

Approved 08/08/2007

Academic Staff Council Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2007
The Pyle Center
702 Langdon Street - Madison, WI

1. Call to Order/Certification of Open Meeting Notice Compliance

Ray Schultz called the meeting to order at 9:04 and certified compliance with the open meetings law. Members present: Michael Maguire, John Fischer, Lynne Blinkenberg, Nancy Coffey, Allisanne Apple, Tom Culviner, Darlene Kramer. Others attending: Chancellor David Wilson, Ray Schultz, Kate Wodyn.

2. Election of Officers for 2007-08

Fischer nominated Maguire for chair. Maguire accepted. Elected by unanimous consent. Vice Chair: Kramer nominated; accepted. Elected by unanimous consent.

Approval of minutes of June 20, 2007

3. Motion to approve by Coffey; seconded by Apple. Motion carried.

4. Chancellor Report

Wilson welcomed members and recognized their important contribution. His report comprised an update on three items: 1) status of search and screen processes on two positions; 2) strategic planning process; 3) budget strategy – response to the Assembly Republican budget.

1) Search and screen update: The search and screen committee for the Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Legislative Affairs, chaired by Rick Klemme, has met two times and is ready to accept applications. The hope is to identify finalists in early fall. The second position, the Director for Entrepreneurship and Economic Development, has had a slight twist in the search process. Wilson had a preliminary conversation with Kevin Reilly a few weeks ago about sharing this position with UW System. A second discussion on the feasibility of this will be scheduled in the near future.

2) Strategic planning: As a result of numerous external and internal listening sessions, Chancellor Wilson has outlined the guiding principles and strategic priorities that will guide our strategic planning process. These have been communicated in the June [Chancellor's Communiqué](#). These priorities are meant to be very broad and at a level where the units have the flexibility to respond to the needs of who they serve and yet connect back to the institution. Marv Van Keckerix will be the point person in central administration who will lead and guide this process; he will chair the strategic planning steering committee. Wilson will ask for nominations for this committee, which will be made up of between 8-16 individuals who understand the work across the two institutions.

3) Budget strategy (Wilson handouts): Wilson drew attention to the latest version of the Assembly Republican Budget and its affects on the UW System, and Extension and Colleges in particular. This includes no public funding for radio and TV; eliminating 17 specific positions, including a Vice Chancellor position and the Special Assistant to the Chancellor of the UW Colleges and UW-Extension, reduced funding for University Relations and communications staff, elimination of state funding for the School for Workers and Wisconsin Humanities Council and a 50% reduction in all-agency funding which would be particularly devastating to UW Colleges. Wilson is working on a public statement to go out to media outlets that will talk about the impact this budget would have on us. Kevin Reilly will talk with chancellors next week to outline a strategy for conference committee. We will also put our own strategy in place that will operate within the context of the System strategy. The budget next goes to conference committee and it appears that the governor or one of his staff will be involved in the conference committee. Because they are so far apart, it could be months before we have a budget. Maguire commented that the ASC would be very interested in having a voice in developing strategic communications about our assessment of this budget and having a representative voice. Wilson is amenable to having Maguire be part of the conversation (and other

governance group chairs) with Colleges' Deans and UW-Extension Deans/Directors to strategize on the budget. This teleconference will be scheduled for early next week.

5. Chair Report

Maguire commented, "this is exciting work." He sees these positions as positions of service to our colleagues. The budget, for example, gives us a good opportunity for this. The proposed cuts will severely impact the people we serve. He invited participation in all meetings to the extent possible, as well as the other projects. He will be careful to manage time commitments. If any members are feeling pressure at certain times, he would like them to feel free to communicate that to him. This stems from a spirit of collegial concern. He also encouraged all to continue to not be shy about representing the voice of academic staff and bring information on issues discussed at the meetings back to colleagues. He will be a gatekeeper of the process. Maguire attended the Academic Staff Leadership Conference at UW-Superior where Mark Bradley (new president of Board of Regents) was a keynote speaker. Maguire noted a great enthusiasm for higher education by Bradley and he is encouraged by Bradley's new leadership on the Board of Regents. He would like to see the ASC continue its work on communication issues including work of other governance groups. Regarding new member orientation, he distributed the *Academic Staff Rights & Responsibilities* brochure, and mission statements of both UW Colleges and UW-Extension. He would also like to schedule an orientation session, especially for the four new members. He will also schedule time with Ray and Kate on more logistical matters. For the August meeting, there will be an agenda item on 2007-09 priorities and charged members to start thinking ahead and formulate a "to do" list. Maguire would also like members to think about how to communicate (an "elevator speech") how they and their academic staff colleagues are fulfilling our mission.

6. Committee Reports

Academic Staff Representatives Council report - John Fischer reported that there is no meeting scheduled until September. He wondered if anyone would be interested in being his alternate. Tom Culviner agreed.

(Motion to extend meeting to 11:40; carried.)

Leave Reporting – the ad hoc committee will be meeting July 18. The discussion will center around the definition of a work week.

Communications – question on whether the communication preference survey is ready to go out. Maguire will follow-up with Penny Ralston-Berg.

Item for August meeting—committees (standing and ad hoc) and their membership. Maguire will also talk to Ray and Kate about this.

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Recorded by Wodyn, 7-11-07.