



2007-08 University of Wisconsin System Council of Academic Staff Representatives

Thursday, February 14, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Jennifer Brockpahler, UW-Eau Claire
Sherri Arendt, UW-Green Bay
Brenda Leahy, UW-LaCrosse
Susan Crowley, UW-Madison
Jon Lenichak, UW-Milwaukee
Lynn Freeman, UW-Oshkosh
Joel Buschman, UW-Parkside
Scott Ringgenberg, UW-Platteville
Jason Neuhaus, UW-River Falls
Mike Pagel, UW-Stevens Point
Dennis Shaw, UW-Stout
Donna Dahlvang, UW-Superior
Michael Cohen, UW-Whitewater
Dave Carlson, UW Rock County
Tom Culviner, UW-Extension
Donna Silver, UW System Administration
Rebecca Martin, Senior Vice President, UWSA Academic Affairs
Ron Singer, Associate Vice President, UWSA Academic Affairs
Dave Giroux, Executive Director, UWSA Communications and External Relations
Vicki Kenyon, Special Assistant, UWSA Human Resources & Workforce Diversity
Bob Jokisch, Special Assistant, UWSA Academic Affairs
Bill Steffenhagen, UW-Madison (ASPRO President)

Rebecca Martin, Ron Singer, and Bob Jokisch from UW System Administration joined the meeting at 10:30 following discussion among Academic Staff Representatives. The minutes were approved from the January 17, 2008 teleconference.

The first agenda item was a discussion of issues raised by the Academic Staff Reps. Dave Carlson noted two issues. The first was the interest of academic staff in having input in the evaluation of their supervisors, which is not always common. The second issue was the Shared Governance Protocol. On the second issue, Ron Singer noted that at the Faculty Reps meeting, they planned to review the present document and make wording changes based on the comments from campus governance groups. Ron also noted that System Administration plans to move forward with the protocol and see how this works.

Rebecca Martin next addressed questions about Pay Plan, because Al Crist was ill. Rebecca noted that with the \$650 million budget deficit, it does not appear likely that the 1.5%

supplemental pay plan will move forward, but we should know more in the next several weeks. It is also pretty clear that with the size of the deficit, there will be a budget repair bill.

The next agenda item was the Growth Agenda Action Steps. Rebecca Martin noted that academic staff were represented on the Strategic Framework think tanks. The President and the Chancellors reviewed the recommendations from these think tanks and selected 10 Action Steps. In response to questions, Rebecca clarified that these Action Steps are not mandates and will need to be further studied at each institution to determine if and how they will be implemented. During the discussion, there was agreement on the importance of getting input from various campus experts in studying these Action Steps.

There was also discussion on how to increase the role of academic staff in systemwide discussions such as the Strategic Framework, and it was agreed that Academic Affairs would make clear in the future that we are looking for governance input as part of the process. There was also concerns raised about the workload impact of these Action Steps on academic staff with the hiring freeze, and the Academic Staff Reps suggested that early assessment should be done to insure success and the efficient use of resources.

The next agenda item was the list of Systemwide Committees shared earlier with the Faculty and Academic Staff Reps and which committees they are most interested in for governance involvement. Rebecca Martin noted that she would like to come to the Academic Staff Reps for nominations for the systemwide committees of interest and would also seek nominations from the Faculty Reps and from campuses. The Academic Staff Reps listed the Compensation Advisory Committee and the Fringe Benefits Advisory Committee as two committees of interest for governance representation.

The Academic Staff Reps next discussed how they have been requesting data on academic staff by type of appointment (fixed term, multi-year, probationary) as part of their concerns about UPG 3.05. They asked UW System Admin to help inform campus Human Resource Directors that they are trying to collect this data by campus and Vicki Kenyon from UWSA HR suggested that she would let campus HR directors know about this through their monthly teleconference.

Dave Giroux next provided an update on legislative issues. Dave informed the Academic Staff Reps that UWSA Communications and External Relations posts bill positions on their web site. His office tries to focus on bills affecting the UW System and those bills likely to go somewhere. Dave also noted that Wednesday, March 5 is the Posters in the Rotunda in the Capital. Dave's office has monthly teleconferences with Campus Public Information Officers and Legislative Liaisons on legislative issues. He offered to share the list of Campus Public Information Officers and Legislative Liaisons with the Academic Staff Reps. Finally, Dave encouraged more interaction between faculty, academic staff, and students and their legislators through coordinated efforts on campus.

The meeting ended following further discussion among Academic Staff Representatives.