

Minutes

University Committee Meeting

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay

December 11, 2013

Cofrin Library 750

Attendance: Kristy Aoki (Academic Staff Rep.), Greg Davis, Ryan Martin, Steve Meyer, Cristina Ortiz (minutes), Bryan Vescio (Chairperson).

Excused: Mimi Kubsch

Also present Student Government President Heba Mohammad.

Meeting called to order at 3:00pm.

- I. Minutes for the November 27th meeting were unanimously approved.
- II. Announcements:
 - a. Planning and Budget Council. Chair Vescio reported that he has submitted the names of interested faculty to the Chancellor, but has not heard anything yet about the final makeup of the committee.
 - b. Spring meeting schedule. The UC will meet on January 22nd at 3:00pm to set up the Senate agenda for Jan. 29th.
 - c. Updates.
 - i. Heba Mohammad reported on the UW-System President search. She expressed satisfaction with the final pool of candidates, as all of them have academic backgrounds (not a requirement for the positions as it was listed).
 - ii. There is still a need from someone from the UC to make the January, 31st Faculty Rep. meeting to take place in Madison, as Steve Meyer cannot attend.
- III. Senate meeting and discussion about enrollment:
 - a. The UC discussed at large the recent Senate presentation by Dean Stearney on enrollment data. The UC discussion centered around:
 - i. The apparent lack of an institutional plan to tackle the “enrollment crisis.” Members of the UC asked themselves what extraordinary measures are being taken to address these extraordinary circumstances as this aspect was not addressed by leadership during the Faculty Senate’s enrollment discussion.
 - ii. After the Faculty Senate and the enrollment discussion, Chair Vescio was approached by some faculty expressing a feeling of uneasiness and uncertainty about the specific role faculty should play in this crisis. There is a growing concern on how this “enrollment crisis” will impact small academic programs. This led the UC members to determine that an effective way to approach this situation from the faculty perspective will require having specific information about why students select other universities instead of UW-Green Bay and to know why students transfer. These data need to be collected and disseminated among chairs of units and programs as a way for

faculty to better understand the nature of the enrollment problem and work on specific solutions.

- iii. Dean Mattison has suggested to Chairperson Vescio to devote a Faculty Senate meeting to collectively laying out ideas, which can be distilled into something institutionally implementable to address this crisis. UC members will put it in the agenda for the next Faculty Senate.

IV. Resolution on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.

- i. Ryan Martin circulated the new version of the SoTL resolution which included a couple of minor changes. He also used the occasion to address why this resolution is being put forward. As he explained, a major reason is to give this type of scholarship the respect it merits and also to clarify to untenured faculty how this type of scholarship counts towards promotion and merit at UW-Green Bay. Because of the latter, UC members agreed that the Deans and Provost need to weigh into the discussion and express how they value this type of scholarship. It was also noted that this is just a resolution and not code; therefore, even if the resolution is endorsed by Senate, is not binding, and departments and units will still be able to define their scholarship criteria. During the discussion there was a general sentiment expressed about the need for units and departments to establish clear criteria, policies and guidelines for promotion to their faculty. These guidelines should be clearly communicated and made accessible for faculty.

V. The meeting with the Provost was cancelled as she was sick.

- VI. The discussion on a policy on Self-Authored Texts was postponed due to lack of time. However there was a brief discussion about the urgency of moving along with this policy, and Chair Vescio is going to start working on it. He also envisions giving a more firm shape to the Research Center project next semester.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40pm.