

Approved 08/08/2007

**University Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**July 10, 2007**  
**432 N. Lake Street, Madison and via telephone**

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

Chair Burke called the meeting to order at 1:01p.m. and certified compliance with the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law. University Committee members attending: Dave Hart, David Nack, Rob Burke (phone), Greg Blonde (phone), Chris Kniep, and Karen Nelson. Others: Chancellor David Wilson, Ann Keim, Ray Schultz, Kate Wodyn. Willie Larkin joined later in the meeting.

**2. Approval of minutes of June 12, 2007 meeting**

Hearing no changes, Burke considered them approved.

**3. Chancellor Remarks**

Chancellor Wilson provided 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 Kekerix 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. Discussion ensued. Nack asked to what extent we should mobilize the various constituencies. Wilson responded that we certainly should alert them to what is on the chopping block. Our communication strategy (strategy, talking points, etc) will be sent to all probably early next week.

Wilson wrapped up by encouraging all to think about nominations for the strategic planning steering committee. Burke encouraged members to think of persons and come back to the August 8 meeting with recommendations. Nelson asked about the time commitment on the part of steering committee members. Wilson replied that he did not think it would be inordinately time consuming but details would be determined by Van Kekerix. Ann Keim suggested a brief "job description" with a charge and time commitment. She will follow-up with Van Kekerix on this. Burke asked about the role of Dennis Jones in the strategic planning process. Wilson responded that he will help us determine who we are serving or who we should be serving and whether we are responding to the right set of priorities.

Blonde asked for clarification of role of University Committee members in getting recommendations. They are to take the initiative and could contact their respective academic department chairs about who to recommend.

**4. Chair Remarks**

Burke referenced the agenda item on being more proactive on governance issues. Last year was a very busy year, but on things that we had to react to rather than shaping our own agenda. The issue of scholarship and the relationship to Faculty Tenure Advisory Committee and Standards, Rank and Promotion committees is something we could perhaps focus on. He commended Karen Nelson on her job as our representative on the UW System Faculty Reps group and asked if she would be willing to continue; she said yes. Other University Committee representation on groups such as the Cooperative Extension Academic Standing Leadership Committee and Systemwide Extension Council will be put on the August 8 meeting agenda.

**5. Notice of action from the Dept. of Community Resource Development**

Burke provided notification that Suzanne Wade has been given faculty status within the Department of Community Resource Development. This notification is in accordance with policy.

**6. Leave Reporting Recommendations: discussion for input**

A joint ad hoc committee has been formed on this matter. Faculty senate members are: Barb Larson, Art Lersch, Karen Nelson. Academic Staff Council member are: John Fischer and Michael Maguire. David Prucha and Ray Schultz will staff the committee. The first meeting is scheduled for July 18.

**7. How can University Committee and Faculty Senate be more proactive on emerging governance issues?**

Reference was made to the discussion at the June Faculty Senate meeting. There are a number of ad hoc committees looking at various issues, including scholarship and tenure. Karen Nelson said she brought this to her department and one of the comments was that there is not a clear understanding of what issues could/should be brought to the Faculty Senate level. How do we create a list or document to provide guidance? The second thing is that she doesn't think we do a good job at the first meeting in outlining what the last year's issues are and bringing new members up to speed more quickly. She'd like to see at the September Faculty Senate meeting some time devoted to what issues have been dealt with and their status—a recap with status and references, etc. Burke said he would put together an outline and distribute it before the meeting. The rights and responsibilities of Senators should also be noted. Schultz offered to assist Burke in putting this together, and will have an initial draft for reaction at the August meeting. Burke also mentioned the need for individual responsibility in bringing up issues. Nelson referenced a PowerPoint (from Faculty Reps?) about Chapter 36—this could be helpful. Nelson also wondered if we are dealing with recruitment or retention issues. Nelson suggested that University Committee members have a governance item put on their department meeting agendas. There was further discussion of communication methods and timeliness of information as way for Senators to be more proactive on issues and in fulfilling their roles.

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

No other items.

**9. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Recorded by Wodyn, 7-10-07.