

**University of Wisconsin-Superior**  
**Department of Business and Economics**

**MINUTES OF DEPARTMENT MEETING**

conducted on:

**May 10, 2010 in Erlanson Hall 304**

**Present:** Greg Trudeau(Chair), Bob Beam, Diek Carlson, Mei Cao, Ethan Christensen, Jerry Hembd, Bruce Kibler, Rick Moran, Connie O'Brien, Chuck Reichert, Richard Stewart

**Guests:** Tom Bergh and Trisha Skajewski from the Alumni Association. Lynn Williams, Director of Marketing and Communications.

Trudeau called the meeting to order at 12:01 PM.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2010 meeting (Motion: Reichert/Second: Stewart). Motion carried with unanimous approval.

**Search & Screen Updates**

**Finance Search:** Reichert reported a candidate for the finance position had visited UWS on May 4 and another candidate was coming to visit on May 13.

**Economics Search:** Hembd reported a new hire had been found for the economics position.

**Transportation and Logistics:** Stewart reported two candidates had already visited UWS and a third candidate was coming to visit on May 14. The T&L committee would then meet to make a recommendation.

Trudeau reported he had requested four positions for next year:

- 1) An assistant to help Kathy Pettingill, Administrative Assistant
- 2) A Sustainable Management position (online only)
- 3) A Business/Law position
- 4) An Economics position to fill for retiring Professor Bob Beam

**Department Chair Update**

AAC: Access to Distance Learning

- Reichert reported he thought the issue was back in subcommittee.
- Trudeau clarified the issue was whether a course taken through the Distance Learning Center would automatically count in the departments. Currently students have to have a legitimate reason why they don't want to take a course on campus, but if the new policy is adopted all students can take their courses online.
- O'Brien reported the online form was being simplified to require only an advisor's signature and not a department chair's signature.
- Reichert reported at the AAC meeting it was mentioned a department would have to approve of the Distance Learning course instructor. That is, Distance Learning could not arrange for an instructor to teach a business course without the consent of the Department.
- Several Department members acknowledged the goal was "seamless web."
- Trudeau mentioned there was a larger issue in how many students would take a course online instead of on campus if the course would automatically transfer in.
- Hembd mentioned the Department may want to stay attentive to UW-Extension setting-up a system-wide portal for all distance learning courses in that it could be part of the "seamless" movement.
- Stewart expressed concern about the underlying assumption that online courses and on-campus courses are equal and provided an example of a course that can not be equal.

- Reichert stated that, for the specific courses discussed at Academic Affairs, in theory there should be no difference between an online course and an on-campus course other than the means of delivery.

### **Alumni Association Chapter**

- Tom Bergh inquired about DBE interest in developing an Alumni Chapter.
- An initial steering committee of six people would be needed. The steering committee could be a combination of faculty/staff and alumni.
- Trisha Skajewski reported funds raised from Chapter fundraising efforts would come directly to DBE to be used at the discretion of the Department.
- Trudeau polled DBE members and it was unanimous in favor of developing an Alumni Chapter.
- Bergh confirmed a ratio of four alumni/two faculty would be appropriate for the steering committee and suggested having a faculty co-chair and an alumni co-chair.
- Trudeau and Moran agreed to serve as faculty representatives.
- A motion was made to approve the development of a DBE Alumni Chapter (Motion: Beam/Second: Moran/unanimous approval).

### **Director of Marketing and Communications**

- Trudeau introduced and welcomed Lynn Williams as the new Director of Marketing and Communications at UWS.
- Lynn extended an invitation to all DBE members to talk with her one-on-one about any comments or suggestions for the University.
- Lynn reported her Department has posted eight positions for paid student internships. The positions include writers, journalists, photographer, videographer, design and several marketing/research internships. These internships will be reposted in the Fall.

### **Department Chair Update (continued)**

#### **AAC: SOAR Advising**

- Reichert reported the SOAR advising model of student and family overnight visits to UWS was not under the bailiwick of AAC because it was not an academic issue whether students came overnight or not. Therefore, the only issue AAC was asked to vote on was whether or not to adopt the newer model of hiring people to be advisors at SOAR sessions.
- Departments are now responsible for covering five days for the advising of transfer students. There is, however, no departmental commitment for the actual SOAR advising sessions.
- Trudeau stated DBE will send over a list of business courses typical of what beginning business students would want to take as their first classes.
- Five DBE members have chosen a day over the summer to cover the transfer student advising sessions.

### **Faculty Senate**

Faculty Senate report from Hembd included the following:

- Chancellor Emeritus status was under consideration for retiring Chancellor Erlenbach.
- DBE was one of two departments not represented on the list of 18 prospective chancellor search committee members from which 10 members will be selected.
- Some departments are hiring Academic Staff and having them teach a 15 credit load. The personnel committee handbook states a 12 credit limit, but some departments have a long history of hiring them to teach 15 credits, so that issue is under review.
- There's Senate discussion about doing something different with the Promotions Committee. Currently a recommendation for a promotion from a department goes to the Personnel Committee and then to the Provost. The three proposals under consideration are:

- 1) Retain the current composition of the committee. Currently there are 10 members; half full professors and half associate professors. The workload is divided-up depending what the promotion is.
  - 2) Reduce the committee to five members; three full professors and two associate professors with all five looking at all decisions.
  - 3) Eliminate the Promotions Committee with recommendations for promotion going directly to the Provost.
- Hembd stated if you have any ideas or opinions regarding the three proposals to send to let him know.
  - Faculty Senate is discussing the reinstatement of the Dean of Faculties position and doing away with all the Associate Dean and Assistant Dean positions proliferating around campus.
  - Continuous Improvement and Planning Team (CIPT) has endorsed the UWS campus attainment goal of increasing by 1,700 the number of undergraduate degrees awarded between now and 2025. The campus population would grow to approximately 3,550 by 2025. CIPT has acknowledged additional resources would be necessary to achieve this laudable goal.
  - CIPT will likely be looking for faculty to join if any DBE members are interested.

### **ECON 438 - Comparative Economic Systems**

- Carlson proposed adding ECON 438 as an elective course for the International Business Concentration.
- There was uncertainty about why ITS 342 was still being offered as an elective in the concentration.
- A motion was made to replace ITS 342 with ECON 438 (Motion: Kibler/Second: Beam), unanimous approval and motion carried.

### **Announcement**

#### **DBE Development Fund**

Beam announced donations from the Heart Foundation will be coming to an end next year. DBE Banquet expenses are running around \$500 to pay for the plaques and certificates, etc. Beam requested each DBE faculty member to consider donating \$50 to the banquet fund because it won't be funded from any other place unless the Business Development Fund kicks-in by that time.

Trudeau distributed a handout containing a letter that will be going out to upcoming DBE graduates that has information to connect them with DBE, other graduates and the developing DBE Alumni Group.

Trudeau announced that due to health issues with his brother he may be in and out of his office until he gets that taken care of.

### **Adjournment**

Trudeau adjourned the meeting at 1:06 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Ethan Christensen  
Recorder