Minutes
University Committee Meeting
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay
May 7th, 2014
Cofrin Library 750

Attendance: Kristy Aoki (Academic Staff Rep.), Greg Davis, Mimi Kubsch, Ryan Martin, Steve Meyer, Cristina Ortiz (minutes), Bryan Vescio (Chairperson).

Student Government President: Heba Mohammad.

Invited: Cliff Ganyard, John Lyon, Christine Style and Kristin Vespia

Meeting called to order at 3:00pm

I. Approval of Minutes from April 23 meeting (unanimous)

II. Announcements/Discussion:

A. Chancellor Search Committee

Names of finalists for the Chancellor’s position have been released. The UC commended the Search and Screen Committee members for the finalist pool. Greg Davis encouraged everyone to get involved and attend the open forums with candidates as this is a very important time for our campus. Cristina Ortiz and Mimi Kubsch will be representing the UC on Friday, May 9th with the first candidate during his meeting with governance bodies. Bryan Vescio and Steve Meyer will be attending the other candidate’s meetings.

B. Faculty representative

Steve Meyer was unable to attend the last Faculty Rep. meeting in Madison, therefore there was not much to report. Kristy Aoki (Academic Staff Rep.) reported that there was some discussion on budget and the tuition freeze. Linked to the budget discussion, there was some concern expressed about “Program Prioritization” happening at UW-Superior and other campuses. In addition, the ever-recurrent discussion about the twelve month pay versus the nine month pay came up this time again.

There was some discussion about next year’s Faculty Rep. since Steve Meyer will be the next UC Chair. Steve mentioned the importance of continuity. After some discussion, it was decided that Steve Meyer will continue as Faculty Representative next year.
C. UC representatives on Committees:

Christine Style volunteered to be the UC non-voting member of the CWC next year. Kris Vespia volunteered to be the UC representative in the Planning and Budget Council.

Other appointments/elections: John Lyon was elected at the last Faculty Senate to be the Senate Speaker. In the first or second meeting of next academic year, the UC needs to elect a Deputy Speaker.

III. Next Year’s Business

Vescio outlined “unfinished business” that the UC will need to consider next year. The list includes:

a) Establishment of a Research Center.
Bryan Vescio met with Scott Ashman to discuss the undergraduate research center that has been proposed and the potential connections and collaborations between the undergraduate research center and a faculty research center. Aspects to be determined for the Faculty Research Center are how a Director for the Center gets selected, what type of compensation the Director gets, what staff is needed for such a center (i.e. statistician, grant writer etc.), the possibility of allocating a physical space to the Center etc. Chair Vescio suggested the possibility of appointing a task force next year to look into all these details. He also mentioned that the Provost is waiting to hear from the UC about a protocol for the establishment of Centers at our campus. The UC guidelines should include all these aspects (i.e. director, compensation, space etc.).

The group paused for few minutes to take pictures (3:30pm) and the meeting resumed.

Next Year’s Business (con’t):

b) Administrative Review evaluation process.
The UC will need to look into the review process for administrators as this was tabled at the last Senate meeting and is awaiting a second reading.

c) Process for Honorary Doctorates.
At the request of the Chancellor, the UC will need to look into our current protocol and make this process less cumbersome.

d) Essential job functions

e) Use of technology during faculty/Senate meetings.
Cristina Ortiz mentioned how the use of technology during meetings is getting out of hand with attendees live blogging or facebooking during meetings, a behavior that most faculty would find unacceptable from students in their classes. Some people mentioned “knitting” during meetings also as a distracting problem.

f) The need to fulfill an interdisciplinary requirement to graduate.
Bryan Vescio, Steve Meyer, and Cliff Abbott are designing a “transition document” for the person who undertakes the role of UC Chair each year. This document will outline some of the duties that the UC Chair needs to fulfill (i.e. convene meetings for named professorship committees).

Other issues that were mentioned that need to be looked at:

- g) The low response on the Committees on Committees survey (less than 50%)
- h) Student representation on Committees. There seem to be a disparity with some committees having student representation, while others do not.
- i) Establishing some coherence on Committee reporting.

With this list and the best of wishes for the next academic year, the UC pass the baton to the new UC Chair and members.

Respectfully submitted by Cristina Ortiz