

Approved 01/16/2008

**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**  
**September 11, 2007**  
**The Pyle Center – Madison, WI**

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

Chair Burke called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. and certified compliance with the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law. He asked all in attendance to introduce themselves and make a brief comment on their level of familiarity with governance.

Senators present: Rob Burke, Tom Evans, Dave Hart, Mahlon Peterson, Kathy Miller, Art Lersch, Pam Hobson, David Nack, Gail Huycke, Judy Knudsen, Kathy Hetzel, Karen Nelson, Katy Forsythe, Greg Blonde, Rene Mehlberg, Catherine Neiswender, Matt Hanson, Barb Larson.

Others attending: Kathy Eisenmann (as chair of Faculty Tenure Advisory Committee), David Wilson, Greg Lampe, Rick Klemme, Ray Schultz, Kate Wodyn.

**2. Brief Discussion of Roles and Responsibilities**

Schultz encouraged senators to take their governance responsibilities seriously. Their rights are part of Chapter 36 of State Statutes. Schultz distributed copies of the faculty rights and responsibilities brochure as well as a summary of governance activities from the past year. Burke gave an overview of last year and encouraged members to fully participate in meetings. He also commented that last year it seemed we were in a reactive mode much of the time and we would like to be more proactive this year. Blonde thanked Burke for the summary and suggested that senators share it with their constituents. The summary will also be posted on the Secretary website.

**3. Approval of Minutes of June 12, 2007 Meeting**

No changes; considered approved.

**4. Chancellor Report**

David Wilson welcomed new members to the faculty senate. He also thanked returning members for the contributions they have made and will continue to make. He also expressed appreciation for Rob Burke's leadership. He expressed his intent to provide an update on 3-4 items. Wilson continues his trek around the state and specifically mentioned visits to Brown, Lincoln and Taylor counties. He commented on the passion and level of commitment on the part of the faculty and feels our excellence is due to the fact that we are a separate institution and can tap on expertise anywhere in the state. He also endorsed Blonde's comments that the conversations that take place here get back to faculty colleagues around the state. This body is representing voices that are not around the table, and senators are representing more than themselves. Wilson just came from a meeting with Sen. Huebsch who commented that he (Wilson) had a lot to be optimistic about in regard to the budget. He came away from this conversation more encouraged than with others along the way. Wilson commended Rick Klemme on an exceptional job in working with stakeholders to get the message across about how the proposed budget cuts will affect both Extension and Colleges.

Strategic planning (handout); *The UW System's Strategic Framework to Advantage and Advance Wisconsin's Future (draft)*. Wilson brings this to our attention as the most recent thinking on the part of UW System (UWS) and the Board of Regents (BOR). He directed attention to the think tank teams and who would be their best members. Wilson has received upwards of 75 names and has forwarded them to Don Mash. President Reilly and the BOR are looking for a blueprint of the value that UWS is offering to the state but also to answer 1) what the tuition policy will be; and 2) the role the UW Colleges and UW-Extension will play in producing more baccalaureate degree holders. Our own strategic planning process has begun in earnest. The strategic priorities and guiding principles were outlined in the June Chancellor's Communiqué. Wilson and the provosts will populate the steering committee next week. Because the UWS strategic plan will wrap up in early 2008 it is our hope that our institutional plan will follow that same timeline.

Positions update: We are in the final throes of screening applications for special assistant to chancellor for governmental relations. The committee can communicate with finalists but we will not

move forward beyond that until the state budget is passed. This is a very important position for us and Wilson encouraged Senators to participate in this process. The person hired for this position must not only be familiar with the state legislature but local government as well. The second position of Director of Entrepreneurship and Economic Development is being rethought in terms of the System emphasis on economic development. Wilson has had a discussion with Kevin Reilly and Don Mash around sharing a position with System which could encompass economic development activities statewide and perhaps elevating this position to a vice chancellor. In the meantime, Gayle Kugler has agreed to be the interim director of that division for about nine months while we consult with other stakeholders about this position.

Convocation: Regent Mark Bradley provided remarks at the August 30 UW Colleges Convocation. Approximately 15 Extension colleagues attended. Regent Bradley gave "phenomenal" comments on the under funding of higher education in this state and this resonated very well with faculty and staff. Wilson has recommended to Bradley that he give the same message to other audiences and invited senators to think of other venues.

Development workshop with fundraising consultant on 9/10: Wilson reported on this workshop which sought to answer some tough questions about fundraising within our two institutions. Some questions that were considered were: Are we undercutting ourselves? Is it time to think about doing a campaign? Are we far enough along in our integration that we could undertake a statewide initiative? Feedback is being sought from participants. Wilson is not suggesting that we move forward immediately but that we have a sustained dialogue about development at the institutional level.

Task forces: we have a task force looking at a greater higher education presence in northern Wisconsin. A report is anticipated by the end of the year. We are also having preliminary discussions in Milwaukee about elevating our presence there and creating different kinds of dynamic partnerships to respond to critical needs. We are looking at something similar in Madison; offering opportunities to those currently underserved.

