

## Draft Minutes

Meeting of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay University Committee

November 27, 2013, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Cofrin Library 750

Attendance: Kristin Aoki, (Academic Staff Rep), Greg Davis, Mimi Kubsch, Ryan Martin, Steve Meyer (recording), Cristina Ortiz, and Bryan Vescio (Chairperson)

Guests: Provost Julia Wallace, Mike Stearney

Meeting called to order at 3:00 pm

- I. Minutes from the November 20, 2013 University Committee (UC) Meeting were approved.
- II. Announcements from Chairperson Vescio
  - a. Planning and Budget Council. Chair Vescio will forward to Chancellor Harden the names of six faculty to potentially serve on the Planning and Budget Council. Vescio announced he sent out emails inviting three Liberal Arts and Sciences faculty (Christopher Martin, Mike Draney, and Cheryl Grosso) and three Professional Studies faculty (Tim Kaufman, Jolanda Sallmann, and Bill Lepley) asking if they would be willing to be considered to serve on the council. All six faculty accepted Vescio's invitation to be nominated. Now, the Chancellor will select one faculty member from each college to serve on this council. In addition, the UC desired one of its own members to serve in order to have a direct link to the council; Greg Davis offered to fill this role.
- III. Meeting with the Dean of Enrollment Services, Mike Stearney.
  - a. Mike Stearney met with the UC to discuss the current enrollment issues. Stearney shared with the UC updated enrollment data. The current decline in enrollment has been predicted since 2009-10. There's been a "perfect storm" of issues that has led to declining enrollments, including: declining demographics, economic factors (slow economic recovery), declining public support, and increased competition.
  - b. How is UWGB responding to declining enrollment? Stearney mentioned that UWGB is responding via: an increased presence on social media, offering more early scholarships, and hiring two new recruiters.
  - c. Stearney shared with the UC that a survey is sent to all new freshmen at the end of October asking them of their intention to remain at UWGB after their first semester/year. 30% responded they are likely-to-very-likely to transfer. There are two primary reasons for this: they haven't engaged/connected with the campus/community and they are not getting the "social experience" their friends at other campuses are getting.

- d. Stearney shared with us that our sister institutions are our greatest competitors. We lose a large number (10%) of admitted/not enrolled students to UWO, a fair percentage are also lost to UWL and UWSP.
- e. Stearney also noted that UWGB takes in fewer students from its home county than any other comprehensive. Potential reasons for that include: the intended major is not offered here, interdisciplinary majors may be a barricade, and duplication of majors offered at other comprehensives around the state.
- f. Is there anything the faculty can do to help? Stearney mentioned that faculty can help in two ways: making time to meet with visiting students and help with retention of current students. Our retention has dropped a couple of percentage points recently (74% to 72%); we've been "stuck" around 75% in the past and enrollment services would like to increase that to 80%.

IV. Resolution on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

- a. There was a spirited discussion of the resolution amongst the UC. The question of what precipitated the drafting of this resolution was raised. Was the resolution drafted to protect or legitimize SoTL? When it comes to deciding whether to accept SoTL work in performance evaluations, should it be a unit decision or a university-wide decision?
- b. There were reservations expressed regarding how SoTL work is done and how it's used. Some in the group questioned who should be doing SoTL – if a person is hired to do this type of research, that's fine. Some believed SoTL can be done by anyone, it has no disciplinary home (some saw this as the problem – not everyone is qualified to evaluate SoTL work, so when SoTL work appears as a part of promotion and tenure decisions who decides whether the work is substantive or not).
- c. It was decided that faculty senate would be a good place to continue this discussion. So instead of placing this on the faculty senate agenda as an action item, it would be placed on the agenda for further discussion.

V. Meeting with Provost Julia Wallace

- a. Provost Wallace discussed progress with the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW). Beginning Fall 2015 some of our Human Biology faculty will begin teaching courses to MCW students at St. Norbert.

VI. Policy on Self-Authored Texts

- a. Time did not allow this conversation to take place.

VII. Meet with Cliff Abbott to set faculty senate agenda.

- a. Agenda was set.

VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven J. Meyer