

**MINUTES**  
*APPROVED 9/9/2015*

University Committee Meeting  
Thursday, August 6, 2015, 11:00-12:00 PM  
TH 331 C

Present: Clifton Ganyard (chair), Joshua Goldman, Mimi Kubsch, John Lyon, Steven Meyer, Christine Style, Tina Tackmier, Patricia Terry, Christine Vandenhouten, Kristin Vespia

1. Minutes: The Minutes from 7/22/2015 were approved.
2. UC Chair and Faculty Representative:

Since Professor Ganyard has accepted the position of Associate Provost, he must step down as University Committee Chair and Faculty Representative. Professor Vespia nominated Professor John Lyon for the position, and Professor Kubsch seconded the nomination. Professor Lyon was elected as UC Chair unanimously.

As Professor Lyon is the duly elected Speaker of the Senate, he will have to step down from that position at the first Senate Meeting (9/16). Patricia Terry has expressed interest in being the Speaker, and Christine Style has expressed interest in being the Deputy Speaker. Senate will have to hold an election in its first meeting to confirm these positions.

Christine Vandenhouten has volunteered to be the Faculty Representative. Professor Ganyard will contact UW System and the Faculty Reps to let them know of the change in personnel.

Finally, the UC will need a replacement for Professor Ganyard in the fall. His position was At-Large with two years left in his term. The UC expressed interest in moving as quickly as possible in order to bring the new member on board as soon as possible, since the UC has been quite active over the summer months. Elections won't be held until after 8/24, when everyone is back on contract, but it might be worthwhile to have the Committee on Committees and Nominations recruit candidates soon. (Incidentally, Kris Vespia will step down from her position in January to go on sabbatical; it may be efficient, therefore, to hold both elections at the same time.)

3. Tenure Policy: The UC continued to discuss UWGB's policy on tenure in relation to program modification and discontinuance. Discussion centered on the relation between the new policy and UWGB's existing Chapter 5 (on layoffs due to fiscal exigency) in the Faculty Handbook. While it was recognized that the two issues will need to be brought together eventually, it was agreed to work on them as separate issues for the time being, first developing a strong policy regarding the procedure for program discontinuance and appropriate protections for faculty, staff, and students.

The UC discussed drafts of the criteria and decision making process in regard to program discontinuance and began to discuss desirable protections for faculty and staff. Several members noted that desirable points – such as an effort to place faculty in new positions, to retrain faculty for new positions, severance pay, etc. – were absent from the Faculty handbook and should be added.

Professor Vandenhouten volunteered to contact Human Resources about policies regarding severance pay, retraining, etc.

4. Next Meeting: The UC agreed to hold one more meeting during the summer. It will be held on 8/26 (the day of Convocation), 3:00-5:00.

In closing, Professor Ganyard thanked the members of the University Committee for their dedication and good spirits while working, off contract, throughout the summer. It is truly appreciated.

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Clifton Ganyard.