

MINUTES

University Committee Meeting
Monday, May 4, 2015, 8:00 AM
CL 810 Conference Room

Present: Clifton Ganyard, Katrina Hrivnak, Sylvia (Mimi) Kubsch, John Lyon, Steven Meyer (Chair), Chancellor Gary Miller, Christine Style, Patricia Terry (2015-16 UC Member), Christine Vandenhouten (2015-2016 UC Member), and Kris Vespia

The meeting was called to order at approximately 8:00 a.m.

1. The minutes from the April 22, 2015 meeting were approved.
2. Chancellor Miller provided a brief update on budget. The revenue estimates for the state are not expected to be helpful in terms of restoring higher education funds. Both the campus and UW System are waiting for legislative action on a final budget; however, work by administrators and the UPIC continues. The Chancellor also highlighted the tremendous organization and efforts of UWGB trustees and friends in advocating on our behalf.

Given the state timelines for passing a final budget, Chancellor Miller does not expect us to have the information we need to make campus decisions until July. He also noted that approximately 40 employees have volunteered for separation. The exact numbers will not be known for some time due to a 45 day period individuals have to make a final decision.

3. The remainder of the meeting focused on potential re-organization options designed to position UW-Green Bay for future success. The Chancellor presented ideas and models and then solicited input from the UC regarding timing, ways to engage governance in the process, and both potential barriers and strategies for maximizing success.

In terms of the big picture, Chancellor Miller indicated that although budget cuts will necessitate temporary downsizing in different ways, ultimately we need to grow to improve our long-term financial situation. Re-organization will help us to grow. It would also bring opportunities to: align ourselves more closely with our mission and the area/community; support efforts to become a national model for contemporary interdisciplinarity; serve more students but in a more impactful way; align our programs more effectively with UW System and our region; promote administrator accountability; and increase research capabilities by reducing faculty responsibility for administrative functions.

The Chancellor suggested that re-organization would deal with several areas: the Executive Division, the Director Level, OAA, Faculty Services, and Academic Affairs (e.g., a model with more Deans/Colleges). He described the rationale for different proposed changes, as well potential cost savings associated with them. Several UC members expressed a willingness to meet during the summer to work on these issues to help with moving forward as efficiently as possible. They also recommended regular communication with the campus as a whole even during the summer to promote engagement and feedback from across campus.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kris Vespia