

## **AGENDA**

### **UW-GREEN BAY FACULTY SENATE MEETING NO. 7**

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Alumni Room AB, 3:00 p.m.

Presiding Officer: Laura Riddle, Speaker

Parliamentarian: Clifford F. Abbott

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

#### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FACULTY SENATE MEETING NO. 6**

**March 10, 2010** [page 2]

#### **3. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

#### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Resolution on Granting of Degrees [page 5] presented by Laura Riddle
- b. Resolution on Basketball Teams' Seasons [page 6] presented by Brian Sutton
- c. Proposal for an Academic Forgiveness Policy [page 7] presented by Brian Sutton
- d. Requests for future business

#### **5. PROVOST'S REPORT**

#### **6. OTHER REPORTS**

- a. Academic Affairs Council
- b. Faculty Rep presented by Brian Sutton
- c. University Committee presented by Brian Sutton

#### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

[draft]

## MINUTES 2009-2010

### UW-GREEN BAY FACULTY SENATE MEETING NO. 6

Wednesday, March 10, 2010  
Alumni Rooms AB, University Union

Presiding Officer: Laura Riddle, Speaker of the Senate

Parliamentarian: Clifford Abbott, Secretary of the Faculty and Academic Staff

PRESENT: Lucy Arendt (BUA), Scott Ashmann (EDU), Andrew Austin (SCD), Kimberly Baker (HUB), Caroline Boswell (HUS), Peter Breznay (ICS), Kathleen Burns (HUD), Toni Damkoehler (AVD), David Dolan (NAS-UC), Michael Draney (NAS-UC), Adam Gaines (AVD), Thomas Harden (Chancellor, *ex officio*), Tim Kaufman (EDU-UC), Steve Kimball (EDU), Mimi Kubsch (NUR), James Loebel (BUA), Christopher Martin (HUS), Michael McIntire (NAS), Randall Meder (AVD), Dan Meinhardt (HUB), Steve Meyer (NAS), Thomas Nessler (URS), Illene Noppe (HUD-UC), Laura Riddle (AVD-UC), Jolanda Sallmann (SOCW), Heidi Sherman (HUS alternate), John Stoll (PEA), Brian Sutton (HUS-UC), Patricia Terry (NAS alternate), Jennifer Zapf (HUD)

REPRESENTATIVES: Brent Blahnik (academic staff)

NOT PRESENT: Julia Wallace

GUESTS: Dean Scott Furlong, Associate Provost Tim Sewall, Laurel Phoenix, Susan Gallagher-Lepak

**1. Call to Order.** Speaker Riddle called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. and asked for a minute of silence for the passing of Professor Emeritus Ganga Nair earlier in the day.

**2. Approval of Minutes of UW-Green Bay Faculty Senate Meeting No. 5, February 17, 2010.** Speaker Riddle called for objections and, on hearing none, called the minutes approved.

**3. Chancellor's Report.** Chancellor Harden commented on the great loss of Professor Emeritus Ganga Nair. He then mentioned his round of visits to the various faculty units and stood for questions. There were none.

#### **4. Continuing Business.**

a. Creation of Joint Governance Committees - second reading **Senator Sutton (Senator Draney second) moved adoption and after a single question about a timeline, the motion was approved (25-0-0).**

#### **5. New Business.**

a. Slate of Nominees for Faculty Elective Committees Professor Laurel Phoenix, co-chair of the Committee on Committees and Nominations, presented the slate of candidates reminding the Senator of the procedure for additional nominees to be placed on the ballot. For a couple of

positions there is only a single candidate. **Senator Meyer (Senator Noppe second) moved acceptance of the slate of candidates and the motion carried (25-0-0).**

b. Credit for Prior Learning The Academic Affairs Council recommended this policy change so that at both undergraduate and graduate levels, credits for prior learning cannot be used to meet the residency requirement. **Senator Kubsch (Senator Stoll second) moved adoption and with minor discussion the motion passed (25-0-0).**

c. Abolish the Senate Committee on Planning and Budget. UC-Chair Sutton presented this proposal and then **Senator Sallmann (Senator Noppe second) moved to eliminate the Faculty Senate Committee on Planning and Budget.** Discussion was vigorous. Senators, possibly thinking of different time periods in the Committee's history, offered contradictory assessments of the Committee's success and function. It did not/did have access to information it needed. It was supposed to educate the Senate on the budget process/ be a watchdog on budget decisions/have a seat at the table of budget decisions/offer advice/make decisions. The Chancellor talked about his plans to create a 15-17 member planning council that could make sure the budget was in step with strategic planning. Senators discussed whether this was a viable alternative to the Senate Committee in terms of membership, selection, length of terms, access to information, reporting line, decision-making, and the charge. **The motion was defeated (3-22-4).**

