Council Members Present: Erik Ernst, Lisa Nielsen Agnew, Allisanne Apple, Judy Ballweg, Tom Culviner, Christine Quinn, Bev Phillips

By Phone: Rosamaria Martinez, Lynne Blinkenberg
Excused: Jerry Clark

1. Call to Order
   - Erik called the meeting to order at 11:35am and certified that open meeting requirements were met.

2. Approval of November 9 Meeting Minutes
   - Allisanne moved that the minutes be approved with edit to Item 10, fourth bullet; Tom seconded. Minutes approved.

3. Prepare for phone conversation with Chancellor Ray Cross during joint meeting later today.

   Academic Staff Council priorities:
   - UW-Extension Expanded Budget Planning Committee to meet as needed to provide input on budget decisions. Appreciated the inclusiveness (a representative from Academic Staff Council participated) and openness of dialogue.
   - Build an understanding of UW-Extension in an effort to “tell our story”.
   - Build an understanding of the Collective Bargaining and Unit Clarification discussions currently underway by UW System, Office of State Employment Relations (OSER) and Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission (WERC).

4. Collective Bargaining
   - Thanks to Tom for keeping the Council updated on conversations. UW-Stevens Point is the latest campus to move in the direction of forming a bargaining unit together with Faculty. It was suggested that we continue to keep this topic on future agendas.

5. Budget Update
   - Broadcast and Media Innovations (BAMI) – no update, State of the State address is scheduled for February 1. Budget address is tentatively scheduled for February 22.
   - Cooperative Extension – hiring suspension of base-funded classified and unclassified staff through Sept 1 (exempt: nutrition education positions), redesigning staffing for consolidated thinking. The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 has been signed by President Obama. This will have a direct impact on the SNAP-Ed (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – Education). More info will be shared when details are known.
   - Department of Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (DEED) – the Wisconsin Department of Commerce budget is a concern.
6. Committee Discussions
   • Nominations
     Board of Regents Academic Staff Award of Excellence:
     - Three nominations have been received. Nominations are due to Provost Office by January 21.

   • Communications
     Quarterly Summaries:
     - Erik distributed the First Half 2010-2011 summary. He will incorporate suggested edits and share back with the Council.

   • Distinguished Prefix
     - Three candidates have applied for Distinguished Prefix. The Advisory Committee has five vacancies (2-BAMI, 2-GEA, 1-COOP). This committee plans to meet in February. Judy will post the current Advisory Committee membership and related information to the website.

   • Chapter 10.06
     - Erik, Bev and Allisanne will continue to work on this Chapter to determine “how and when” to use these letters as well as researching the different types of letters and language being used. Erik shared a draft of proposed edits to 10.01 “types of appointments”. He will incorporate suggested edits, reconvene small group via email, and present revised document at February meeting for approval.

   • Scholarship
     - UW-Extension scholarship conversation is scheduled for January 18, in Madison. Deanna Schneider (co-author of a Cooperative Extension scholarship paper) will be part of that conversation.
     - Results of the scholarship conversations held during the Cooperative Extension annual conference will be shared when available.

7. UPG# 15.05 – current status
   • Erik will continue to work on recruiting program managers willing to serve on an ad hoc committee to review this document.

8. UPG #15.01-04 – final approval status
   • Erik will follow up with Michael Maguire to determine next steps.

9. Discussion of current level of Academic Staff representation
   • Recent survey results indicate no need to expand Council membership or create an additional governing body. After much discussion, the Council would like to explore the possibility of a face-to-face meeting for all academic staff members as a way to increase visibility and create opportunities to network.

11. Adjourn
    At 12:50pm meeting adjourned.

~minutes submitted by Judy Ballweg~