Burke mentioned that the University Committee and Academic Staff Council worked jointly on a resolution on the proposed budget and expressed appreciation for Wilson's efforts in communicating with legislators on the affects of the proposed cuts. Burke also mentioned some concerns he has heard about the administrative integration and asked what the next steps are. Wilson responded that we have not looked at a timeline for finishing the integration because the integration will be the result of breaking down the barriers, increasing our understanding of each other, and creating natural alliances. The challenge for us right now is at the central level and the need for patience. We have a lot of work to do so that integration takes place in the second and third tiers of the integrated units in central administration. For those in the counties, their work would perhaps only be affected by the direction the group looking at co-location issues takes; otherwise Wilson sees no appreciable impact on how work is being done in the counties. Lampe shared the discussion from the University Committee meeting about making a list of UW Colleges faculty and their specialty/interest areas to see how that might align with UW-Extension faculty. This would perhaps break down some of the department to department barriers since they really don't align. Huycke expressed that she has heard some apprehension about the integration and are we going beyond an administrative integration. Wilson indicated that this is not where we are going but hopes that faculty of both institutions will look for some natural collaborations. Peterson feels an underlying challenge is communication and suggested the Chancellor have WisLines with faculty. Klemme suggested inviting the Chancellor to participate, perhaps quarterly, in his Dean WisLines.

## 5. **Chair Remarks**

Burke mentioned that he attended an institutional orientation in August and served on a panel discussing governance in both institutions. He expressed our passion for governance and scholarship and when it comes to providing input we are serious and deliberate about it.

Nelson reported that the System Faculty Reps did not hold a retreat this summer. The first meeting is later this month. They are looking for responses on the leave reporting audit.

**6. Leave Reporting Recommendations: Report from Ad Hoc Committee**

Larson reported the committee has met a few times. A draft report was distributed by email on 9/10. The gist of it is the last page. The vast majority of Extension offices have some type of reporting and tracking system for hours. We have to have flexible schedules because that is how we respond to the needs of our clients and the committee is suggesting a positive reporting system. Lengthy discussion ensued. **Peterson motioned to remove second to last paragraph of last page of draft; seconded by Lersch. Motion carried.**

**7. Status Report – Joint Governance Work Group**

Burke explained that this group will be meeting soon. Lampe added that the Colleges faculty operate on a 9-month academic year, and a replacement for an unexpected resignation was named just last week. He felt the committee will meet by the end of September.

**8. Status Report – Chapter 3, Appendix IB, IIB Ad Hoc Committee**

Huycke reported that the committee has met three times. The members include Mahlon Peterson, Gail Huycke, Tom Evans, Marma McIntee, Corliss Olson, and Chuck Prissel. They are looking at language, reviewing documents, the role of the Faculty Tenure Advisory Committee (FTAC), etc. Schultz gave an overview of each policy the committee is reviewing. There are also looking at rights of faculty and the correspondence between the various committees (Standards, Rank and Promotion (SRP), FTAC) and the dean. The committee feels the need to gather more input and they are proposing a process that would bring groups (FTAC, SRP, Dept. chairs) in separately to spend time conversing about their concept of scholarship, review parameters, and other issues in the review process. The committee would also like to spend some time with the deans and ask where they see issues. In addition, they would survey some faculty that have recently gone through the tenure process. They have targeted December 12-13 in Stevens Point for these conversations. The committee will report again at the January meeting. Eisenmann (in her role as chair of FTAC) commended this committee for looking at these policies, but expressed that she would have liked to see the FTAC included from the beginning. She has some serious concerns about the need to be fair and equitable across the board in our discussions on this matter because there is a lot of misinformation out there. Evans agreed that there are perceptual issues out there and it takes time to sort through them.

**9. Academic Department Chairs Request to Resurrect Meetings between FTAC and Departmental SRPs, and Probationary Faculty**

Burke explained that the academic department chairs recently met and asked him about resurrecting meetings between the various decision-makers in the tenure process. This evidently is not the same as the tenure orientation workshops. Klemme said this may have come from a recommendation he made last spring to have those at different levels of tenure review (but not probationary faculty) come together to take stock of what issues might be there. His intent was for good conversation about scholarship but also to have a process conversation. There was also a suggestion to have the FTAC and SRPs meet together. After further discussion, Burke recommended that this item be taken up at the next University Committee meeting.

**10. Status Report – Article 4 Ad Hoc Committee**

Huycke reported that Sue Pleskac is chairing this committee; other members are Sue Buck, David Hart, Ann Keim, David Nack, Mary Mehan-Strub, Tim Rehbein, and Gail Huycke. They have met three times and are taking a look at the administrative unit and its roles and responsibilities. There seems to be confusion about what constitutes the administrative unit, and confusion between the administrative unit chair (which is a faculty function) and the county department head. They want to make sure that faculty have the right to determine their administrative unit chair. Part of the issue is that there are some county department heads that are academic staff, who are dealing with personnel issues. Peterson said that academic staff need to be involved in this matter as well. Schultz added that county partners are to be involved at some point.

**11. Discussion of Agenda – Format for January Meeting**

Burke said this is a jointly located meeting with the UW Colleges Senate. Schultz recommended that we form a small committee to work with the Provosts to plan the January meeting. Some joint time would be scheduled for the Chancellor's report and anything beyond that, as well as a joint luncheon. Members seemed to like the idea of mixing us up to allow for some interaction with Colleges. Volunteers for committee were Art Lersch and Judy Knudsen.

(Motion by Peterson/Hart to extend meeting five minutes. Motion carried)

**12. How Can University Committee and Faculty Senate Be More Proactive on Emerging Governance Issues?**

Burke distributed a handout from Nelson referencing policy about governance issues (What is a good shared governance issue, and what is not?). Nelson would appreciate guidance on what issues are appropriate for faculty governance.

**13. Discussion of Institutional Issues and Opportunities Appropriate for Faculty Governance**

Lersch mentioned paying attention to what comes out of the Cooperative Extension strategic planning process.

**14. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Recorded by Wodyn, 9-11-07