

MINUTES
UW Green Bay University Committee

Present:	6 December 2006
Scott Furlong (Chair)	3:15 p.m., CL825
Chris Style	
Kevin Roeder	Previous meeting:
Dean VonDras	29 November 2006
Donna Ritch	
Terence O'Grady	
Paula Ganyard (Academic Staff Representative)	

Guests: Provost Sue Hammersmith, Vice Provost Tim Sewall, Secretary of Faculty and Academic Staff Cliff Abbott, Associate Dean Regan Gurung, Professors Brian Sutton and Bryan Vescio

- 1) Call to order. The University Committee's minutes from 29 November 2006 were accepted with minor changes.
- 2) Information sharing and discussion with Provost Hammersmith. The Provost noted that there was no new information to share with the UC at present. The UC requested that the Provost provide more information concerning the criminal background check process and policy at a later meeting.
- 3) Continuing business:
 - A. The senate resolution concerning the code change to UWS7 was discussed. There was general consensus that there be some denoting of the UW-Green Bay's faculty support for the Board of Regents planned revisions to code. A resolution will be brought to the December 13 Faculty Senate meeting.
 - B. There was continued discussion of criminal background checks. It was noted that the Regents will discuss policy at an up-coming meeting. UW institutions now have until May 1, 2007, to submit their implementation plans to UW System. The UC has drafted a resolution concerning criminal background checks that it will forward to System.
 - C. There was very brief discussion about the meaning and use of the word "recommend" that appears in code. Without extending discussion or debate, the UC Chair indicated that this topic will be considered more fully at the next meeting.
- 4) New business:
 - A. The UC discussed changes in wording of the admission standards for new freshman so as to clear up any potential misunderstanding in the reading of current policy and demonstrate compliance with recent court ruling. There was agreement to make changes in the admissions standard statement so as to indicate that admission will be done "without a priority basis."
 - B. A process of revising the UW-Green Bay Mission Statement was presented by Tim Sewall. This revision is occurring as part of UWGB's Higher Learning Commission review. It was noted that the process will involve gathering comments and suggestions from the University community. There has been some feedback received already that has been used to create a working draft that

will more accurately describe the values and mission of UW-Green Bay. To begin the process of revision, Tim Sewall will lead a discussion at the Senate meeting in January.

- C. Two proposed modifications to the General Education requirements were presented and discussed by Brian Sutton, Regan Gurung, and Bryan Vescio. In the first proposal, a change in the number of credits from distinct disciplinary areas was proposed. It was suggested that this would broaden students' educational experience and learning. During this discussion, the issue of double counting credits was brought up and it was suggested that the proposal may remove some double counting and create greater interdisciplinarity in the General Education requirement. It was noted, however, that this change may not have any real impact on most students because many are taking these courses as part of their current selections. The impact of this change does affect the selection of courses students will take within curricular domains, and ensure a broader array of courses. In the discussion it was noted that the real impact of the proposed change on extra number of courses that would be required of students at present is unknown. This discussion ended as Brian Sutton and Regan Gurung suggested that further refinement may occur via discussion by General Education Domain Committees.
- D. The second proposed modification to General Education requirements dealt with changes to requirements in Humanistic Studies. It was suggested that there was a new movement occurring in the Humanities--a movement from a curriculum composed of traditional and standard Humanities fair to a curriculum of adopting a more pluralistic orientation. As noted by Bryan Vescio, this pluralistic orientation is reflected in the proposed changes to requirements in the Humanities. The notion that some faculty and students may be unengaged by teaching a more traditional curriculum was mentioned, and that this disengagement leads to poor faculty and student morale was further suggested. It was further noted that an engaged Professor, who is excited about the topic, will engage more students. There was robust discussion of the shift in curricula orientation, but it was also noted that this was not the sole change occurring in the proposal as it affects General Education requirements in the Humanities. Due to time constraints, this discussion ended and Brian Sutton, Regan Gurung, and Bryan Vescio were asked to rejoin the UC at a later date to continue discussion of this second proposed change.
- E. An agenda for the Senate meeting on December 13, 2007, was created with Cliff Abbott and Provost Hammersmith.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dean D. VonDras, secretary pro tempore