

**Committee Annual Summary Report**  
**The University of Wisconsin, Green Bay University Committee**  
**2012-2013**  
**Derek S. Jeffreys, Chair**

**General Evaluation**

During the 2012-2013, the University Committee met every Wednesday from 3:00-5:00 p.m. except during the Faculty Senate meetings and holidays. We also convened for one summer meeting with the Chancellor. Members of the University Committee included Greg Davis, Derek S. Jeffreys (Chair), Mimi Kubsch, Ryan Martin, Steven Meyer, Bryan Vescio (Speaker of the Faculty Senate), Leif Nelson and Kristy Aoki (Academic Staff Representatives), and Heba Mohammad (Student Government Association Representative).

The University Committee had a busy and productive 2012-2013 academic year. I was impressed with how well we worked together. This year's University Committee included people with a great deal of experience with university governance. They were very knowledgeable about higher education. They were always willing to talk through an issue carefully before taking action. Members exhibited the virtue of thoughtful deliberation. Without hesitation, they also expressed concerns to the Provost and the Chancellor. I am grateful to my colleagues for their able service to the University.

In general, this year's University Committee aimed at developing greater communication with administrators and faculty. To this end, it met regularly with the Provost and several times with the Chancellor. The University Committee also streamlined course approval processes and university assessment procedures. Finally, we promptly communicated with other committees and quickly shared information with the Faculty Senate. The following are the major projects that occupied our attention this year:

**Fall, 2012**

**1. UW System Flexible Degree Option.** The University Committee devoted many meetings to considering the UW System's proposal for Flexible Degree Option. Members held that it raised serious questions about the aims and methods of education. They also worried that the UW system was rushing to implement the Flexible Degree Program, and failing to go through proper faculty governance procedures. After receiving information about this proposal, we invited Mark Nook, Senior Vice President for Academic & Student Affairs, to speak to the Faculty Senate. Following an extended discussion with Mr. Nook, the University Committee crafted a two-part resolution on the proposed Flexible Degree program. It recommended that UWGB refrain from participating in the program and refuse to send a representative to a committee

constructing it. The Faculty Senate affirmed the first part of the resolution while rejecting the second half. Although the Faculty Senate declined to participate in the Flexible Degree Program, it appointed Professor Brian Sutton as a representative to the Flexible Degree Committee. Professor Sutton met with the University Committee to report on his experiences with the committee. UC member Steve Meyer, who served as Faculty Representative to the UW system, also reported regularly on the progress of the Flexible Degree program.

**2. General Education Reform.** Working with Dean Scott Furlong, the University Committee brought a General Education Reform proposal before the Faculty Senate. After a vigorous discussion, the Senate passed the proposal. We then monitored the implementation of the new General Education curriculum.

**3. Other Business.** The University Committee met with Kim Desotell to discuss faculty complaints about the Phuture Phoenix program. She agreed to develop a formal letter that students could use to excuse themselves from class when they were active in Phuture Phoenix activities. We also met several times with Associate Provost Andrew Kersten and Academic Affairs Committee Chair, Kaoime Malloy. They consulted on course and program approval, and created greater transparency about both these procedures. Working with Professor Illene Cupit, the University Committee also brought a revised proposal for a University Honors Program to the Faculty Senate. The Senate approved this proposal. We also met with Secretary of the Faculty Cliff Abbott to discuss how to better implement the Professional Activities Report. Finally, the University Committee met with Steven VandenAvond to learn more about the Adult Degree Program. We discussed ways to better integrate the Adult Degree program with traditional degree offerings.

### **Spring, 2013**

**1. Research Center.** The University Committee devoted considerable time to discussing the possibility of developing a UWGB research center. After consulting with faculty members, deans and others, the UC embraced the idea of a center resembling the current CATL center. It would seek to enhance faculty research at UWGB. The center would be located on campus, and would serve as a locus for information about grants and faculty scholarship. The proposed center would also offer several course releases for faculty members assisting it. One might be granted to a statistician helping faculty with statistical work. Another course release might go to someone familiar with grant-writing. A final one might be accorded for administrative duties. In the 2013-2014 academic year the University Committee will develop a formal proposal for a UWGB Research Center.

**2. Engineering Technology Programs.** Working with faculty members and administrators, the University Committee approved new programs in Engineering Technology. After extensive discussion, the Faculty Senate also approved them.

3. **Assessment.** The University Committee worked with Professors Andrew Kersten and Angela Bauer as they developed new assessment tools. We also met with Dean Sue Mattison to discuss assessment procedures. Professors Kersten and Bauer also shared their plans for the upcoming HLC visit. Finally, the University Committee discussed the HLC process in several meetings with the Provost.

4. **Other Business.** The University Committee met with the Chancellor to discuss the UW System budget. It also worked with the Social Work program to dissolve the Collaborative Program in Social Work. Additionally, the University Committee crafted a resolution on Workload and Compensation, which the Faculty Senate then approved. Finally, we also held a Faculty Senate Forum on University Advising.

Respectfully Submitted,

Derek S. Jeffreys