

University Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 19, 2018, 3:00-5:00 pm, CL 735

Present: Courtney Sherman (Chair), Jamee Haslam, Mark Klemp, Jayne Kluge, Jim Loebel, Ryan Martin, Steve Meyer (SOFAS), Gail Trimberger, and Kris Vespia

Guests: Provost Greg Davis, Steve Meyer (SOFAS), Christine Vandenhouten (UW System Faculty Representative)

1. The minutes of the 9/5/18 UC meeting were approved.
2. The Chair shared a preview of next week's meeting.
3. Christine Vandenhouten provided updates from the latest Faculty Reps' meetings, including an all-day retreat in June with President Cross. She also shared the fantastic news that she has been elected to Chair the System Faculty Representatives group. Much of her report focused on the draft Program Monitoring Policy. She stressed that this is a draft proposal and noted that Provosts have always received these data on graduates by program. UC members shared questions/comments related to: the use of raw numbers of graduates vs. proportion of enrollment; whether/how numbers of minors will be considered; the importance of relationship to mission, service to general education, and contributions to inclusivity in evaluations of programs.
4. Members discussed a request for faculty status for Sheng Lee Yang and voted unanimously to recommend that change for Prof. Yang. The UC Chair will forward a memo to the Provost.
5. We had a wide-ranging discussion of the Select Mission revision and comments/questions from the recent Faculty Senate meeting. Provost Davis also shared the willingness of administration to consider a delay until November and hold another open forum in the interim as a way of addressing some Senators' requests for additional time and avenues for input. He also mentioned the Council of Trustees' vote this week to support an outward-facing mission change that results from consultation with governance groups. He agreed to work on re-distribution of the proposed timeline and the specific steps involved in the process for a mission revision. Moreover, he will speak with the Chancellor and Chief of Staff regarding a possible method for submission of written feedback. This discussion also included conversations about shared governance and potential methods to maximize input from all. We also want to avoid situations where, for example, one governance group (e.g., Academic Staff Committee) could endorse a mission change only to have wording changes made to that approved document by another group (e.g., Faculty Senate) due simply to the timing of meetings. Many ideas about logistics were discussed with the underlying theme being a desire to support hearing the voices of the whole campus community.
6. The UC and SOFAS Meyer brief discussion of tenure and promotion policies and practices for branch campus faculty and those on the "main campus."

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Vespia

Approved 9/26/18.