



2002-03 University of Wisconsin System Academic Staff Representatives Minutes

Thursday, November 14, 2002

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Room 1820 Van Hise Hall, 1220 Linden Drive
Madison, Wisconsin**

Plan 2008 Phase II

Andrea/Teresa (Tess) Arenas, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs and Senior Adviser to the President for Academic Diversity

Phase I -- lasting five years -- has just ended and UW System enters Phase II of Plan 2008. The campuses have Phase I reports due to UW System Administration on February 17, 2003. Academic Affairs will review the reports by April 1, 2003. At the end of next year, Academic Affairs will formally report on the progress of UW System campuses to the Board of Regents.

Human Resources and Personnel Issues

George Brooks, Associate Vice President of Human Resources

Chuck McConnell, Assistant Vice President of Human Resources

Sick leave report

The sick leave report was presented to the Board of Regents. UW System will continue to report to the Board to seek waiver of the sick leave cap.

Bargaining agreement update

There is still no agreement between the state and classified staff. Once there is agreement, the contract must be ratified by the union and sent to the Joint Committee on Employment Relations for approval. As the Legislature has moved to all Republican leadership, the committee membership will change.

Compensation Advisory Committee

The committee has met and submitted a pay plan increase recommendation to President Katharine Lyall. President Lyall will review the recommendation.

Group Insurance Board

The board will issue a report next week.

Change in political landscape

Governor-elect Jim Doyle may choose to replace the Department of Employee Relations Secretary Peter Fox and will replace Department of Administration Secretary George Lightbourn. We may see new policy changes in the way that the state works with the UW System on Human Resource issues. In addition, all the legislative committees in the Senate change hands, affecting the membership of committees. It is unlikely the Republican Legislature will provide a faculty/staff collective bargaining bill this session.

Governor-elect Doyle will also need to address the position he took on state employee layoffs. The UW System is interested in absorbing the 1200 non-represented employees, thereby lowering the state civil service numbers. Also, UW System feels strongly that those employees need a voice, and they will gain one with this move.

National Guardian Life

National Guardian life has declined to extend the life insurance contracts. University Insurance Association is looking at insurance brokers to fill this future void.

Legislative Update

Linda Weimer, Vice President for University Relations

The new political landscape has many positive factors for UW System. The Governor-elect has publicly acknowledged that funding for the UW is an investment in the state economy. In addition, there two new legislators in the Assembly Republican Caucus who have first-hand experience with universities: Rep.-elect Curt Gielow (R-Mequon) is the former president of the UWM Foundation Board and Rep.-elect Thomas Lothian (R-Williams Bay) is a retired chemistry professor from the University of Ill.-Chicago.

The huge budget gap looms large over this next budget cycle. UW System will submit its budget on November 15, 2002, to the Department of Administration. DOA will review the budget and offer recommendations to Governor-elect Doyle, who will ultimately develop the proposal that goes to the Legislature in January.

Engage Wisconsin -- an effort to promote the University of Wisconsin System throughout the state -- is currently underway. The project involves Regents, Chancellors, Alumni groups and many others interested in the further investment in the UW System.

Professional Development Research Update

Mark Skutley, UW-Stout Academic Staff Representative

The UW-Stout Senate is reviewing professional development at the campus. The goal is to review parity between academic staff and faculty, analyze expenditures by college and unity, and recommend changes in the current system.

To that end, Skutley surveyed the academic staff representatives on their institutional policies regarding leave. Those documents will be added to the website.

Academic Affairs Issues

Cora Marrett, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Academic Affairs reorganized and the new organization chart is available as an attachment.

In the decision-making processes surrounding the reorganization, Academic Affairs focused on the roles for enhancing and furthering student success. Marrett opened up the remaining time to respond to questions from academic staff representatives.