University Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 23, 2020, 3:00 pm, TEAMS

Present: Devin Bickner, Jim Loebl, Mark Klemp, Jon Shelton, Heidi Sherman, Alison Staudinger (notetaker), Julie Wondergem (chair)

Guests: Sherri Arendt, Kate Burns, Kim Mezger, Mary Kate Ontaneda, Patricia Terry, Robert Howe

1. Update on current situation and progress in planning for Fall 2020 (K. Burns)
   a. Covid:
      i. Our numbers (% positive, total positive) are very good in relation to the other UW campuses, Madison and River Falls are still online.
      ii. what contract tracing is show it that infection is much more about gatherings outside the classroom; classrooms seem relatively safe given our precautions.
      iii. Summer 2021 is going to be like Fall and Spring (low % face to face)
      iv. Still waiting on technology upgrades and probably won’t be ready until or after next semester
      i. Q: Are there going to be flu shots? A: Working to get that in place, but September 28th or after is the right “goal” date.
   b. Budget Lapse (current fiscal year)
      i. Less than anticipated (About $45 million instead of $69 at the system level, so now will be less than the $2 million we initially planned for)
      ii. Q: Since we are doing well financially, might we take more cuts? A: Not expected.
   c. Post-Tenure Review Committee (System)
      i. Reviewed materials provided from all campuses and did not find any issues
      ii. Did identify that there isn’t a common ‘business practice’ at all campuses
   d. Comprehensive Program Review Committee
      i. Is meeting every two weeks
      ii. Currently working on metrics
   e. Flexibility and workload
      i. What about teaching evaluations or other service expectations?
      ii. We can’t do reassignments tied to caregiving, but are interested in other options or possibilities.
      iii. SOFAS will look into governance committees which could perhaps limit their meeting times

2. Approval of minutes from the 9/2/20 meeting (J. Loebl) and 9/9/2020 meeting (M. Klemp) (unanimously approved)

3. Report from the National Council on Faculty Senates Meeting (P. Terry, 4:00)
a. Thanks to Patricia Terry for her service at the 3rd meeting of the National Council, of which UWGB was a founding member. The Council focuses on shared governance and other issues common to its members, and over 70 universities sent representatives to the 8+ hours of meetings.
b. UWGB fared better than most on a recent survey detailed COVID related furloughs, emergency plans, and budget cuts.
c. The Council is considering a tool for rating institutions (A-F), on how well they uphold principles of shared governance.

4. Discussion on Grounds Management— (B. Howe, 4:30)
   a. Bob Howe shared his understanding of the pending or potential privatization of the Grounds Crew, which may affect the Cofrin Arboretum for Biodiversity as well as, of course, the individuals who face layoffs.
   b. Heidi Sherman and the UC will follow up to gather more information, given that these decisions have academic implications for the Viking House, Cofrin Arboretum, and are academic as well as financial.
   c. Sheryl L. Van Gruensven will be invited to the next UC meeting to offer an update.

5. The UC unanimously approved a motion that Aaron Weinschenk be the Chair of the Committee on Workload and Compensation.
6. Due to lack of time, the UC held liaison reports and additional business for its next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm

APPROVED 9/30/2020