

Annual Report of the University Committee
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay
2001-2002
David M. Littig, Chair

The themes, which capture the work of the University Committee in the past year, were disappointment, transition, and renewal.

The academic year began with the gloomy economic forecast that the state government budget was facing a major shortfall and that the UW-System would have to trim its budget request to the legislature. UW-Green Bay was in the budget to receive \$500,000 for the Learning Experience proposal and would have to change its plans for implementing components of the Learning Experience. The Faculty Senate quickly took up the issue on how to best allocate these funds. This led to holding a Special Faculty Senate meeting in late September to deliberate on whether the body wished to adopt the recommendations of the Learning Experience Implementation Drafting Committee Report. A meeting of the UW-Green Bay Faculty, called by petition and attended by 122 faculty members, in November, followed the Senate meeting. At the faculty meeting a resolution was passed calling for all new monies be allocated to full-time faculty positions and that the new hires be assigned to General Education so as to improve the learning experience of students by reducing class size. The budgetary situation of the state continued to deteriorate and the \$500,000 for the Learning Experience was cut from the budget.

It was a year of transition for the administration. Interim Chancellor William Kuepper concluded his services to the university and turned the reins over to incoming Chancellor Bruce Shepard in November. The University Committee was active in the Search and Screen processes for a Provost and a Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The University Committee has established open and trusting relations with the new administrative team and feels very positive about working with them and their leadership capabilities.

Renewal came surprisingly fast. After so many hours of discussion and deliberations about the state of the General Education program, the University Committee felt it was time to act. Following a meeting with the Chancellor and the Chair of the General Education Council, the University Committee issued a charge to the GEC to prepare a new plan for General Education by September. The document has been completed and the UC congratulates the GEC for its excellent work, prepared under extreme time constraints.

In the past year the Faculty Senate took affirmative action on the following issues:

- Changed the requirements for honors;
- Policy on the designation of B.A. and B.S. degrees for majors in academic programs;
- Admission standards for new freshmen;
- Revision of Double Counting of Upper-Division Credits required for graduation;
- Resolution on Tenure and Due Process; and
- Support authorization of a joint UW-Green Bay/UW-Oshkosh Masters of Social Work program.

Issues that remain for action by the Faculty Senate are:

- Faculty Status for Academic Staff, and
- Changes in the UW-Green Bay code 6.01 Complaints and 6.02 Grievances

The University Committee deliberated and took positions on the following issues:

- Work with the Chancellor on developing a strategic budgeting process involving all stakeholders;
- University should develop a comprehensive faculty development fund to supplant separate funding for Faculty Development and Research Council;
- Agrees that advising needs to be improved but is not satisfied with the current proposal;
- Responded to a query by the Chancellor that the full 4.2% pay raise should be funded even if it means cutting the base budget elsewhere now that only 3.2% of the promised pay plan of 4.2% has been funded;
- After reviewing sharp differences in budgetary support for S&E across units, recommends that S&E policy be reviewed and that current S&E funds that are used for labs and other essential instructional purposes be designated as instructional, not as S&E;

- Recommended that a decision to permit on-campus students to take Extended Degree courses this fall semester be rescinded for failure to follow the code and consult with governance; and
- Concurred with a memorandum from the AAC that it was “disappointed that the university administration decided to effect a significant change in a masters level program without consulting adequately with faculty governance” and was in violation of the code when it created the Masters of Management and dissolved the Masters of Administrative Science; and
- Even though the issue of reforming faculty governance to make the Senate better informed and a more powerful voice for the faculty by having faculty committees accountable to the Faculty Senate was discussed, we were never able to get to it.

On behalf of the University Committee, we thank you for your support and the opportunity you provided for us to serve. Our prayers for full recovery for our colleague Professor Joe Mannino, who left us for an extended medical leave at mid-year of his third year of service on the UC, will never waiver. Professor Joyce Salisbury was elected to fill the position and was in full stride from the beginning. Keep up the good work and have a great year. The Faculty Senate and University Committee are in very capable hands.