Minutes
UWC Senate Steering Committee
Meeting #10: WisLine
Monday, January 25, 2016
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.


Not Present: Luke Dock, Cathy Sandeen, and Brad Wilson

1. Call to order. The Monday, January 25, 2016 WisLine meeting of the UW Colleges Senate Steering Committee (SSC) was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by SSC Chair Holly Hassel.

2. Approval of the agenda. The meeting agenda was approved unanimously [Raunio/Alitto].

3. Approval of Minutes: SSC #9 Draft Minutes (2015-12-14). The minutes of the December 14, 2015 WisLine meeting of the SSC were approved by unanimous vote [Raunio/Alitto].

4. Reports

a. Provost/Vice Chancellor Greg Lampe welcomed the Senate Steering Committee back to the Spring semester and the first day of classes, noting it as a time to restart and renew with new students. He hoped everyone was excited and ready to begin the semester. Provost Lampe informed the SSC that the U.S. Department of Education had notified him that UW Colleges had made it through the first phase of the application process for the Second Chance Pell–Pell for Incarcerated Students Experiment. A second and final application with a series of questions around what academic program or programs might be offered and how the targeted student population would be academically supported is due no later than March 20. Additional updates will follow. In Madison, on January 21-22, 2016, Provost Lampe and Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Steve Wildeck met with the UW Colleges regional leadership. Relationships between the various regional administrative positions and organization within the regions were discussed. Specifically, the role of the campus administrator (CA), the relationship between the regional executive officer (REO) and the CA, the external focus of the REO and the internal focus of the CA, and understanding that there must be some negotiating and flexibility room between them were discussed. A web site to help facilitate the sharing of information is being created. The group also received training and advice from UW-Madison police regarding active shooters. All UWC campuses are going to be assessed as to readiness and receive practical training. Regional leaders were given detailed updates regarding CASE, the Solution Center, IT support, network administration, and various consolidation activities including Human Resources, Business Services, university relations, and marketing.
b. **Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Joe Foy** noted that he was looking forward to joining people in classrooms on Fridays this Spring. Informational materials have been provided to campus administrators and regional administrators to explain how various campus structures/operations are being adapted and adopted in the new structure. SSC Chair Hassel inquired as to whether these were who to contact lists. It was answered that these emails were broader than that, but that some contact lists are being created by regional and campus-based administrators. It was noted that consolidated, regional, and campus lists should be compiled. Associate Vice Chancellor Foy told the SSC that the ESL task group had submitted recommendations late in November. Further meetings had been held with task group chair Rachel Knighten and Director of International Education Tim Urbonya. The associate vice chancellor expressed that the chair and task group had done great work, and that decisions would be made known soon. The process for selecting submissions for Posters on the Rotunda has been completed. Associate Vice Chancellor Foy thanked Senate Professional Development Committee Co-Chair Jen Heinert for her work. Since there were far more submissions than there were available spots, Foy pointed out that UW-Stevens Point’s web site lists an upcoming UWS undergraduate research, scholarship and creative activity (URSCA) conference that faculty/students may want to consider. Registration is open through February 26 at the UWSP website. MOU templates have been developed for Course Options agreements that are being reviewed to ensure they meet institutional and local campus needs. BAAS Program Manager Patti Wise is meeting with RADAAs to discuss disseminating curriculum workflow out to campuses. Associate Vice Chancellor Foy concluded with the information that there are still several vacancies in the Multicultural Awareness Program planned for May 5-6, 2016 at the Pyle Center.

c. **Senate Steering Committee Chair Holly Hassel** stated that the SSI Working Group charge had been sent out and their first meeting was set. A bill has been circulated in the state legislature in support of shared governance for faculty, staff, and students. Its chances are slim, but it has been submitted. Hassel is working on a faculty turnover study with the faculty representative from UW-Whitewater. They hope to have the paperwork for the IRB and their proposal completed within the next month. SSC Chair Hassel attended the UWC Assessment meeting at UW-Fond du Lac. The campus assessment coordinators (CACs) held a discussion around the survey and focus group discussions held on campuses and felt they were very valuable for future assessment of regionalization. Hassel will meet with Chancellor Sandeen on January 29 to discuss how this work can intersect with the assessments put in place by the BISC committees. Hassel further noted that UW-Fond du Lac had completed a small survey of students in these efforts. Hassel and SGC President Pearce will be in contact to discuss student feedback ideas. Pearce said that although student input had been put off during winter break, they were interested in being involved. UW Colleges Online and Distance Education Dean Mike Bartlett and Steering Committee Chair Holly Hassel met January 22 to being discussions around necessary policy changes to accommodate Online’s campus status change. Hassel also explained that she and Senate Assistant Linda Baum had compared all of the FTE appointments and done the necessary math to determine that Online would need one faculty senator appointment, but no other changes to faculty senator numbers would be necessary. Chair Hassel had circulated information related to the idea of
forming task groups to examine the Constitution and Senate policies in light of moving to a regional/consolidated structure. A draft of that plan will be discussed at the February Senate meeting. Finally, the draft tenure policies have been released from UW System. She pointed out a link to a feedback option on the System site, and said there was an “it could have been worse” reaction from the faculty reps. Troy Kozma and Matt Raunio related that they felt there was a negative reaction to the policies from UWC tenure policy committee rep Al White. Hassel felt that there were still unanswered questions around the adaptability of the policies, asking specifically if campuses could include how to appeal remediation. Kozma agreed that original major concerns were not fixed. Hassel said that they could not be patched because the problems lie in statute and the policies codify statute. It was discussed that there are political pieces to this process, but there is hope that eventually the policies will align to the AAUP standards. SSC Chair Hassel asked that questions and comments be passed along via the link.

