University Committee Annual Report 2010-11

I. University Committee Meetings Schedule and Membership
During the 2010-2011 school year the University Committee met every Wednesday afternoon, for a total of 22 meetings, except for the third Wednesday of each month, as this was when the Faculty Senate met.

University Committee members for 2010-2011 consisted of Dave Dolan, Mike Draney, Derek Jeffreys, Tim Kaufman, Illene Noppe (chair), and Brian Sutton. Brent Blahnik was the Academic Staff Committee representative; Heba Mohammad represented the Student Government Association.

During portions of almost every meeting, Provost Julia Wallace met with the committee for an information exchange. Secretary of the Faculty and Academic Staff Cliff Abbott met with the committee each month on the week before Faculty Senate meetings, to set Senate meeting’s agenda, and also met with the committee during other meetings on an as-needed basis, usually to clarify various procedural matters.

II. Faculty Senate Actions

A. Faculty Senate Passed the Following:

1. Personnel and Positions
   - Memorial resolutions were read for Professors Ganga Nair, Dean O’Brien, Allison Loomer and Jack Norman.
   - Resolution to coordinate the submission of the Professional Activities Report with performance reviews. Units have the option to review tenured faculty every two years and thus the PAR may be submitted for these faculty on the same cycle.
   - Resolution calling for fringe benefit rates to be set separately for each comprehensive institution based on actual costs and not be based upon adjustments for the entire UW System.
   - Approved the proposal to create “Partner-Friendly” University for Faculty. The partner of a UW-Green Bay hire may apply for the title of affiliation of Honorary Associate Fellow and receive an on-campus office (depending upon availability), campus address, e-mail account and access to the library and internet.
   - Approved a policy on College Student Bereavement to be implemented in Fall, 2011. The policy specifies “Standard Bereavement” and “Leave of Absence” procedures in the case of the death of a loved one.
   - Resolution specifying that all adjuncts teaching courses at UW-Green Bay be approved and reviewed by the Unit responsible for those courses.
   - Resolution electing Tim Kaufman Deputy Speaker of the Faculty Senate for 2010-2011.
   - Resolution approving the slate of candidates recommended by the Committee on Committees for elections to faculty committees for 2011-2012.
   - Resolution electing Mike Draney Chair of the Faculty Senate for 2010-11.

2. Academics
   - Senate approved a policy on the creation and establishment of University institutes, laboratories and centers. A procedure for the establishment of new institutes or centers was established as well as a procedure for institute or center discontinuation.
Approved the proposal for changing the Individualized Learning Committee from a Provost’s Appointive Committee to a Faculty Appointive Committee. The University Committee appoints committee members upon the recommendation of the Committee on Committees and Nominations.

Approved the proposal to implement an online Master of Science in Nursing Program (with an emphasis on Clinical Nurse Leader) at UW-Green Bay. The program was designed to be a collaborative effort between UW-Green Bay and UW-Oshkosh.

Resolution approving faculty involvement in Project Win-Win Phase 2, wherein faculty would be consulted in cases where there is an ambiguous area of emphasis to qualify for the Associate of Arts and Sciences Degree.

Resolution in favor of recommendations of the Honors Program Task Force to seek procurement of funds for creating, implementing and sustaining an Honors Program at UW-Green Bay.

Resolution approving the granting of degrees to December 2010 and May 2011 graduates.

3. Other

Resolution in support of the request for funding of Research to Jobs: Growing the Research Infrastructure: UW Research Commons. This initiative would help to increase electronic access to information benefitting students, faculty, staff, and residents of Wisconsin.

Approved a change in code for the Graduate Faculty Board of Advisors eliminating the involvement of the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research and adding the Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences as a non-voting ex officio member.

Resolution voicing opposition to Governor Scott Walker’s “Budget Repair Bill.”

Resolution commending the UW-Green Bay women’s basketball team.

Resolution endorsing the Wisconsin Idea Partnership, a plan supporting the integrity of the UW-System while extending greater financial and administrative flexibility to individual campuses.

Approved code changes in the procedures for the elections of senators, the selection of an interdisciplinary, disciplinary and other unit chairpersons, the Speaker of the Senate, the Deputy Speaker of the Senate, chairperson of the graduate program, and faculty elective committees.

