

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

September 20, 2022

Present: Belnap, Chrobak, Cole, Dilkes, Elannani, Feldman, Hersey, Hudson, Jurmu, Kim, Krueger, Kurtz, Loewenstein, Manning, Otto, Palmeri, Purse-Wiedenhoeft, Robson, Schmitt, Stuart, Szydlak, Tipps, Tirel, Wagoner, Weglarz, Williams, Wren

Excused: Matson

Absent: Heath

Guests: Brad Spanbauer, Carmen Faymonville

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| Administration Representative: | John Koker |
| Senate of Academic Staff Representative: | Brad Spanbauer |
| University Staff Senate Representative: | Lauren Burgbacher |
| Oshkosh Student Association Representative: | Daniel McKearn |
| Access Campus Report: | Jurmu/Tirel/Weglarz |

Minutes in Brief

At the September 20, 2022 meeting of the Faculty Senate, we heard reports from the Senate of Academic Staff, the University Staff Senate, the Oshkosh Student Association, and the Access Campuses. We approved the minutes of our May 10, 2022 meeting. Guest Brad Spanbauer shared updates on sustainability, and Provost Koker provided updates on enrollment and retention. Action items included Senate committee appointments and bylaws from the College of Education and Human Services and bylaws for Radio, TV, Film. Information items included reminding Senators of this year's meeting platform and duties. Discussion items included a proposed survey of student perceptions of free speech on campus sponsored by UW System and the Menards Center. President Szydlak provided University Updates. The meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm.

President Szydlak called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm.

- I. Welcome - New Semester and Senate for this year!
Returning Senators & New Senators: COB: Denise Robson, COEHS: Christine Tipps, CON: Catherine Schmitt; COLS: Anna Hersey, Jim Feldman, and Jason Belnap
President Szydlak welcomed everyone.
- II. Guest: Brad Spanbauer – Sustainability Updates
Brad shared summer progress in the development of both a Climate Action and a Resiliency Plan. He shared a PowerPoint describing a climate action roadmap, energy and sustainability growth, energy usage across campuses, ways to reduce our carbon footprint, our budgetary perspective, and goals for our campuses. He then addressed questions from Senators. Discussion included the use and charging of energy efficient vehicles, an upcoming Provost Summit, renewable energy, and ways that Senate can participate in the endeavor.
- III. Provost Koker – Enrollment & Retention Updates
Provost shared data on both enrollment and retention. He noted that the DFWs in some courses are very high and (perhaps as a result) the number of returning students is down more than projected. Discussion topics included: ways increase student success, student preparedness, ways to improve courses and pedagogy, student engagement and lack of study time, lifestyle and community involvement, and the impact of online offerings.

IV. State of the University

- A. Senate of Academic Staff (Spanbauer) – No report, they haven't met.
- B. University Staff Senate (Burgbacher) – No report, they haven't met.
- C. OSA (McKearn) – Their first meeting was on Monday. They had planned to discuss custodial and grounds outsourcing, but that issue has been resolved. Nothing else to report.
- D. Access Campus/Collegium – FOX (Tirel/Weglarz) – They haven't had their first Collegium yet this year.
- E. Access Campus/Collegium – FDL (Jurmu) – The 'Intersection' was moved to the common area for better visibility. The Fond du Lac campus will host their Donor Recognition Luncheon next week. Their first Collegium will be held later this week.

V. Minutes of May10, 2022

The May 10, 2022 minutes stand approved as distributed.

VI. Action Items

A. Committee Appointments – Faculty Senator Seats

- 1. Compensation Committee (1 Senator needed) – Senator Tipps volunteered.

MOTION: Elannani/Jurmu moved to approve the Compensation Committee appointment. Passed Unanimously

- 2. Bylaws Committee (3 Senators needed): Senator *Chrobak* continuing, Senator Jurmu volunteered. Senator Szydluk nominated Senator Stuart. Nomination accepted.

MOTION: Kurtz/Tirel moved to approve the Bylaws Committee appointments. Passed Unanimously

- 3. Elections Committee (3 Senators needed) Senators Kurtz, Hudson, & Schmitt volunteered.

MOTION: Robson/Wren moved to approve the Elections Committee appointments. Passed Unanimously

- 4. Personnel Policies Committee (1 Senator needed) Senator Cole volunteered.

MOTION: Jurmu/Kurtz moved to approve the Personnel Policies Committee appointment. Passed Unanimously

FS 2223-01 The Faculty Senate approved the following committee appointments:

Compensation Committee: Tipps; Bylaws Committee: Chrobak, Jurmu, & Stuart; Election Committee: Kurtz, Hudson, & Schmitt; and Personnel Policies Committee: Cole.

B. Bylaws

- 1. COEHS Bylaws

MOTION: Chrobak/Tipps moved to approve the COEHS Bylaws. Senator Stuart reported that the Bylaws Committee and the COEHS office worked together on the item before Senate, and that the Bylaws Committee recommends approval.

VOTE: 1 Abstention, 22 Yes. Passed

- 2. Radio, TV, and Film

MOTION: Tirel/Kurtz moved to approve the Radio, TV, and Film bylaws. Senator Stuart reported that the Bylaws Committee would recommend these be used as an example, as these are the first set of bylaws to have all the department polices included and use the newly adopted format.

VOTE: 1 Abstention, 22 Yes. Passed

FS 2223-02 The Faculty Senate approved the COEHS Bylaws, and the Radio, TV, & Film Bylaws.

VII. Discussion Items

- A. Free Speech FAQ – Faculty at UW Stout and UW Eau Claire have written a survey designed to “explore and describe University of Wisconsin (UW) System students’ knowledge of general First Amendment rights, as well as their attitudes about viewpoint diversity and their experiences with free expression and self-censorship at UW universities.” This survey, supported by the Menards Center and UW System, will be sent to students across the System after the November election. Data will be disseminated by UW System in the spring. The researchers are requesting feedback from faculty and staff at all System universities. The methodology and the nature of the questions sparked discussion.
- B. Free Speech Survey Draft – Senators were encouraged to share feedback on survey items with President Szydluk or respond via email to the Principal Investigator noted at the bottom of the FAQ document before Sept 30th.

VIII. Committee Reports – None

IX. Information Items

- A. Senators were reminded that we will alternate between in-person and virtual meetings (with one in-person meeting at each access campus) this academic year.
- B. Senators were reminded of their duty to report Senate business to their area, and to gather feedback to bring back to the Senate.

X. Items from Members –

- A. Senator Kurtz shared faculty concerns regarding the possible discontinuation of Scantron exam scoring. Senators noted that that giving exams on Canvas is not a good substitute. The Provost’s Office is at work on a long-term solution.

XI. President’s Report – University Updates

1. Provost Koker is co-chairing a committee through UW System that is studying online course offerings across the state. They will look at overlap and opportunities, and eventually suggest a way forward. Updates will be shared once available.
2. Board of Regents – They held two meetings this summer. Big topics included: Review of affordability of the UW System schools and the new Wisconsin Tuition Promise.
3. Current Searches: Three candidates for the AVC for Graduate Studies and Research are visiting our campuses; The COB Dean search committee has selected their semi-finalists; and the Search for a registrar will be starting soon.
4. Enrollment Census Day is today. This means we will soon have specific figures on enrollment and can begin to think about budgetary impact.
5. Strategic Planning updates will be shared at one of our next Senate meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
April Dutscheck, Recorder