

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

Minutes from August 8, 2022
Volume 58, Number 17

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

Absent: Kent Gerberich, John Mann, Nichole Miller, Kristin Schaupp

Guests: MJ Brukart, Mike Carney, Paula Gilbeck, Bill Hoepner, Mary Hoffman, Kelly Olson, Nicole Owen, Jake Wrasse

A meeting of the University Senate Executive Committee was called to order by Chair Weiher at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, August 8, 2022 via online (Microsoft Teams) meeting.

- 1) Approval of the University Senate Executive Committee Minutes of June 14, 2022
 - Approved as distributed
- 2) Budget Update
 - Have had decreases in enrollment because of COVID
 - We received aid during COVID and we managed our funds well so we are thoughtfully using our reserves to help fund the hole we are now experiencing
 - An overview of finances and budget was provided
 - We have a \$5.8 million dollar gap
 - Financial forecast shared
 - \$20 million GPR fund deficit for FY 23, 24, and 25
 - Can use funding reserves (FY 23)
 - Investment – increase enrollment and improve yield rate for applications
 - Use funding reserves to drive growth
 - Can apply for more grants
 - Generate revenue for our services
 - Reduce expenses and adjust operations
 - Financial forecast scenario(s) was shared
 - Plans for future years was shared
 - A commitment to budget transparency and efficiency
 - Assumptions for FY 24 and 25 – looking at a similar loss of both of those years
 - We expect growth in enrollment, but we probably cannot grow fast enough to not have a deficit
 - Did the previous investments pay-off, such as, with the increase in sports and marching band, etc.
 - 470 are the expected numbers for the marching band
 - The 3 sports have all exceeded their roster sizes
 - 95% retention for sports
 - Out of state locations that we reached out to have not panned out as well as we thought but possibly due to COVID
 - Nursing is increasing 24 students per semester, but it is unknown how the budgets will work out as we will spend the next year working that out
 - Hear UW-La Crosse was up in enrollment and they are one of our main competitors and are really focused in healthcare and that is their niche and they have been successful in that
 - We are catching up and our alumni are loyal
 - Lacrosse has the facilities to back up their programs
 - We are going head-to-head in our marketing the best that we can, but they are a tough competitor

- Student behavior and its predictability is not predictable at all right now as national level enrollment is down 4.1% with a 2-year decline of 1.3 million students
 - On average, students apply to 7 schools
 - Class of 2022 survey: 50% reported not being emotionally ready
 - System level enrollment: applications are up 10% and Madison and La Crosse are expected to have larger incoming classes with 7 campuses predicting smaller incoming classes (down 3-11%)
 - 50% of UWEC applicants applied to 3 or more schools
 - 11% of UW System applicants applied to 3 or more UW schools
 - 81.8% freshman retention rate - so is solid and stable
 - We are also graduating students quicker so that is taking them out of our enrollment
 - Multicultural recruitment: are partnering with Olga's area and we are strategizing
 - Blugold going forward plan
 - Communicable disease strategy was shared
 - More info will come out before classes and during the first weeks of classes
 - Covid outlook: quarantine and isolation units are ready and prepared
- 3) Demolition Update
- KT and Putnam demolition:
 - Mobilization of demolition: August 24, 2022
 - Putnam: September 12- October 14
 - KT: October 10 – November 11
 - DOA/division of facilities development developed strategies to Mitigate dust, noise and disturbances
 - Hoping to have walkways in the winter
- 4) Announcements
- None
- 5) Consultation on personnel with Administration. Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85 (c) the committee contemplates going into closed session for the purpose of discussion.

Without objection it was MOVED and seconded that the committee go into closed session under Wisconsin Statute 19.85 (c) for the purposes of discussion.

Motion PASSED without objection by Jasmine Case, Abbey Fischer, Elizabeth Glogowski, Marquell Johnson, Colleen Marchwick, Jill Markgraf, Sean McAleer, Kelly Murray, Geoffrey Peterson, Charlotte Sortedahl, Pedro Sottile, Ryan Weichelt, Evan Weiher

Meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Submitted by,
Tanya Neary
Secretary of the University Senate