

*Draft distributed – not yet approved*

**UW-Extension Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes  
December 12, 2006  
The Pyle Center – Madison, WI**

**1. Call to order/certification of Open Meeting Notice compliance**

Chair Burke called the meeting to order at 1:12 and certified compliance with the open meetings law. Faculty senators attending: Rob Burke, Kathy Hetzel, Marie Witzel, Pamela Hobson, Katy Forsythe, Barb Larson, Greg Blonde, Mahlon Peterson, Karen Joos (for Luane Meyer), Gail Huyke, Judy Knudsen, Mary Gruenewald, Art Lersch, Karen Nelson, Annie Jones, Mark Kopecky, David Hart, Tom Hooyer, David Nack. Others in attendance: Chancellor Wilson, Vice Chancellor Van Kekerix, Ray Schultz, John Fischer (from Academic Staff Council), Kate Wodyn.

**2. Approval of minutes of September 12, 2006 meeting**

Hearing no changes, Burke considered them approved.

**3. Chair Remarks**

Burke deferred to Karen Nelson for the System faculty reps report. Nelson reported that there was discussion on UWS 7 which subsequently passed at Board of Regents (BOR) meeting. She commented that there were public comments by the Regents that they seemed to understand shared governance; so good things came out of this long UWS 7 debate. They also talked about criminal background check policy; some campuses still are not happy with that. Pay plan and the Growth Agenda were also discussed. The BOR would like to have some group to go to in order to get an idea of what the faculty response might be on an issues and they are drafting an outline for some type of procedure. The faculty reps are advisory, not a governance group. Another request is for nominations for search committee members for the Senior VP for Academic Affairs position (being vacated by Cora Marrett). They are looking for nominations by today. System would like five faculty on this committee and mentioned a representative from UWEX/UWC. After discussion and strong encouragement from Chancellor Wilson to nominate someone, **Huycke nominated Karen Joos to be on the search and screen committee for UW System Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs; seconded by Kopecky. Motion carried unanimously.**

**4. Chancellor Remarks**

Chancellor Wilson reported that the BOR has approved a 5.23% pay plan for each year of the 2007-09 biennium and all on state money (GPR). We are gearing up for a legislative session and he has asked Jennifer Garner to put in place our legislative strategy for this year. As soon as the plan is put together it will be disseminated so we know how to engage stakeholder support. The Decision Item Narrative (DIN) on the Adult Student Initiative (ASI) has been forwarded with UWEX and UWC the lead institutions. Wilson provided some background on the genesis of the ASI. A total of \$2.6M is requested over the biennium. Funds in Continuing Education, Outreach and E-Learning have been reallocated to jump start this initiative, including the hiring of three adult-student advisors. Personnel update: Wilson will announce the interim Cooperative Extension Dean appointment on December 15. He is viewing this interim position as a long-term one, serving for about three years, with a national search commencing in fall 2009 and a hire made in spring/summer 2010. Wilson explained his reasons for having such a long interim appointment. The Cont Education, -Outreach & E-Learning dean search is on track; the search committee is meeting Monday 12/18 to make the first cut. He will officially charge the search committee for the Chief Information Officer position next week. He is in the final consultations regarding the appointment of an executive director of communications, marketing and institutional advancement; this will not be interim appt. He is making permanent appointments of executive directors for the integrated administrative units; others are Human Resources and Administrative Services. Regarding criminal background checks, the BOR has approved the policy. The great majority of the comprehensive institution's faculty sent resolutions against it, but the Regents and President Reilly felt it was the best thing to do. Regent Spector reaffirmed the Board's belief in shared governance. The Administrative Integration Steering Committee is moving forward; the latest subgroup reports are posted on the web. Wilson will make a decision on the integrated model for Administrative Services and Human Resources in early 2007. He stated it is not his intent to redirect the reporting relationships within those units. We are not taking a decentralized model and making it centralized. The Vice Chancellor for Administrative

Services will be in a coordinating role with a deputy Vice Chancellor. Wilson referenced the handout for a UW System 10% administrative reduction plan and the BOR resolution. Chancellors discussed not participating in this exercise because we've already been cut to the bone; but all other state agencies are doing it. This particular plan, which accounts for \$14M, allows the UW System to retain the savings from state programs (purchasing, phones, etc). Currently, there is no incentive to save because the state gets the benefit from these programs, not the UW. Recognizing that this plan is "nirvana", UW System has also put together an alternative strategy. The alternative strategy is a reallocation. We will know in mid to late January what the state's reaction is to this plan. Blonde inquired as to whether there will be any sharing or reallocation of funds between the two institutions. Blonde said he has heard concerns about "robbing Peter to pay Paul" and taking money from one institution to cover shortfalls in the other institution. So, beyond the reporting structure will there be shifting of funds? Wilson was direct in addressing the concern about Cooperative Extension funds being taken. He has received a resolution from the Wisconsin Associated County Extension Committees (WACEC), which he feels is an emotional response, and has been asked to endorse this resolution. He has asked Sue Schymanski to go back and determine if there have been any shifts in funding for Cooperative Extension over the last two years. Then he will ask WACEC to use this information to allay any concerns; he will do this at the end of every fiscal year. If there is a reduction, Wilson said he will be responsible for an explanation. His intent is to not engage in a reallocation of Cooperative Extension's funding. He further stated that this is an area where we have to be very careful about expressing that any county dollars are being redirected to Madison.

