

Minutes: Executive Faculty Senate
University of WI-Superior
November 11, 2008
RSC 111, 2:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Sipress called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.

PRESENT: Sipress, Cleary, Kronzer, Sherman, Sloboda, Marciniac, Rosenberg, Sharp, (recorder)

AGENDA

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion (Cleary/Marciniac) to approve minutes date October 14, 2008. Correction, add Steve Rosenberg to those present. Minutes accepted as corrected. Motion carried.

II. Report on Meetings with Provost, Cabinet, and Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance

Cabinet:

WITC Transfer Issues--The Chancellor reported that he had discussions with WITC regarding the issue of qualifications of instructors. He was told that they have tightened up their qualifications. The Chancellor is going to ask our transfer coordinator to have a meeting with WITC to discuss ways of easing the transfer process. Sipress emphasized the need to have faculty involved in these discussions. The Chancellor stated that faculty would be involved.

Vice Chancellor for Admin and Finance

Hanson clarified the relationship between Provost and Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance in determining the number of faculty searches that go ahead. The Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance does not have veto power over the provost. She provides her input to Provost regarding what she considers to be prudent. It is up to the Provost to do with that input what he will. Jan reported that she and Chris have a very cooperative relationship and have had no trouble reaching a meeting of minds regarding what is prudent. Theoretically, if a Provost acted in a manner that the Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance considered imprudent, this would need to be resolved by the Chancellor. Jan reported, though, that this has not been an issue.

Hanson identified a number of reasons why we need to be extremely cautious in our budgeting this year. The biggest issue, of course, is the general economic climate and its impact on the state budget. They are projecting a \$3 billion shortfall in the biennial state

budget. This will likely result in a budget lapse (one-time giveback) or base cut in the UW-Superior budget. Until we know the exact impact we need to be cautious. In addition, a decline in our campus tuition revenue (a product of falling enrollments) means we have less money in our contingency fund than in the past. (We have been using excess tuition revenue to fund the contingency fund.) Finally, only one faculty retirement has been announced so far this year, which means there is little in the way of salary savings. She stated, quite explicitly, that if not for the state budget shortfall we could have gone ahead with more faculty searches.

On the issue of whether the small number of searches was done to save dollars or maintain position flexibility, she said that it was a little of both. She did say that there's a trade off between faculty searches and total number of positions. If we cut back on the number of one-year positions, we could prudently do more faculty searches.

DIN funds—The DIN funds have a distinct line within the campus budget. If there is a lapse or base reduction, it is unclear whether or not the DIN funds will be affected. If the governor holds the Growth Agenda harmless, then the DIN funds will not be able to be applied to a lapse or base cut. If, however, the governor does not hold the Growth Agenda harmless, then DIN funds could be applied to a lapse or base reduction.

Public Liberal Arts Initiatives update. The Provost is committed to the notion that the planning that was done should be the basis for action. Refocusing of the initiatives is being worked on. The FYE Coordinator will receive a quarter time release. A WAC summit will be called to bring together those who have been involved, and a structuring of the coordinator position will be discussed.

III. NCA Focus Visit Committee

It has been decided that the NCA Focus Visit Committee will be two administrators, (Dave Carroll and Faith Hensrud), four faculty and the Provost as Ex Officio member. Academic Staff and Student Senate representatives have been asked if they would like to be a part of the committee. Once a response has been received, Chair Sipress reopen the discussion with Provost Markwood. Discussion included a recommendation to appoint the Chair of the Senate (Sipress) and three other faculty members to the NCA Focus Visit Committee. **NEW BUSINESS DECEMBER**

IV. November Senate Meeting Agenda Items

A. Old Business

- Pay Plan

B. New Business

- **AQIP for accreditation (Presentation by Provost)**
- **Promotions Issues**
- **Academic Plan**
- **Constitutional Change**
- **Clean Up of Council By-Laws**

Discussion and recommendations of agenda items.

V. Other

System committees:

An open call for volunteers will be issued for the System Entrepreneurship Summit.

Inclusive Excellence Initiative meeting will be held in December in Madison. System would like two members from each campus. Michael McDonald has been asked to attend. Senate has been asked to make a recommendation for the second member.

UW System Ad Hoc Mental Health Committee. The committee will make sure that the campus is fitting national standards. System recommends that a faculty member with expertise from the area serve on this committee. (One position total, not one from each campus). An open call for volunteers will be issued.

Discussion of annual reports. Sipress will discuss with the Provost.

No nominations have been received for BRC. Another call will be issued.

Administrator Evaluations, Cleary will check on funding request.

Discussion of mid term grading. It is on the UAAC agenda for discussion.

Add Federal Aid to Wisconsin to November agenda.

Meeting adjourned, 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on this 16th of November by Linda Sharp, clerical assistant,
Faculty Senate.