d. Task Force to Create a Proposal for an Honors Program. Senator Noppe presented this proposal with the claim that most colleges have an honors program and that some resources would be needed and before administrators were willing to search for those resources there needed to be some demonstration of faculty support for a more specific proposal. **Senator Meyer (second Senator Kubsch) moved to create the task force.** There were a few questions about interaction with existing honors in the major and graduation honors and the motivation for students. There were also concerns expressed about separating honors students and the costs involved. And there were expressions of the added value of having an honors program. **The motion carried (28-0-0).**

e. How to Make UWGB Number One Again. UC-Chair Sutton introduced this item as a six-action item distilled from a several-page proposal from Senator Breznay for contextualizing student grades. He also offered that the proposal was offered to the Senate without the endorsement of the University Committee. **Senator Breznay (Senator Stoll second) moved adoption of the proposal.** The discussion was spirited and extended with plenty of occasions for Senators to reject one another's arguments and make the same point numerous times. Some of the issues were the amount of work involved in carrying out the proposal, possible effects on students getting jobs, differences in grading methods, the value of transparency, whether there were better ways of contextualizing grades, the reputation of the University, grade inflation, and the meaningfulness of transcripts. **The motion was defeated (1-24-0).**

f. Requests for Future Senate Business. The Speaker called for items and received none.

**6. Provost's Report.** Since the Provost was stranded by fog, this item was skipped.

**7. University Committee Report.** UC Chair Sutton reported that the Resolution on Wisconsin's Disinvestment in Higher Education, passed at the last Senate meeting, would be sent to area legislators. He also reported that the UC had agreed to extend the life of the Interdisciplinarity Task Force for another semester and an interim report is due later this semester. He mentioned several items the UC had discussed that were on today's Senate agenda and then offered several items that may be coming to the Senate in the future: a proposal to dispense with merit for tenured faculty in years when there is no money for pay increases; a change in the administrative calendar for reviewing first year faculty; a policy on spousal hires; and a resolution on collective bargaining.

**8. Senate Reports.** The Speaker took note of the report from the Academic Affairs Council and invited comments (there were none) and then Senator Sutton gave a Faculty Rep report. The Faculty Reps are concerned about the changes in the Growth Agenda (a System shift to focus on more graduates and more jobs) and the possibility that this may lead to an unfunded mandate, i.e. to produce more graduates with existing resources. The Chancellor thought this was unlikely, but there were discussions of how much resources were needed for increases in graduates. The Faculty Reps were also concerned about a proposal to allow some UW-Colleges to offer 4-year degrees. Faculty Rep Sutton also announced that a Competitive University Workforce Commission is being created and the Chancellor explained that this was an effort of business leaders to look objectively at the data on whether faculty are underpaid.

**9. Adjournment.** On a motion from Senator Damkoehler (Senator Meinhardt second) the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Clifford Abbott, Secretary of the Faculty and Academic Staff

## **RECOMMENDATION ON THE GRANTING OF DEGREES**

(Implemented as directed by Faculty Senate Document #89-6, March 21, 1990)

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, on behalf of the Faculty, recommends to the Chancellor and the Vice Chancellor of the University that the students certified by the Registrar of the University as having completed the requirements of their respective programs be granted their degrees at the spring 2010 Commencement.

Faculty Senate New Business 4(a)  
April 14, 2010

## Resolution Commending the UWGB Basketball Teams

Whereas both the men's and the women's basketball teams at UWGB had twenty-plus-win seasons in 2009-10, and

Whereas both teams were invited to postseason tournaments and performed well in those tournaments, and

Whereas both teams have a tradition of excellence in the classroom as well,

The UWGB Faculty Senate commends the players, coaches, and staff of the men's and women's basketball teams for their excellent work on and off the court.

Faculty Senate New Business 4(b)  
April 14, 2010

Rationale: Currently, although the GPA for transfer students is calculated using only the credit hours earned while at UWGB, the GPA for re-entry students is calculated using all credit hours

earned at UWGB, regardless of the length of absence before re-entry. For students returning after lengthy absences, who often return more mature and as stronger students, it can be difficult to overcome low pre-existing GPAs. Such students may find it more appealing to transfer to another school, where their GPAs will “start over” rather than re-enroll at UWGB. In these ways, returning students do not have much incentive to return to UWGB to complete their degrees. The adoption of an Academic Forgiveness policy would reward returning students for their hard work, allowing them to earn cumulative GPAs consistent with their current work and maturity levels, and provide incentive for such students to return to UWGB rather than transferring to another school to complete their degrees.

### Academic Forgiveness Policy DRAFT 3/12/2010

With an absence from UW Green Bay for a minimum of five consecutive years prior to readmission, students may make an appeal to invoke the Academic Forgiveness Policy. Forgiveness means that grades earned five or more years earlier will not be used in the computation of the total GPA at UWGB, although such grades will continue to appear on the student’s official transcript. The appeal, which is made to an Academic Advisor, must be conducted during the first semester of readmission. The Advisor will assess the student’s record to determine the approach most educationally appropriate. The Advisor will determine whether academic forgiveness is a better approach than use of the repeat policy. Factors such as time elapsed, changes in courses, course availability, course requirements, and educational objectives will be used to determine the Advisor’s action.

