1) The minutes of the 18 January 2012 meeting were approved as drafted.

2) Events of the Faculty Senate meeting of 15 February were discussed, with some attention directed toward votes for “abstention” (see below).

3) Informational Updates

   a) The Chancellor has invited the UC Chair to attend the 7 March Board of Regents Dinner. As this is the date of the next Faculty Senate meeting, and members of UC will not be able to participate, names were discussed for possible participants to accompany the Chancellor.

   b) Dave Dolan updated the UC on recent activity of the Committee on Workload and Compensation (CWC), with discussion about the hiring of a consultant for a study of workload. Two firms suggested by the Chancellor have been interviewed. Members of UC raised concerns about how the firms will be selected, what questions will be asked of faculty and staff, and how an acceptable return rate will be guaranteed. Draft resolution in support of the work of the committee was discussed.

   c) The UC received an update on the Childcare Survey from Student Government Association Representative Heba Mohammed; with more than 260 responses, the survey shows strong support for a daycare center among the university community.

   d) Linda Parins reported on the rollout for UW System Work Groups, noting that there has been little communication among the work groups. The UC expressed concern that not all work group meetings have been conducted in accordance to Open Meeting
laws, and that members of the work groups have been instructed not to discuss what is taking place in the meetings.

4) Old Business

   a) Faculty Senate Planning and Budget Committee. The UC Chair met with Chancellor Harden to discuss support for faculty representation on the Chancellor’s Planning and Budget Committee. The Chancellor already has responded with a memo outlining the role of the UC in naming faculty to the PBC, in which UC will send nominations for persons to serve to the Chancellor, who makes the appointments.

   b) UC review and approved draft proposal to dissolve FSCPB to be presented to Faculty Senate.

   c) Joint Governance Committee Project. Following comments in Faculty Senate about membership in committees and the meaning of shared governance, Linda Parins will discuss proposed changes at the next Staff Governance meeting.

5) Senate Abstention Project. The large number of abstentions at recent faculty senate meetings is of concern. It was noted that there were several motions where the number of abstentions was greater than or equal to the number of votes cast in favor of the motion. UC will look to measures to encourage senators to register a yes/no vote.

6) Definition of a Joint Governance Unit. There is a need to clarify what this term means. UC will wait for discussion of the Joint Governance Committee Project in Staff Governance and then further discuss changes in language.

7) Senior Senators. The Chair of UC will meet with individual units to discuss the importance of electing tenured faculty to FS to encourage discussion and facilitate voting actions on the important issues confronting university faculty.

8) The Provost met with the UC and said that there were no new items to report. UC members expressed their concern the processes employed by the UW System Work Groups, and the Provost said that she would follow up on these concerns. UC also asked about changes in search and screen reimbursement, something that the Provost indicated that she was working on.

9) The Secretary of Faculty and Staff meet with UC to discuss options to encourage faculty to vote more directly on motions presented at senate (rather than abstaining from voting).

10) May Multiples Concern: Because of changes in employee compensation, UWGB faculty will have multiple deductions from their final paycheck to cover health care and other expenses for the summer months. There is strong concern over the impact of the May Multiples on faculty and UC will ask the Chancellor to communicate this concern to UW System officials.