

SYSTEMWIDE EXTENSION COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, March 5, 2014
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Pyle Center, Madison

Minutes

Present: Barry Orton, Tiffani Taggart, Erik Ernst, Greg Hutchins, Kerie Wedige, Stacey Binder, Karen Dickrell, Dan Hill, Matt Calvert, Cindy McVenes, Judy Ballweg, Bunny Hansen, Tom Culviner, Linda Fleming, Kristine Zaballos, Katy Duren, Anna Haines, Dave Riley, Clif Barber, Aaron Brower, John Shutske, Carrie Lencho, Barb Larson, Angela Coenen, Crista Kruse

Phone: Gail Huycke, Angie Coenen, Cindy Ruffert, Briena Jacob

Call to order at 10:10am and certify open meetings requirements – Dan Hill

Welcome and Introductions

Interim Chancellor Update – Aaron Brower

- We are currently experiencing lots of transition within UW Colleges, UW-Ext and UW System. A priority will be to continue to provide access and developing environments that match success. It is important that the Chancellor be externally focused with the Provosts taking a lead role on internal matters. Discussion followed. Topics discussed included: our commitment to students, financial instability, how to manage people/staff during stressful times, compensation, simplified funding, the complexity of managing grant dollars, a better connection within the institution, and keeping UW-Ext visible.
- Effective March 1, Jessica Tormey, Assistant Vice Chancellor of External Relations, will begin her new position at UW System. Rose Smyrski, of UW-Platteville, has been asked to serve as interim assistant vice chancellor of external relations. She will serve until we search for permanent leadership. Her experiences – as chief of staff and special assistant to the chancellor at UW-Platteville and in various roles at the State Capitol – position her well to continue the good work started under Jess' leadership to organize and advance our legislative relations, communications and development.
- There are currently four Chancellor vacancies. UW-Ext is the last one in line which gives us time to build upon the great work under Ray's leadership. The Search Committee could be named soon with the search process to begin towards the end of summer. The position description is slowly being shared with others for their input. The governance groups will also be asked to provide input. After a permanent Chancellor has been named, the search process will begin to name a permanent Provost.
- UW Flex Option is going great with approximately 10 new enrollees each month. Be looking for "UW Flex Option" drop-ads on various websites. Our technological capacity continues to grow.

Interim Provost Report – John Shutske

- John began serving as the interim provost and vice chancellor on February 17. He is recognized as a leader by his colleagues at UW institutions, by his peers around the country and by state and federal agricultural policymakers. John's knowledge and his leadership and communication skills will help keep UW-Ext moving forward to serve the state. He is eager to learn more about SEC and its role in advising administration. Discussion followed.

Chancellor's Position Description and Core Elements – Dan Hill

- Council Members were asked to break out into small groups to brainstorm core elements of the position description.
- WHITE BOARD CONTENT

- Themes include:
 - Needs to understand the WI Idea.
 - Needs to be entrepreneurial / challenging us.
 - Needs to have good communication skills – internal, external, media.
 - Needs to have a vision for the organization, for the future, what are we building together?
 - Needs to be able to inspire – employees and citizens
 - Needs to make us proud.
 - Needs to see the value of employees.

- Characteristics of an Ideal Chancellor:
 - Realistic
 - Real
 - Approachable
 - Humble, regular
 - Walks the Talk
 - Reaches out to grow
 - Good listener
 - Sees capacity
 - Total package
 - Diplomacy
 - Politically savvy
 - Understands multiplicity, broadness
 - Broader mission of WI Idea and public education
 - Authentic and honest
 - Builds relationships

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 provided an update with follow up questions and discussion. Topics included – lots of change/transition, workplace atmosphere is stressful, employees are leaving (for more money/Tech College and/or nervous about funding), compensation and inequity is being addressed, performance review system, trying to work through morale issues, ongoing relationship building with key legislators, the pressure to generate revenue, an orientation to UW-Ext is needed for continuing ed new hires, what process is in place to help connect with CEEC rep, need to revisit the traditional UW-Ext continuing education model, revamping projects to offer as revenue programs, lots of hiring opportunities under UW Flex Option, lots of conversations and energy spent on changes, going through reorganization and implementing a new performance review system, looking into fundraising to support the certificate programs.
- Mark Your Calendar!
Program Managers Conference
May 1, 2014
UW Baraboo

Approval of December 5 meeting minutes

Voice vote. Minutes approved.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, June 18, Location: UW-Platteville

Future Meeting Topics:

- Stress of Wisconsin Citizens and Our Impact
- Revisit the Traditional UW-Ext Continuing Education Model
- Communication Within UW-Extension
- Relationships and Programming (sharing resources)
--Memorandum of Agreement

- Writing a Contract
- Sharing Revenue

Meeting Adjourned at 2:30pm

~minutes submitted by Judy Ballweg~