MINUTES

Prior to the meeting Chancellor Shields reported on the recent memo from UW System and shared his thoughts and concerns. Chancellor Shields will do what he can and keep everyone informed, as more information comes available.

I. Call to Order
Chair Cornett called the meeting to order at 4:25 p.m.

II. Roll Call (sign-up sheet)

III. Approval of Minutes of November 25, 2014
Ul-Haq moved to approve the minutes “as corrected,” seconded by Compton. Minutes approved.

IV. Approval of the Agenda
Burns moved to approve the agenda “as corrected,” seconded by Masoom. Agenda approved. Burns also stated that Melissa Gormley will be the proxy for her in the next Faculty Senate meeting and asked that the General Education Assessment of SLO’s discussion be postponed until her return. Since discussion is postponed today, we will have discussion under unfinished business on the Feb 24 faculty senate agenda.

V. Announcements and Reports
1. Faculty Senate Appointment for Marge Karsten (J. Swenson)
   MOTION: Collins moved to approve Mary Rose Williams as replacement for Marge Karsten for the remainder of Marge’s Faculty Senate term, seconded by Burns. Motion approved.

2. Faculty Representatives Meeting Report (C. Cornett)
   a. Chapter 36 Discussions
      New legislation has written Chapter 37, which enables public authority. Shared governance and tenure rights will fall to the Board of Regents for discussion. Discussions ensued about being proactive and seeking a voice in that process.

   b. Potential UW-Madison Split from UW System
      There will not be a UW- Madison split.

   c. UW System Budget Impact
      UW-Superior will not be closing. David J Ward stated that other campuses that are better off might take more of a hit to subsidize campuses that are not doing as well. Therefore, the 4.5M
may become higher. Chair Cornett said that UW Platteville is in no shape to take care of other campuses.

d. Other Business

With regards concerning the 9/12 pay plan options, an employee may elect or “opt in” for 12 pay periods. A portion of the nine-month paychecks would be held in escrow, and then funds would be distributed during the three months of summer.

UW Platteville is one of the few campuses that have the chair of Faculty Senate serve at the Faculty Reps meeting. This process should be reviewed to consider having a separate person as Faculty Representative with a term longer than a single year in order to best serve our faculty in the process.


With regards to the suggested cuts related to a structural deficit, the Media Studies and Mems/Nano discussions will begin with Academic Planning Council (APC) and other items will be discussed through University Academic Budget Commission (UABC). UABC is having open sessions for feedback; please plan to attend one of them to share your comments and concerns.

VI. Unfinished Business

4. Improvement of Learning Committee – Teaching Professional Development Proposal (T. Montgomery)

After much discussion at the ILC meetings, ILC recommends mandating that all new faculty appointments complete the Teaching Professional Development (TPD) program. Discussion ensued about the program not having “teeth,” possible elimination of the TLC due to the budget shortfall, and the RST process.

MOTION: Kirk moved to approve the ILC’s recommendation, seconded by Ul-Haq. Motion failed with one abstention, 4 in favor, and 12 opposed.

5. General Education Assessment of SLO’s (T. Burns) – postponed until the Feb 24 meeting, under unfinished business.

6. Edit of New Office Hours Policy (M. Compton) - Senate reviewed the suggested wording to help improve the grammar and language.

MOTION: Clifton moved to accept the changes presented by Compton, seconded by Collins. Motion approved.

VII. New Business

7. Faculty Senate Newsletter (I. Ul-Haq)

Ul-Haq suggested a “Faculty Newsletter,” the newsletter would highlight the issues/policies passed or under consideration at the Faculty Senate or at other faculty governance committees.

MOTION: Ul-Haq moved that Faculty Senate create a faculty newsletter, seconded by Kirk. Motion failed.

8. Replacements for Grievance Hearing Panel (C. Cornett)

The Grievance Hearing Panel needs two volunteers. Mary Rose Williams and Tera Montgomery volunteered.

9. Flexibility for scheduling meeting times for UABC for spring semester

UABC requested flexibility for scheduling meetings for spring 2015 semester.

MOTION Compton moved to give UABC flexibility on meeting times for this semester, seconded by Burns. Motion carried.

Prior to elections this year, UABC meeting times will be posted. Faculty were encouraged to review the meeting times prior to accepting UABC nominations.

VIII. Next Meeting Date February 10, 2015

IX. Adjournment

Chair Cornett adjourned the meeting at 5:19 p.m. with a reminder to participate in the UABC budget discussions and open forums.
Respectfully submitted,

Rea Kirk, Secretary

Lisa Kress, Recording Secretary

*The Faculty Senate meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 4:00 p.m. in University North (Markee Pioneer Student Center). The Faculty Senate agenda is composed of items from many sources. If you wish to have an item placed on the agenda, please submit it to a Senate officer no later than eight days prior to the Senate meeting. The meetings are open to the public and all faculty members are invited to attend. The agenda is distributed to the faculty in advance of the meeting to give faculty members the opportunity to contact members of the Senate to express views on topics being discussed.*