

MINUTES
Approved 10-21-15

University Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 7, 2015, 3:00 PM
CL 735 Conference Room

Present: John Lyon (Chair), Christine Style, Patricia Terry, Kris Vespia, Josh Goldman (Academic Staff), Lorenzo Lones (SGA), Jan Snyder (University Staff)

The meeting was called to order at approximately 3:00 PM

1. The minutes from the September 30, 2015 meeting were approved.
2. John Lyon asked for any final comments on the Program Discontinuance and Layoff Policy statement. Members recommended only minor changes, such as an acknowledgement of and link to the University of Michigan policies and to the UWGB Faculty Handbook, both of which informed the content of our statement. This document will in large part be for an external audience (the UW System Committee on Tenure). It will also be shared with Faculty Senate as an information item. The UC will not seek debate about or adoption of policy on campus right now because anything we adopt will have to be consistent with System policy, which is yet to be developed by the System Committee mentioned above and will subsequently require Regent approval.
3. The UC also had a discussion of the proposed PEA/URS merger. We reviewed the submitted forms and information from PEA Chair John Stoll. Some issues discussed included the provided rationale, the level of endorsement from the two units, the balance of tenured/untentured personnel across the two units, and the potential for change in personnel expectations and how that will be handled. Senate will ultimately need to vote on the merger. We hope an initial presentation will be made at the next Senate meeting with John Lyon introducing the issue and Dean Furlong and representatives from both units available for questions.
4. Chancellor Miller will not be on campus for the next Senate meeting, but he will be available by telephone to provide the Chancellor's report. It was noted that he will also be able to respond to questions Senators may have about the re-organization proposal or other campus issues.
5. John Lyon shared some new business with the UC related to the HLC Review. The campus needs to create and then provide policy to the HLC that is consistent with their revised guidelines on the level of qualification they expect to see in teaching faculty (e.g., terminal degree in field, qualification based on a combination of education and applied experience). John shared some draft language and noted that Associate Provost Ganyard and other levels of administration will also play substantial roles in the development and approval of policy.
6. The UC met with SOFAS Meyer to set the agenda for the next Faculty Senate meeting. John Lyon will forward some necessary attachments to the agenda, and Steve Meyer should have the agenda posted by the end of the week.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by Kris Vespia