

**University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire**  
**University Senate Executive Committee**

Minutes from May 3, 2022  
Volume 58, Number 15

Present: Jasmine Case, Grace Crickette, Olga Diaz, Billy Felz, Abbey Fischer, Kent Gerberich, Elizabeth Glogowski, Marquell Johnson, John Mann, Colleen Marchwick, Jill Markgraf, Sean McAleer, Nichole Miller, Kelly Murray, Geoffrey Peterson, James Schmidt, Charlotte Sortedahl, Pedro Sottile, Ryan Weichelt, Evan Weiher

Absent: Patricia Kleine, Kristin Schaupp

Guests: MJ Brukardt, Mike Carney, Margaret Cassidy, Marc Goulet, Mary Hoffmann, Debra Jansen, Corry Mahnke, Sonja Meiers, Kim O’Kelly, Jean Pratt, Jill Prushiek, Louisa Rice, Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn, Jake Wrasse

A meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Weiher at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 via online (Microsoft Teams) meeting.

- 1) Approval of the University Senate Executive Committee Minutes of April 19, 2022
  - Approved as distributed
- 2) Review of the tentative agenda for the May 10, 2022 meeting of the University Senate
  - Approved as amended
    - Add Faculty and Academic Staff Representatives Reports
- 3) Open Forum
  - It would be nice to remind senators that Executive Committee has an open forum
    - Senators can also ask administrators questions after their report during Senate
  - Concern about conflicts between athletics and academics as they are on the rise
    - Encourage conversations with the athletic director to make them aware as we do not want students in that position
    - Mike Carney and Angie Stombaugh are the contacts for whom you could talk with as they are the reps
      - NCAA sanctioned team says academic experience cannot be impacted due to athletics
        - Mike Carney to follow-up with this particular case
    - Professors try to accommodate but there are limits
      - This may also be an advising question
  - Change in leadership in Human Resources
    - David Miller will stay full-time through the end of the academic year then will remain with us (at Systems expense) for 25% of his time for 2-3 months
    - System keeps poaching from campuses and UWEC has had the most losses
    - David Miller will be in charge of compensation (TTC) at the System level
    - Tracy Drier will be stepping in as interim, but a search committee will be formed
    - The salary for this position compares to the private sector
  - This month is nurse’s month so please thank them and show appreciation for them
  - SCOTUS decision and how it may play out on university campuses
    - Hope that we can have a civil discussion but with this issue we have seen violence in the debate and discussion
    - We cannot advocate using state resources
    - States are patchwork in terms of what they have in the books
    - Impression is that our health services does an outstanding job in this area
    - The bigger concern is that the draft says shouldn’t be connected to 14<sup>th</sup> amendment and right to privacy
  - There should also be a school board appreciation week
  - Concern that new staff have to be here 2 months before they get healthcare
    - We should be doing more

- We are required to submit policy changes to System and our last submittal included this issue
  - Is concerning as it is already hard to attract employees then we couple that with our healthcare wait period and we are an outlier in this practice
    - Concern that this isn't communicated to potential employees as it comes as a surprise to them
- 4) Modality for Senate and Executive Committee Meetings
- Concern about Barron County and Marshfield as attending in person is difficult
  - Everyone is challenged at the beginning of the year, so it is not a great time for in-person meetings
  - We could adjust and do voting online
  - It was decided that all meetings will be via Teams, and we will see how it impacts voting
    - We will still consider an end of the year gathering
- 5) AY Calendars
- Concern over the December 26<sup>th</sup> deadline for grades but there are days before the holiday to do the grading
    - Usually, two business days are given for grading and the 23<sup>rd</sup> is a business day and the second business day is used for grading deadlines
      - What is the reason for this besides it is what we have always done it this way
        - If the deadline is extended, then the appeal deadline is impacted
      - Students wait for their degree for licensure
        - Because we are outlier in terms of how late we end the school year, compared to other schools, it gives students anxiety as they need to sit for their boards
      - Advising: if a student needs to repeat a course, they likely need to make a winterim decision
      - The Registrar's Office also has much work to do
      - Study Abroad has a small window for appeals from fall to spring
    - Concern over grade deadlines related to winterim as when we have winterim end at the beginning of the week with grades two days later is different than when winterim ends at the end of a week
      - With the winterim grade deadline many will rethink teaching so ask that the two-day turnaround be looked at
        - This is only a consultation
    - We have a bold vision in our Strategic Plan on staff health and well-being, so this seems to be another gap between rhetoric and reality
    - You can turn your grades in on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and be done
    - Question on why we sometimes start on the Tuesday after Labor Day and sometimes on the Wednesday after Labor Day
      - We try to start on Wednesday, if at all possible, but this year we will start on Tuesday as this academic year we needed to get all the days in that are required for instruction
        - It may also be to accommodate our Thanksgiving holiday
    - Our pre-fall semester is a 2-week contract before fall semester starts
    - Went to a slightly shortened winterim
    - Wanted to make sure we finished spring semester, so we don't bump into Memorial Day
    - Many schools have longer class times so that is why they can end before us
    - The Winterim length is a good compromise as it is a good length
    - Faculty are on contract even if the grading falls around Christmas

6) Discussion on transcript use in meetings

    - Last week someone started a recording in senate but consensus that it should not be happening
    - Some people will not speak up if they are being recorded
    - We will not allow recordings and can shut them off if we see this happening
    - Open meetings law states that anyone can record so long as it does not disrupt but they can record with their personal device
    - It should be disabled in teams as they can record on their phone
    - There were not ill intentions of the recording, but it is still good to have this discussion
    - Chair Weiher can make a statement at the beginning of the year and give reminders as well as establishing ground rules on basic practices and how we vote, etc.

7) Announcements

- FASRP may need updated as a result of TTC
- Academic Affairs Open Forum is Friday at 2 p.m. to discuss the Academic Strategic Plan with a second Open Forum scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Submitted by,  
Tanya Neary (fka: Kenney)  
Secretary of the University Senate