Present:
Greg Davis 26 February 2014
Mimi Kubsch 3:04 PM, CL 750
Ryan Martin
Steven Meyer Previous Meeting
Christina Ortiz 12 February 2014
Bryan Vescio, chair
Heba Mohammad, Student Government Association Representative

Guests: Dean Scott Furlong, Chris Martin, Jolanda Sallmann, Provost Julia Wallace

1. Minutes from the 12 February 2014 University Committee (UC) meeting were approved as distributed.

2. Chair Vescio led with the announcement that this meeting was going to very busy and full. He then called for Chris Martin to provide an update from the Committee on Workload and Compensation (CWC):

3. C. Martin indicated that the CWC was asked for advice late November as to how a 1% pay plan may be best distributed. A deadline of 2 February had been provided. Independent of the CWC, Administration decided to go with an across the board distribution. Members of the CWC were frustrated; they didn’t feel that their input on compensation was taken seriously (or not at all). With a change in topic, Martin wants as many employees as possible to complete the ongoing HERI survey. He expects that information provided on the survey will provide valuable workload information that can then be used by CWC. Finally, he voiced his hope for an incoming Chancellor that interacts well with CWC and with shared governance in general.

4. J. Sallmann joined the UC at 3:25 to share a vision for a Shared Governance Conference. The conference could take place early April and it would likely cover present campus policy/procedure as well as views from other campuses. Members of the UC believed that such a conference was a very good idea and were supportive of the undertaking.

5. Dean Furlong joined the UC at 3:43 to discuss the potential policy on Self Authored Texts that had been presented to the Faculty Senate on 19 February. Furlong was highly supportive of the policy and noted that it was easier for Dean’s to make decisions if there is policy in place. It reduces the perception that any decisions are being made in an arbitrary fashion. Discussion turned to particulars; problems with royalty accounting and enforcement were noted. There was unified understanding that the main issue is that of profiting from students in our classes. Related was level of concern based on publishing
venue. Ways the policy might be ‘softened’ and/or the possibility of an appeals process (use of Ethics Committee) were also discussed.

6. Provost Wallace time with the UC began at 4:23. She came with a number of topics:

   o First was a policy on the creation of University Institutes and Centers that had been passed by the faculty Senate in October 2010. It appears that the policy has not been implemented as additional centers have begun without Senate approval. The Provost also noted that the policy may be lacking with regard to how directors are appointed and reviewed. Also there seems to be lack of guidance pertaining to evaluation of centers, particularly as they relate to University mission. It was questioned as to whether or not directors should report to the Senate each year. Chair Vescio plans to investigate the policy further and wants it to be functional before any new centers are approved.

   o The Provost had met with Public Safety with regard to safety concerns in the classroom and intends to appoint a task force of faculty members to help them further understand safety concerns.

   o She then turned our attention to the creation of regular administrative evaluation and would like to have further conversation with the UC on this topic.

   o Next up was a report on UW-Superior’s academic and non-academic program prioritization process. It is expected that serious decisions will be made in May and it was also noted that shared governance has been involved.

   o The Provost reported that she was on a System committee addressing workload and compensation. This seems to be connected somewhat with the 21 credit teaching loads at Green Bay and Kenosha. Apparently Voss has asked Cross for additional data – all in the same format from seven of the comprehensives. The committee will work on this request but includes quality as a factor – questions related to how teaching load is impacted by number of students, scholarship, and service will be addressed.

Chair Vescio then had a couple of questions. When and where the four conversations the Provost mentioned during Senate would take place? The Provost hoped that they would begin very soon. He then asked for an update on enrollment initiatives. The Provost responded that there may be an implementation of a third party service that would identify students that may be able to come here but had not applied. Our discussion concluded at 5:03.

7. With time winding down (gone), the remaining items on the agenda were postponed – and

8. The meeting adjourned at 5:13 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Greg Davis, Secretary pro Tempore