B. Faculty Senate Considered but Did Not Pass the Following:

Resolution that a first year seminar be provided for every incoming first year student.

C. Faculty Senate Discussed the Following in Open Forums—No Action Required

Discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of alternative delivery of courses.

Unionization at UWGB—presentations by guests Peter Davis, Wisconsin Employee Relations Committee, Julie Schmidt and Michael Coutley of the American Federation of Teachers.

Presentation and discussion of the Task Force Report on Interdisciplinarity, presented by Professor Jeff Entwistle, Task Force Chair.
III. University Committee Actions

A. Committee and Personnel Matters

Brian Sutton served as UWGB’s representative at the UW-System Representatives’ meetings throughout the 2010-11 school year. Dave Dolan was elected as the 2011-2012 representative.

Worked on a definition of “joint governance committees” and designated committees as faculty, academic staff, or joint. The completed document was sent to the Chair of the Committee on Committees and Nominations for further analysis and recommendations.

Discussed the hiring of a Dean of Professional Studies and participated in the interviews of candidates for the position.

Upon the request of the Chancellor, provided a list of faculty nominees for the Task Force on Graduate Education.

Discussed the possibility of resurrecting the Committee Apprentice Proposal.

Considered and declined the suggestion that the Professional Activities Report include a new SoTL category.

Reviewed, with Tom Maki, a proposed compensation distribution plan to be sent to UW-System.

Provided a list of candidates for election to the Committee on Rights and Responsibilities.

Agreed that Joe Schoenebeck, Classified Staff Representation, should attend Faculty Senate meeting.

Nominated slates of candidates for faculty elective committees, following recommendations from the Committee on Committees.

Provided input to Secretary of the Faculty and Academic Staff Abbott regarding a schedule for Faculty Senate meetings for 2011-2012.

Elected Mike Draney UC Chair for 2011-2012.

B. Academic Issues

Engaged in a discussion with the Provost about the Board of Regents’ new Growth Agenda.

Discussed the possibility of a proposal that would prohibit instructors of any one UW-Green Bay course to include requirements that would cause students to miss other classes in a different time slot.

Met with Professors Andrew Kersten, Georjeanna Wislon-Doenges, Steven Meyer and Deans Scott Furlong and Brenda Amenson-Hill about the Faculty Senate’s response to the resolution on the First Year Seminar Program.

Discussed Brian Sutton’s proposal to eliminate the requirement of an interdisciplinary major or minor for graduation. It was decided to await the delivery of the Interdisciplinary Task Force’s report prior to making any decisions about this proposal.

Discussed with Interim Dean Derryl Block, Provost Julia Wallace, and Nursing lecturer Brenda Tyczkowski the possible creation of a collaborative online Bachelor of Science Degree in Heath Information.
C. Other Issues
   Viewed and provided feedback on the Provost’s Academic Plan presentation for the Regents meeting on October 7, 2010.

IV. Acknowledgments
Writing this report gives me the opportunity to reflect on the many accomplishments of the 2010-2011 University Committee. A number of important policies were created and approved despite the continued backdrop of events in Madison that had a significant impact upon faculty morale and planning. This important work would have never happened without the sustained and committed efforts of all the members of the University Committee. It was an honor to work with such dedicated and insightful colleagues. I am especially grateful that Brian Sutton was willing to trek down to Madison to make sure that UW-Green Bay had a presence at the Faculty Representatives meetings, and to Mike Draney, who effectively wielded the gavel during Faculty Senate meetings. I also want to thank SOFAS Cliff Abbott for his valuable input on University procedures, policies, and guidance on the creation of Senate agendas. In addition, Abbott does an amazing job of distilling Senate meetings so that what happened makes sense! Many thanks also goes Provost Julia Wallace, who took time from her busy schedule to keep UC members informed about campus-wide and System-wide happenings. Mary Goral was invaluable in setting up meetings and finding great spaces for the weekly meetings of the UC. Thanks also go to Faculty Senators, who helped to move this university forward during difficult times.

Respectfully submitted,
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