

Minutes – Faculty Senate University of Wisconsin Superior
February 16, 2010, YU 203, 2:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sipress called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Sipress, Cleary, Lynch, Sloboda, Einerson, Hembd, Fank, Schmude, Christensen, J., Jacobs, Aldridge, Starratt, Kronzer, Wright, G., Erlenbach, Markwood, Sharp

Guest: Jane Birkholz

Excused: Simpson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES January 26, 2010

Motion (Jacobs/Hembd) to approve minutes dated January 26, 2010. Motion carried.

Receive Executive Minutes - Minutes of Feb 2, 2010 to be received in March.

Contrary to best practices minutes received have been unapproved minutes. Discussion. Senate members prefer to receive unapproved minutes as an informational item. Minutes received will be designated as unapproved and as an informational item only.

REPORT OF THE CHANCELLOR

At the last Board of Regents meeting, the Board approved four different differential tuition projects: two at Stout, one at LaCrosse and one at Eau Claire, which added \$1200 in differential tuition (phased in over 2 ½ to 3 years). The Eau Claire project was somewhat controversial, but the Board of Regents approved it. The Chancellor asks senators to consider, "How do we address a potential need for new revenue at UW-S?"

UW-System Administration

A letter from the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs to the Provost at UW-Colleges indicates she is willing to entertain a proposal concurring entitlement to plan an applied baccalaureate degree program. Six of the UW-Colleges are involved in this "pilot program," including UW-Barron.

Even though this is a pilot project, we can probably anticipate that this degree program is going to become a reality. We need to start thinking about what that means for us.

REPORT OF THE PROVOST

Conversations about how UW-S and other institutions will meet challenges to increase enrollment continue. They've just begun on this campus. System has an aggressive time agenda for establishing goals. The UW-S Continuous Improvement and Planning team will have a preliminary report ready as a salvo for purposes of discussion. This process; these reports, will be open and transparent.

Extension Initiative: University of Wisconsin E-Campus a.k.a. UW-Online is under development; designed to bring together a centralized portal for all online learning, including advising and registration services.

Institutions could subscribe with extension for services. The provost expressed concerns about institutions cannibalizing each other for services. A marketing company has already been hired to design "The Portal."

Paraphrasing Rebecca Martin "You comprehensive institutions say 'no' to the college BA, you say 'no' to this UW-Online initiative... What will you say yes to?"

How are you going to help achieve the goal of increasing degrees within this state?"

We (UW-S) need to face that question. What is our role going to be? What will our contribution be, beyond just simply saying, “no.”?

REPORTS

Chair

Written report provided. Lynch- Update of ratification of decompression plan. Two items for the ratification, decompression and experience premium. Documents have been posted to the Faculty Senate web site (under agendas). Forums are scheduled for Wednesday March 10 11:30 - 1 and Friday, March 12 1-2:30, Holden Fine Arts Center 3131 (Third Floor Gallery). Ballots will be mailed approximately one week prior. Completed ballots may be mailed to Tim Cleary, HFAC 3101 or placed in the ballot box during the forums. Ballots will be available at both sessions.

Secretary

No report

Faculty Representative

Meeting next Friday, baaculate degree and E Campus portal are on the agenda and the never ending textbook rental. The competitive workforce compensation will be providing a report; this is an advocacy committee heightening awareness of compensation within the system.

Academic Program Review Council

No report

Planning and Budgetary Council

No report

Personnel Council

Completed their charge and will report to Senate in March.

Undergraduate Academic Affairs Council

[Report to Senate 2010 01 26](#) 

[Minutes 2010 01 26](#) 

Written report provided, no action items.

Graduate Council

No report

Student Senate

No report

Academic Staff Senate

No report

NO OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

I. Strategic Plan for Student Retention Informational only - NO ACTION REQUIRED

[Strategic Plan for Student Retention](#)  - [Associate Vice Chancellor's Response](#) 

[Rationale for Strategic Plan for Student Retention Methodology.](#) 

*Note this document is labeled as ‘draft’-incorrect file sent, ‘draft’ copy is identical to copy Chair Sipress has (hard copy) that is not labeled ‘draft’.

