had such programs. Through the website of the National Collegiate Honors Council, she learned of an annual conference (this year to be held in Washington, D.C. at the end of October) on how to establish and maintain an honors program. The UC agreed that having someone attend this event would be worth the investment and Professors Noppe and Sutton agreed to approach Dean Furlong about the subject.

8. Assistant Registrar Katrina Hrivnak distributed information on the Waitlist currently available in SIS. She explained that currently the waitlists would end at noon on the first Friday of classes so as not to hold up student refunds. However, since Friday (September 4th) was only the second day of classes, she asked if there should be a different ending time for the waitlists this semester. Professor Riddle thought this issue should be brought to the Senate. The UC agreed that the waitlists should end one calendar week plus one day after the beginning of the term and Professor Sutton agreed to prepare a proposal.

9. The UC continued the discussion of a proposal by Professor Sutton to eliminate the rule that when a student repeats a course, only the most recent grade for the course counts in the student’s GPA. Professor Riddle pointed out that students affected by medical issues or military service should be exempt from this change. Professor Dolan reported on a policy for laboratory courses in NAS and HUB where students repeating these courses will be given lower priority than students attempting them for the first time. Professor Noppe expressed the need for better advising to steer beginning students away from harder courses in their first year. Professor Sutton will incorporate some of these ideas in his proposal.

10. Professor Riddle distributed a draft resolution to create an ombudsperson with no institutional conflict of interests. The UC agreed to the resolution with minor changes and noted that such a position should be an executive one, with authority and knowledge of University code. They further agreed that the SOFAS or someone who reported to him would be ideal. Professor Sutton will speak with Professor Abbot about this.

11. Professor Sutton distributed information from Debbie Furlong on Nursing graduates eligible for University-wide honors. The issue is that many of these students do not qualify for these honors (although they have the GPA) since they do not meet the residency requirement of completing 60 or more credits at UWGB. The UC agreed to bring the issue to the Senate and let the Nursing Program explain their position.

12. In an e-mail to Professor Sutton, Debbie Furlong had also raised the question of internships and field experiences being graded by non-educators. She felt that if this were the case for a particular course, the grades should be assigned on a pass/fail basis. The UC made the point that all such grades should be assigned by faculty and that this issue may not be appropriate for the Senate.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Dolan
Secretary Pro Tempore