The Advisor may require the student to complete certain specific conditions such as completion of a specified number of units or term(s) of enrollment in work academically acceptable to the Committee before authorizing the implementation of the policy.

If Academic Forgiveness is granted, all courses and grades taken five years before readmission will continue to appear on the student’s record. The Registrar will mark the permanent academic record with an “Academic Forgiveness” notation and begin the computation of a new grade point average for all subsequent course work. For the purposes of calculating GPA, if Forgiveness is granted, a student will be treated exactly as a transfer student. In other words, none of the previous record will be used in the new calculation. However, prior grades may be used to compute eligibility for admission to certain majors. Credit hours earned at UWGB prior to Forgiveness with a 1.0 (D) or better may be used to satisfy general education or elective requirements, even though they are not included in the student’s official GPA, but may not be used to satisfy the requirements of the student’s chosen major and/or minor, regardless of grades previously earned.

Academic Forgiveness is an academic action only and does not resolve any financial aid academic progress problems. For example, it does not adjust the GPA and number of credits attempted and counted toward Satisfactory Academic Progress for financial aid.

#### **Who is eligible?**

Re-entry students seeking readmission to UWGB who have not earned a baccalaureate degree may be eligible for exclusion of grades, not credits or courses, earned five or more years prior to their current term of admission as a degree seeking student. Such students are eligible to apply for application of this policy no later than the end of their first semester at UWGB. This policy does not apply to graduate programs.

A student can apply for and receive Academic Forgiveness only once. If a student wishes to appeal the Advisor's decision, she or he may appeal to the Academic Actions Committee (AAC). Such appeals must be made, in writing to the Associate Director of Academic Advising, prior to last day for final examinations in the semester in which Forgiveness was denied. The appeal must provide reasons for the previous poor performance, information about current educational plans, including desired major, and justification for the appeal. The student will be provided the opportunity to meet face-to-face with the Academic Actions Committee if desired. The decision of the AAC is final. There is no additional appeal process.

Academic Forgiveness applies only to academic standing in the University, not to particular programs. Programs retain ultimate authority to determine admission to their majors and/or minors. Likewise, programs retain the right to limit the number of repeated courses.

Students granted Forgiveness must meet all program requirements for the catalog year in which they were re-admitted to the University. All other University policies (for example, UWGB's Course Repeat Policy) remain in effect and are not changed by the Academic Forgiveness policy. The official GPA calculated after the successful granting of an Academic Forgiveness application will be considered for eligibility for graduation honors. However, the new cumulative grade point average must be achieved on the basis of a minimum of 60 regularly graded (not P-NC or audit) credits taken in residence at UWGB after the granting of forgiveness.

### **The process**

All students accepted for re-entry to UWGB after a 5 or more year absence will be informed that they have the option to apply for Academic Forgiveness during their first semester back at UWGB. To initiate the Forgiveness process, a student must meet with an Academic Advisor, who will review the student's transcripts and determine the approach that is most academically appropriate.

## Addendum to Academic Forgiveness Policy

In recent University Committee meetings, UC members spoke favorably about the proposed Academic Forgiveness Policy in general, but most members also expressed reservations about

specific sections, with the specific sections varying from member to member. Because the UC ultimately is only advisory to the Faculty Senate on this issue, UC members eventually decided not to vote on possible specific amendments. Instead, the UC chose to forward the Academic Forgiveness Policy to the Faculty Senate in the same form it was received by the UC, but also to attach a page of *possible* amendments, corresponding to concerns UC members expressed:

- Possible amendment #1: Delete the final sentence in paragraph three of the policy and substitute “Credit hours earned at UWGB prior to forgiveness with a 1.0 (D) or better may be used to satisfy general education requirements and elective requirements. They may also be used to satisfy major or minor requirements unless they fail to meet GPA requirements of the specific major or minor. (For example, if a major or minor requires at least a C in a prerequisite course, then a D in that course will not satisfy the prerequisite even after Forgiveness.)”
- Possible amendment #2: In the policy’s first sentence, change “five consecutive years” to “three consecutive years” or perhaps to some other length of time.
- Possible amendment #3: Change the wording of the first part of the proposal’s third sentence from “The appeal, which is made to an Academic Advisor” to “The appeal, which is made to the head of Academic Advising or to his or her designee.” (The idea here would be to assure that all appeals were handled by the same person, to maximize chances that the policy is implemented in consistent ways from one appeal to the next.)
- Possible amendment #4: Rewording the proposal’s third sentence so that it specifies only the person to whom the appeal is made, but doesn’t require that the appeal be made during the first semester of readmission.

Faculty Senate New Business 4(c)  
April 14, 2010