Minutes of University Committee March 23, 2022

Present: Heidi Sherman, Devin Bickner, Aaron Weinschenk, Jon Shelton, Dan Kallgren, Steve Meyer, Virginia Englebert, Ted Evert, and Joan Groessl

Guests Present (each for only a portion of the meeting): Mark Klemp, Nicole Lagrow, Julie Wondergem, David Voelker

Approval of meeting minutes.

Patricia made motion that approve all previous outstanding minutes, seconded by Devin. Motion carried.

Policy for online proctoring (Mark Klemp, Nicole LaGrow, Julie Wondergem).

Mark, Julie, and Nicole discussed use of a proctoring tool during online examinations which highlighted the need for a policy to address cheating. Proposed policy was presented. Policy ensures security in accordance with system requirements, vetting of the tool, and an allowance for alternative proctoring if uncomfortable with the data being collected by the technology. (If using a publisher endorsed, would need to make sure meets the protection guidelines before adopting the tool.)

Piloted technology: Honor Lock- \$9/test; Proctorial- \$5/test. At present were funded by DE Funds or Cares funds. Consensus was to forward the policy proposal to Senate.

Senate resolution on academic freedom (David Voelker)

Desire to present resolution after attending an AAUP workshop on the topic; link to possible legislation related to posting syllabi, complaints, and impact on teaching. David shared a draft of the resolution. He will revise and share with UC to present at the next Senate meeting.

Resolution on student debt (Patricia Terry)

Draft was shared prior to the meeting. Consensus was to include on the next Senate meeting.

Faculty mentoring handbook language (Patricia Terry)

Draft language was shared via email on March 9. Patricia had spoken with the Provost and she (the Provost) did not want it codified in code. Consensus was that language in the faculty handbook is protective should leadership change without the current commitment to mentoring.

Restructuring voting domains across campus (Steve Meyer)

Steve had prepared a document that outlined faculty and lecturer numbers for each of the units, in the colleges, and by voting domain.

Problem is that often run out of people to slot into committees. Fewer tenure track positions than used to have, more lecturers. Not just a numbers issue, is a representation issue. Steve had previous conversations with Greg Davis about the issues of service and how to most effectively ensure that occurs. He does not see the problem as alignment. Professional Studies is under-represented in university service. Lecturers with faculty status (continuing contract) are not required to provide service to the University but reason for faculty status is indicated when requested. (PS has high representation of this). The new titling makes attaining "faculty status" for lecturers automatic.

New members:

Kris Vespia and Clif Ganyard will serve next year.

Committee reports

Faculty Rep: Jon reported on activities. Met with Interim UW President, productive. Relationship building with the regents. Joint reps meeting this Friday. Will need to figure out the Faculty Rep situation going forward. (Precedence for someone to follow through one year after conclusion of UC membership. Continuity is beneficial).

SGA: Ted reported transition period, constitutional review, elections for next year. First reading for three resolutions. Resolutions of increasing safe inclusive living (SAL) housing. Resolution to adopt more uniform response to sexual misconduct on campus. Resolution to establish legal services to students (discounted with student fees).

University Staff: Working to re-institute/reimagine fall conference for September.

Academic Staff: Making some revisions to the Instructional Academic Staff Handbook. Others have evolved post a meeting about staffing issues, continuing to work through some of those issues and impact on evaluation process and climate study. Additional staff complaints about remote working policies. Wendy Woodward talked to committee about digital transformation at the university. Committee will further pursue some initiatives that involve outsourcing and want instead to keep support staff at the university.

Meeting adjourned by consensus at 4:52.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Groessl