Shared vision: Wilson shared a draft of a chart that shows how we are thinking about our institution beyond Feb 7. He has been in discussions with Dennis Jones of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) to come to Madison in early 2007 to talk about their expertise in engaging in an institutional strategic planning process. If there is agreement to hire this firm, they will work with each unit to develop an institutional strategic plan. We are "swimming upstream" because there has never been an overall institutional strategic plan that brings all the units together. The first thing would be to develop some broad institutional goals. Next, each of the entities would then engage in its own process to develop their strategic plan. It is the chancellor's hope that at the unit level there will be some "cross-pollination" with other units in order to move beyond our silos. Wilson has expressed that he supports the strategic planning process that Cooperative Extension is undergoing, but he feels we would be well-served by listening to external voices and have them at the table. He views the strategic plan as a living document, not static, that is always relevant because you're always updating it. Gruenewald asked about what will happen on Jan 8/Feb 7 and what some of the shared visioning themes might be. "Maximum Access" seems to be what's emerging. Some of the shared vision themes on Jan 8 might be a northern Wisconsin focus, a Milwaukee focus, and increased private sector support. On the UW Colleges side, you'll hear him talk about accelerated degrees and non-traditional schedules. Regarding the Jan 8 town hall meeting, and based on the discussion at the University Committee meeting, it is his hope that there will be an opportunity to share what the themes are that have emerged, and then we can "compare notes", with the opportunity for feedback before Feb 7. He emphasized this is NOT a textbook process. It is true to the cultures and missions of the two institutions. Nelson asked about how decisions will be made to direct resources to goals that are identified. Wilson basically answered with additional investment in us, either with additional state support or private dollars. If we have some bold, new initiatives he is convinced we could get an airing with the national private foundations. Discussion ensued. Burke encouraged all senators to report back to their constituents what they have heard today.

##### **5. Ad hoc committee response to proposed UWS 7**

Hooyer said that the committee met in November to respond to another draft of UWS 7 and attend a public meeting on Nov 16. They formulated a response and met with the Spector committee. Nack testified during the faculty portion of the meeting; Maguire for academic staff. Handouts: ad hoc committee response and what the BOR actually approved and what will go to the legislature. Schultz highlighted some of the major changes: reduced "public trust" as a significant flash point; removed "is charged with" in the definition of serious criminal misconduct; added definition of consulting (7.025); shortened timelines; if charged, you still have to report to chancellor, although the expedited process only begins when you've been convicted, pled guilty or no contest. The temporary suspension without pay (7.06) was kept in. A back pay provision is included if the faculty member is not

dismissed. Peterson asked about what happens to health insurance benefits if someone is removed from payroll; Schultz will check that out. If the legislature holds any public hearings, he will notify all.

**6. Shared Governance Work Group**

Six nominations have been received (nomination forms distributed) to fill the two faculty seats on this work group. Schultz also distributed the list of Colleges representatives on this work group. **Lee Cunningham and Greg Wise elected to serve on this group.**

**7. Scholarship Ad Hoc Committee Report**

Kopecky has floated the draft to other groups and only one minor change was suggested. Blonde feels the value of this document may be more at the local level than the state level, so he'd hate not to see the document go further, just because there aren't a lot of examples. There was a suggestion that each department have this posted on their web site. Blonde suggested to ask the departments' standards, rank and promotions committees to identify one or two examples each year and post it. Chancellor Wilson likes the idea of asking faculty members to identify colleagues who are national models, and posting information about their work on the web. He also expressed an idea of having an annual award for exemplary scholarship. He feels there is nothing wrong with singling out excellence. **Blonde motioned that each senator formally take the scholarship draft back to their dept and ask for review/and or adoption and also determine a way to integrate the document and provide examples on an annual basis: Peterson seconded.** Discussion ensued. Wilson is willing to consider an award with some money attached to it and this would be a faculty-driven process. If this were to happen, we would look for appropriate venues for giving this award (ex. Convocation and UWEX awards banquet). The document could be used as a basis for the award program, but that is secondary to the goal of articulating the value of scholarly work.

**Blonde/Peterson accepted friendly amendment to motion to remove word "adoption" and in its place to ask for feedback and recommendation to come back to the Faculty Senate for discussion at the March 13 meeting.** Schultz suggested that any feedback should be given to the ad hoc committee before the March meeting to avoid a lot of wordsmithing at the March meeting. Blonde will email current draft and some of the discussion today to senators. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**8. Library Access for Faculty**

All UW-Madison electronic access is available for Cooperative Extension staff. The staff at Steenbock Library is preparing documents to help take advantage of this access. The second part is physical access and that discussion is still on the table.

**9. Identity Theft Issues**

Burke added this item in case anyone wanted to discuss it further. HR and IT are continuing to look at developing a secure web portal. Hooyer questioned whether this is really a faculty governance issue. Lersch asked if there were other concerns expressed; Jones said this came up at a Quad Counties meeting. The other part is the leave reporting, which is still done via paper. The secure portal will allow for this.

**10. Discussion of institutional issues and opportunities appropriate for faculty governance**

Peterson said he understands that CNRED has offered a white paper on regionalization and this is going to the Cooperative Extension Administrative Committee. Peterson feels that his colleagues would not be in favor of this as a model. Jones responded that the western district has offered something to come up with a way to cover the situation in their area where they have few CNRED educators. Schultz said that if there is any proposal to change faculty organization, it would have to come through the shared governance structure. Kopecky said there have been changes in the past (replacing faculty with academic staff) that did not go through the governance process – Van Kekerix said he will do some checking on this.

**11. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn at 4:36.

Recorded by Wodyn, 12-12-06