Guest Jane Birkholz-

The targets in the plan are not as aggressive: Instead of the System plan, retention rates have been brought into line with COPLAC peers.

The Committee revisited the prioritization question. The Committee wants this to be a very inclusive plan, giving others the opportunity to weigh-in campus-wide. Further goal prioritization has been indicated in the document using color-coding of the action items.

Chair Sipress (heavily paraphrased): The most important predictor of student persistence is the degree

to which students are deeply engaged on a day to day basis both academically and non-academically in the life of the campus. The report suggest UW-S has weakness (NSSE data) to work on regarding student engagement. Shouldn't we be prioritizing how to make educational experiences more enriching for our students?

Much discussion of academic engagement, especially with undeclared majors, ensued. We could use more information from students who leave? Why are they leaving?

II. Attendance Policy

This is not a campus wide policy. This is a senate resolution that puts the senate on the record that reasonable accommodations should be made for illness. Departments are asked to take responsibility to ensure that reasonable accommodations are being made. *Motion (Cleary/Eielson) to approve the Attendance Policy Resolution.* Carried. Chair Sipress urges senators to take the resolution seriously and discuss with departments.

III. Womens Issue Committee

University committee, proposal to change name and revise mission. *Motion (Einerson/Cleary) to endorse the change.* Motion carried.

IV. Committee Review

At the request of Faculty Senate Executive Committee, the Provost has asked Faculty Senate to review the composition and/or mission of the following three university committees:

Promotions- Several issues, size, term length and is it necessary. Executive committee is asking for guidance and direction. *Motion (Einerson/Hembd) move that Faculty Senate Executive, under the leadership of Chair of Faculty Senate, draft an alternative to what is currently the structure of the promotions committee.* Discussion. Many different views. The promotion committee reviews department personnel rules to verify that the criteria for promotion is followed. Promotion committee only makes recommendations not the final decision. Discussion. Why would any faculty drop peer review as part of the promotions process. One issue is that the promotions committee, under the new charge is to reviews whether or not the departments are following their own personnel rules. The promotion committee only makes recommendations. It can recommend denial but that decision can be over ruled at the Provost level, or it can recommend approval of the promotion, the Provost doesn't say no. Discussion ensued. The most responsible job of the promotions committee is to police that the departments are doing their job adequately. There is no tenure committee and there is an appeals process for those who challenge a decision, with or without the promotions committee. Discussion. The committee makes sure that the academic integrity of the institution be upheld. If there is a scarcity of faculty could there be one committee-(both associate and full professors serve). Why was the committee originally formed? If the committee is kept, more articulation, why it is necessary is necessary. Should the workload be restructured? Is Executive committee the right body to review this? Discussion. **Motion carried.**

V. Committee Appointments

A. *Motion (Lynch/Hembd) that Martha Einerson replaces Brett Jones on the Student Enrollment and Retention Committee. Motion carried.*

B. Registrar search-four of the eight members will be faculty. *Motion(Cleary/Aldridge) to appoint Orv Clark, Laura Jacobs, Martha Einerson to the Registrar Search and Screen Committee. Motion carried.*

C. BA/BS Review Committee status update. A call for 4-6 individuals was issued. Three have volunteered, George Wright, Uwe Leck and Tim Cleary. There may be others interested but the timing isn't the best. The Provost has been consulted. This is not a pressing issue (must be completed before next catalog update). *Motion (Hembd/Einerson) to appoint George Wright, Uwe Leck and Tim Cleary to the BA/BS Review Committee with the understanding that a call for volunteers will be issued and the committee will begin its work in the fall. Motion carried.*

VI. Other

No other business.

ADJOURNMENT - Meeting adjourned 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on the 22nd day of February by Tim Cleary, Faculty Senate Secretary and Linda Sharp, Clerical Assistant.