

SYSTEMWIDE EXTENSION COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, September 4, 2013
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Pyle Center, Madison

Minutes

Present: Julie Aminpour, Eric Olson, Anne O'Meara, Bunny Hansen, Cindy McVenes, Clif Barber, Karie Wedige, Aaron Brower, Dan Hill, Ray Cross, Judy Ballweg, Jessica Tormey, Bill Tracy, Barb Larson, Kris Zaballos, Matt Calvert, Cindy Ruffert, Briena Jacob, Seth Meisel, Barry Orton, Tom Culviner, Stacey Binder, Pam Bowen

Phone: Marna Banks

Call to order at 10:05am and certify open meetings requirements – Julie Aminpour

Introductions

Jessica Tormey, interim assistance vice chancellor of external relations, was in attendance. A search for permanent leadership is underway.

A Conversation about the Importance of Two-Way Communication Back to Campuses

Council members shared ways they report back to colleagues. Examples included share agenda, prepare meeting summary, and provide oral report at meetings.

Council members also shared that it's a challenge to report back to colleagues due to the size of a particular division/unit/campus and there is no good system in place.

Aaron reinforced the importance of finding opportunities to report the value of our outreach efforts back to others.

It was suggested that as we prepare for future SEC meetings, we prepare set questions to be asked of members and their feedback shared at meetings.

Chancellor Dialogue – Chancellor Ray Cross

- State Budget: Provided an update about the preparations underway to manage the 5-8% anticipated budget cut, effective July 2014. Currently working on restoring money, restoring credibility, and showing impact as well as convincing legislators to give back flexibilities and to implement the University Personnel System (UPS). The Chancellors, Legislators and Board of Regents are scheduled to meet on Sept. 5 to focus on finding common ground as we move forward. We need to work on strengthening these relationships and keeping them strong.
- UW-Extension Deans and Directors met on August 28 to focus on divisional budgets and planning. Together they explored developing a 5-year budget with a 6% budget reduction. The deans collectively discussed challenges and opportunities as they identified the strengths of UW-Extension which includes a statewide network, entrepreneurial culture and the diversity of activities. Budget reduction proposals are due in October.
- Each UW Colleges campus will be having conversations with key legislators in an effort to strengthen relationships.
- UW-Extension Strategic Plan: Administration is using this budget-cutting time to examine current practices and identify priorities.
- Reorganizing Administrative Offices: Jessica Tormey's interim position will be turned into a permanent position (search for permanent leadership is underway) and will include some functions of the Government Relations team. A consultant will be hired to help identify efficiencies as the current Government Relations team moves forward.

- Christine Curley has been selected as the Director of UW Colleges and UW-Extension Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, effective September 3.
- Werner Gade has been selected as the Chief Information Officer (information technology), effective September 3.
- Recruiting for an interim replacement for Steve Wildeck, UW Colleges and UW-Ext Vice Chancellor, who has been asked to serve as Interim UW System Vice President for Finance.
- Search will begin soon for the UW-Extension Provost and Vice Chancellor position.
- UW System President Search: An 18-member search and screen committee has been appointed to help identify a successor to UW System President Kevin Reilly, who will step out of his leadership position in January, 2014. Additional information can be found at their website -- <http://www.wisconsin.edu/news/2013/r130823.htm>

Interim Provost Report – Aaron Brower

- UW Flex Option: November 18, open enrollment and assessment; January, activities start; beyond January, discuss recruiting additional campuses. In late August, President Obama gave a very nice shout out to this program as an example of the type of innovations that are needed in higher education. Recruiting and hiring of advisors/coaches is currently underway. Currently working on redesigning the transcript.
- Institutional Priorities: A draft copy has been shared with UW-Ext Deans and Directors for review/input. It will then be shared with the broader group for additional review/input.

Interim Secretary of the Faculty and Academic Staff – Dan Hill

- 2013-2014 Program Innovation Fund: There were 17 proposals received requesting over \$300,000 (10 proposals for Innovative Use of Technology / 7 proposals for UW System Growth Agenda). A list of awardees can be found at the website -- <http://www.uwex.uwc.edu/innovation/>
- UW-Ext Classified Staff Council: Dan provided background and an update on the Board of Regents unfunded mandate that every institution establish a University Staff Committee (replacing the classified staff service), effective July 1. However, the Joint Finance Committee passed an omnibus motion as part of the 2013-15 state budget to delay the implementation date of UPS by two years to July 1, 2015. Despite this delay, the Council is moving ahead with creating bylaws and holding an election. Information can be found on their website – <http://www.uwex.edu/secretary/university-staff-governance-committee.html>

Discussion: An opportunity for all members to provide an update on what's currently taking place on your campus and/or in your county or unit (entrepreneurial activities?)

- Members discussed UW Flex Option: What's the role of continuing education and how do we support UW Flex Option? What are the competencies?
- Anne will take the lead in developing a 1-page questions/concerns regarding UW Flex Option.
- Bunny is currently an Academy of Leadership and Innovation participant and is focusing her current project on the topic of UW Flex Option. She will provide a report at the December meeting.
- It was suggested that the Council follow up on an item noted in the June 19 meeting minutes:

--Best practices need to be developed on acquiring and retaining funds, what is our uniqueness and what can we do within our limitations, how do we leverage all content areas within UW-Ext (credit and non-credit), how do we improve our efforts in creating value-added activities for which you can get paid, what is the process of identifying the problems and then teaming up with others (researchers) to find funding/solution. Brainstorming is needed to focus on continuing education certifications that will support collaborations in addition to exploring ways to package/market/promote what we do. How can UW-Ext be an accredited entity/an approved provider?

Stacey will work with Bunny to prepare a report for sharing prior to the December meeting.

Approval of June 19 meeting minutes

Motioned by Barry, seconded by Bunny to approve the minutes. Minutes approved.

2013-2014 Meetings:

- Wednesday, September 4, Madison
- Wednesday, December 4, Madison
- Wednesday, March 5, Madison
- Wednesday, June 18, Location: UW-Platteville

Systemwide Extension Council Structure, Role

- Please take a few minutes to review the Procedures – <http://www.uwex.edu/secretary/documents/UW-Ext-SEC-procedures.pdf> . A discussion of this topic will take place at the September meeting.

Review 2013-2014 Membership and Terms

- Distributed current membership/terms. Members were asked to review their information and forward corrections/changes to Judy Ballweg (judy.ballweg@uwex.edu).

Systemwide Extension Council Executive Committee Election Process

- 7 members (4 selected by the Council, 3 selected by the Chancellor)
- Current Executive Committee: Julie Aminpour, Kari Wedige, Bunny Hansen, Barry Orton, Karen Dickrell

Motion by Barb Larson to elect Anne O'Meara and Kris Zaballos by acclamation, seconded by Bill Tracy, motion approved.

- Four selected by the Council:
--Julie Aminpour, Kerie Wedige, Bunny Hansen, and Barry Orton
- Three appointed by the Chancellor:
--Karen Dickrell, Anne O'Meara, and Kris Zaballos

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, December 4, 2013 Pyle Center, Rm. 325
702 Langdon Street
Madison, WI

Barry motioned to adjourn, Bunny seconded, meeting adjourned at 2:10pm.

~minutes submitted by Judy Ballweg~