

**SENATE OF ACADEMIC STAFF**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
May 2, 2024  
Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

**Present:** Boehler, Biwer, Christopher Carriveau, Kuss, Koch, Lambie, Lenski, Ludwig, McArthur, Palmer, Schrader, Walfish, Zemke

**Excused:** Miller, Flieller

**Absent:**

**Administrative Representative:** Josh Garrison

**Guests:** Chancellor Leavitt, Provost Martini, Molly Kopplin, Melanie Marine, Sena O'Melia, Kari Meszaros, Corina Van Duser, Rebecca Graetz, Mallory Janquart, Molly Henry, Ayron Munig, Erica Spicer, Shanon Brickner, Danielle Delwiche-Oelhafen, Kim Calmes, George Paul, Sierra Skindzelewski, Crystal Mueller, Lisa Koeppen, Joseph Pirillo, Esther Eke, Hope Schaefer Kempes, Kalli Lee, Rachel Cromheecke, Kim Langolf, Terri Perkins, Kelley Duhatscheck

1. Call to Order – President Boehler called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
2. Guest: Provost Martini – University Updates – As we move toward the end of the semester, we have begun the work of the implementation team and the transition to the new academic restructuring. The USP working committee has also begun working on its charge to look at general education curriculum and ways to streamline, update, and decide what to maintain. Provost noted his appreciation to everyone working on these committees and all their dedicated time and effort. He noted that he will be sending out an end of the year communication soon to campus. Then discussion with Senators included: A few anticipated building closers and key budget savings this will provide; clarification of the 3M dollar shortfall and the projections of where the savings will come from; academic accommodations and what is going to happen; the goals of the new Student Success Team that was recently formed working with AVC Grisham; and some frustrations that were shared related to faculty preparation.

President Boehler expressed his gratitude the Provost Martini for all the work and taking time to be here at Senate.

3. Guest: Chancellor Leavitt -Updates included:
  - Appreciation for the Alumni Council for their spirit and volunteerism, and academic innovative ideas,
  - Acknowledgement of a very difficult year, addressing a very large budget deficit, and appreciation to all those still here at UWO in so many ways,
  - Proudly shared anticipated improvement plans and timeline for Polk Library,
  - Concerns over staff voices that are not being heard and the loss of expertise and knowledge with so much turnover,
  - Assessing the changes made to help retain the staff and students needed to stay here,
  - Deloitte financial report feedback that noted a key need to work on employee relations, and how the Chancellor plans to be much more present at shared governance meeting and hear their concerns and feedback,
  - A few enrollment updates, efforts toward retention, and the need to have everyone work together to get students registered for next year.
4. Approval of the Minutes of April 18, 2024  
**Minutes stand approved as distributed.**
5. Reports

- a. President's Report -
  1. Acknowledgement of a long, intense year, and the need for a break.
  2. The push back felt as we worked on creating a space for ourselves, and a place of belonging. It felt as if the goal to minimize academic staff was almost intentional.
- b. Committee Reports
  1. Faculty Senate (Ludwig) – Highlights included: They had their shortest meeting of the year, with normal reports, action items, and discussion items related to contract end dates, revamping the administrator evaluation committee, and the new academic restructuring timeline.
  2. Oshkosh Student Government – (Palmer) – Highlights included: They had Provost Martini as a guest speaking to the same topics as us today; they voted on a letter to the other shared governance groups leaders and the want to not speak on their behalf; Student frustrations with vacant offices around campus; and concerns over how to handle class if a faculty member doesn't show up.
  3. University Staff Senate (Carriveau) – Highlights included: No Report
  4. Access Campuses Report:
    - b. Fox Cities (Carriveau) – Highlights included: No report
    - c. Fond du Lac – (Flieller) – Highlights included: No report
  5. UWS Academic Staff Reps (Zemke) – Highlights included: They meet tomorrow, and agenda items noted include: Prioritization of policies; the use of teaching faculty title; and proposed regulations and Title IX rules.
  6. AS Professional Development Fund (Miller) – No report
  7. Leadership Council - (Carriveau) – Highlights included: No report
  8. Administration Liaison (Garrison) – In response to a comment earlier, AVC Garrison reminded everyone of the importance of reporting when staff are not following accommodation needs; and the importance of encouraging students to communicate issues so they can be addressed.

6. Action Items –
  - A. Committee on Committee members  
Senators Christopher, McArthur, and Carriveau volunteered to serve with VP Lenski.

**MOTION: Christopher/Palmer moved to approve the committee on committee members. 13 Yes. Passed**

**SAS 2324-13 The Senate of Academic Staff approved Senators Christopher, McArthur, and Carriveau to serve on the committee on committee, in addition to the Vice President.**

7. Discussion Items –
  - A. Virtual Open Forum – Professional Academic Staff, Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1 pm  
Please join if you can!
  - B. Senate Meetings for 2024-2025 – Senate discussed using the second meeting of each month to host a virtual open forum to hear back from academic staff across campus on a more regular basis and to be sure to hear from both IAS & PAS.
8. Information Items/Announcements
  - a. Items from members
  - b. Elections Results – included in the One Drive meeting folder
  - c. Final Meeting: May 16, 2024
  - d. For the good of the campus
    - President Boehler
    - Senator Palmer shared that he has accepted a limited term position on campus and will be stepping down from Senate.

- Fond du Lac will be holding a book sale, and they are priced to sell. Be sure to take advantage of this if you are interested.
- Senator Zemke shared that their office will be hosting a celebration of student leadership event next week.
- Senator Walfish shared some upcoming Senior Exhibitions and graphic design shows.
- President Boehler reported on the performing arts concerts and opportunities, encouraging those interested to enjoy.

9. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
April Dutschek,  
Recorder