

MINUTES  
UW Green Bay University Committee

Present:

Steven Meyer (Chair)

Illene Noppe

Laura Riddle

Meir Russ

Brian Sutton

Dean VonDras

Lisa DeLeeuw, Academic Staff Representative

22 April 2009

3:00 pm, CL 825

Previous Meeting:

15 April 2009

Guests: Professor Patricia Terry, Campus TAUP representative; Interim Provost William Laatsch

- 1) Minutes of 15 April 2009 were approved as amended (moved by Professor Sutton and seconded by Professor Riddle).
- 2) Concerns were voiced with regard to Senators leaving early during the Faculty Senate meetings. Expectations for Senators, distributed at the beginning of the academic year, will emphasize the importance of staying for the duration of the meeting.
- 3) Professor Sutton reported on a Cabinet discussion as to whether surcharges could be imposed for those students who retake courses in order to improve their grades. Clarification is needed as to under whose purview such a decision lies.
- 4) An extensive discussion preceded the election of the chair of the University Committee for academic year 2009-2010. At issue was whether it would be helpful to decouple the faculty representative to UW System from the duties of the UC chair. Given that time away from campus, networking, and continuity in the position is central to effective faculty representation, UC members supported the decoupling, with a release time given to both chair and representative. Whether this actually happens will hopefully be resolved prior to the end of the semester. Professor Sutton was then unanimously elected as next year's chair (nominated by Professor Noppe, seconded by Professor Meyer). Professor Riddle will be nominated by the UC during the May Senate meeting as Speaker of the 2009-2010 Senate (with Professor Noppe as deputy speaker). Pending resolution of the reassignment issue, Professor Noppe may be Faculty Representative for 2009-2011.
- 5) Secretary of the Faculty Abbott graciously agreed to draft a resolution, to be read at the May meeting of the Faculty Senate, thanking Chancellor Ward, Provost Laatsch, for their exemplary work during the past year, and Program Associate Patricia Przybelski for her many years of dedicated service in the SOFAS Office and to the UC and Faculty Senate.
- 6) The next portion of the UC meeting considered a cluster of "thorny issues," ranging from concerns about the dangers of the intersection of Nicolet Boulevard and East Shore Drive, the requirement of a minimum of 60 credits taken at UW-Green Bay for graduation with honors, and the lack of a university Ombudsperson.
- 7) Professor Terry, campus president of TAUP, educated the UC on the implications of collective bargaining on our campus. She presented the history of the collective bargaining bill (which apparently has a good chance of passing this year), and discussed both the

positive aspects and issues of concern. Should the bill pass, every campus will have the opportunity to vote for collective bargaining for their own campus. Professor Terry stated that the advantages are embedded in faculty and academic staff's right to "sit at the table" when it comes to benefits and conflicts that now can only be resolved via litigation. Concerns were aired with respect to union dues, whether or not faculty and academic staff should join together or separately in unionization, and the possible problems for faculty governance.

- 8) Our meeting concluded with a visit from Interim Provost Laatsch, who carefully listened to our concerns about the Ombudsperson and Faculty Representative to the system representative meetings. Provost Laatsch also handed out a policy adopted by UW-Whitewater on excusing absences due to military service. The UC will discuss such a policy on our campus.
- 9) Yet another long and fruitful UC meeting came to a close with a scamper to the elevator at 5:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Illene C. Noppe, secretary pro tempore