



2005-06 University of Wisconsin System Council of Academic Staff Representatives

Thursday, April 20, 2006 Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Judith Blackstone, UW-Eau Claire
Samantha Surowiec, UW-Green Bay
Deborah Veglahn, UW-LaCrosse
Read Gilgen, UW-Madison
Jon Lenichak, UW-Milwaukee
AnnMarie Johnson, UW-Oshkosh
Rick Haskey, UW-Parkside
Cyndi Reuter, UW-Platteville
Kimberly Gould Speckman, UW-River Falls
Julie Schneider, UW-Stevens Point
Vi Jones, UW-Stout
Donna Dahlvang, UW-Superior
Michael Cohen, UW-Whitewater
Dave Carlson, UW Rock County
Mike Wilson, UW-Extension
Bill Steffenhagen, UW-Madison (ASPRO President)
Sal Carranza, UW System Administration
Ron Singer, UW System Administration
Bob Jokisch, UW System Administration
Lynn Paulson, UW System Administration
Al Crist, UW System Administration
Freda Harris, UW System Administration
Pat Brady, UW System Administration
Margaret Lewis, UW System Administration

Minutes of the March 16, 2006 meeting were approved.

Associate Vice President Ron Singer summarized the April Board of Regents meeting. UW-Green Bay, as host campus, had two major presentations. The first presentation was to the Education Committee on teacher education. The second presentation, to the Board as a whole, was on the Growth Agenda. This presentation showed the importance of the Green Bay campus to the community and the need for the institution to grow in the future. Also included in the Education Committee was a presentation on Program Planning and Program Array, which showed that the program array has not increased over time. Other major items on the agenda included Charter School proposals, Minority and Disadvantaged Student Annual Report, and Sexual Assault Response and Prevention.

For the May Board of Regents meeting, Ron Singer noted that the Governor will be addressing the Board on Friday, while other agenda items include the Board of Regents Academic Staff Excellence Awards, an Update on Diversity in the UW System, the 2007-09 Biennial Budget Request, the Annual Report of the Wisconsin Partnership Fund for a Healthy Future, Teacher Education and Diversity, and the UW-Oshkosh Growth Agenda.

Bill Steffenhagen provided an update on ASPRO. ASPRO testified in the legislature against the collective bargaining bill because it separates faculty and academic staff pay plans. ASPRO is also trying to set up meetings with United Council to discuss common directions for the Budget and with Representative Kreibich regarding his bill which would provide guaranteed admission, move funds between campuses, and reward campuses for economic development. Bill also noted that there has been more positive press for the UW System of late and thanked President Reilly for his work in that area.

Regarding the Academic Staff Leadership Conference, the Council was informed that President Reilly is not available on the date chosen. Suggestions were made to have a Regent speaker such as Regent Crain and Executive VP Don Mash. Inviting legislators was discussed while noting the difficulty with their changing schedules and the need for balance.

Assistant Vice President Lynn Paulson then discussed Per Credit Tuition with the Council. The Chief Business Officers have a strong interest in moving to per credit tuition. The Provosts are also interested in pursuing per credit tuition, but asked for information on the experience in other states. Issues discussed included the experience at UW-Milwaukee of a drop rate in the plateau that is twice the drop rate outside the plateau and part-time students subsidizing full-time students under the present tuition structure.

Associate Vice President Al Crist discussed draft revisions to Unclassified Personnel Guidelines (UPGs) 2, 3, & 4, dealing with limited employees. These changes reflect Regent action in the Fall. Questions were raised about the role of academic staff in the development of these policies. Al Crist also informed the Council about the downsizing of staff in UWSA Human Resources. AA/EEO is one of the areas impacted.

Associate Vice President Freda Harris discussed President Reilly's presentation to the Board of Regents in February on the Growth Agenda. One of the major initiatives under the Growth Agenda is the Wisconsin Covenant, which includes additional financial aid for low income students who sign a pledge agreeing to take a college curriculum and stay out of trouble. The Growth Agenda also includes institutional initiatives focusing on access, student success and retention, and workforce development.

General Counsel Pat Brady, Associate Vice President Margaret Lewis, and Associate Vice President Ron Singer discussed the status of the Faculty/Academic Staff Disciplinary Process with the Council. Responses from campus governance groups are due on May 5. A summary of the inputs received to date was shared with the Council. Issues raised on the Disciplinary Process included:

- How do you define misconduct?
- Process appears too fast
- Suspension without pay

Pat Brady noted that the rule-making process takes six to nine months. Margaret Lewis noted that the legislature could reject the proposed rule and pass other legislation.

Regarding AB1147, Margaret Lewis noted that this legislation was proposed to help us, and that a similar bill for K-12 institutions was vetoed by the Governor. It did not appear at this time that the bill would pass. A question was raised as to whether there are federal laws in place which would overturn AB1147.

Regarding the Taxpayer Protection Amendment, there appears to be decreasing support for a constitutional amendment.

Highlights of Roundtable:

- UW Colleges: The new Extension/Colleges Chancellor has started. Colleges is part of the nationwide review of first year programs. There is a new library at the UW Rock County campus.
- UW-Extension: The Growth Agenda includes an e-learning initiative focusing on adult students and increasing baccalaureate degrees in the State.
- UW-River Falls: Representative Rhoades and Senator Harsdorf visited the campus. The Chancellor's inauguration is next week and a search for the new Provost is underway.
- UW-Parkside: Faculty development luncheon with local superintendents and first year experience.
- UW-Green Bay: Major remodeling of the sports center is underway. Under the Growth Agenda, UW Green Bay plans to increase enrollment from 5,500 to 7,500.
- UW System Administration: Dealing with major budget cuts.
- UW-Milwaukee: Research Growth Initiative and Access to Success, focusing on improving retention while providing increased access to students in the Milwaukee area.
- UW-Whitewater: President Reilly and Regents showcased the campus during the inauguration of the new Chancellor. The Chancellor also met with academic staff about multiple year contracts. The Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Rep. Baldwin were on campus for Government Week.
- UW-Madison: The Assembly passed a mandatory promotion/review process and opposed SB452. A new Provost has started on campus.
- UW-Platteville: President Reilly dedicated a new Dairy Center. The number of students from the Tri-State Initiative are increasing and the new Residence Hall is opening.

- UW-LaCrosse: New Chancellor search, proposal to increase tuition, accreditation review, new Residence Hall, and legislative listening sessions.
- UW-Stout: Provost search
- UW-Eau Claire: New Chancellor starts in June. Community Forum was very favorable. RA Bible Study issue has calmed down.
- UW-Superior: For the professional development grants, there were many more grant applications than funds. Celebrated National Student Employment Week.