d. Academic Staff Lead Senator Jeff Verona related that the Academic Staff Council will hopefully get their Bylaws revised this academic year. They also plan to revisit ASPP #804 around exempt employees. Verona noted that changes for academic staff and university staff seem to be occurring in waves, and a big one will be coming in March. Academic Staff Lead Senator Verona finished his report by noting that the status change of UW Colleges Online brings more questions to the fore such as an instructor’s split of online and campus based courses as related to the issue of home campus. The percentages can change frequently for an IAS, making the matter potentially more of an issue.

e. University Staff Lead Senator Juli McGuire shared that the University Staff Council took a break in January. She expressed the opinion that while they are still interested in shared governance and know there is work to do, they do not know how it will be able to get accomplished in the coming days. University staff positions are being lost, some are being changed to academic staff positions, and there will be few university staff members left to carry on. University Staff Lead Senator Juli McGuire stated she is glad the task group is going to examine the Constitution and policies. SSC Chair Hassel added that she will be contacting Lead Senator Verona and Lead Senator McGuire as there must be parallel processes for AS and US policies.

f. SGC President Graham Pearce reported that applications for the Student Governance Council advisor are open through February 3. Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Services and Enrollment Management Rich Barnhouse had sent an email to Student Services employees, but Pearce related that the position is open to all faculty and staff who are interested. Applications should be sent to Brenda Stoffels. An election for Financial Director will be held at the SGC meeting on February 4 to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Nic Calvache. Marly Harmeling is serving as Interim Financial Director. SGC Vice President Martin Sandberg and President Pearce had traveled with a group of UW System Student Representatives to Washington, D.C., January 10-13 and met with various legislative offices, including senators and representatives from Wisconsin and from key education committees. Their main efforts were around financial aid/affordability, student debt, and campus safety/sexual assault policy. SGC President Pearce concluded by updating the SSC regarding the student protestors from the
December Board of Regents meeting, saying discussions are ongoing. SGC First Year Officer Lamonte Moore, along with some of the other protestors, had met with System President Ray Cross on January 21. Pearce has been in contact with President Cross about the process and role of student governance as the protestors’ concerns have not been brought through the normal shared governance structure. The protestors plan to attend the February Board meeting. Chair Hassel stated that the students were with United Council. Pearce replied that United Council is a private organization, not a representative body. Hassel asked if the students were going to go through shared governance channels. SGC President Pearce answered that he did not know, and that was where there was cause for concern: if groups go “to the top” with issues without going through shared governance channels, who knows what is legitimate?

5. Business

a. Committee vacancies

i. SIEC (Social Science faculty to complete 2014-2016 term). Colin Wang (Associate Professor, Anthropology-Sociology, UW-Waukesha) was appointed by unanimous vote [Alitto/Kozma].

ii. SBCC

   1. Social Sciences faculty to complete 2014-2016 term. Jeff Kleiman (Professor, History, UW-Marshfield/Wood County) was unanimously appointed [Alitto/Ahrenhoerster].

   2. Natural Science & Mathematics faculty to complete 2014-2016 term. Mohamed Ayoub (Professor, Chemistry, UW-Washington County) was appointed to the committee unanimously [Ahrenhoerster/Kozma].

b. Academic calendar/Spring meeting day. Chair of Chairs Greg Ahrenhoerster explained that a budget savings idea was to have a group department meeting day in the Spring as there is in the Fall. Some departments will participate in a common meeting date this Spring as an early test. If a date is set in January before classes start, fewer IAS are likely to attend and weather could be an issue; the determination was made to use a Friday in April and incorporate language into policy to fix the date. The proposed language would set the department meeting for either the second or third Friday in April. Provost Lampe asked if the departments would continue with a common meeting date if it proved to not be a money saving option. Chairs’ Rep Ahrenhoerster replied that some departments would argue against the idea. The question of when interdisciplinary departments would meet was asked. They would meet at a different time, it was answered, and possibly using technology rather than in person. The primary savings are expected to come from campus colleagues utilizing ride sharing. It was determined that a common department meeting day would be added to the academic year calendar for 2017-2018, but no language change would be proposed at this time.
c. **Approve 2017-2018 Academic Year Calendar.** The Senate Steering Committee modified the proposed 2017-2018 Academic Year Calendar, denoting Friday, April 20, 2018 as a department meeting day. The March 19-23, 2018 option was chosen for spring break. The 2017-2018 Academic Year Calendar was then approved by unanimous vote [Ahrenhoerster/Raunio].

d. **Proposed revision of FPP #501 regarding Online.** SSC Chair Hassel pointed out that the section of #501 related to split assignments/appointments should be examined in light of the status change of UW Colleges Online. It was noted that Online is developing their Constitution right now. Hassel will formulate a charge and share it with SSC for review prior to sending it to Faculty Professional Standards Committee (FPSC). Troy Kozma asked if current appointments would be grandfathered and if any moves would be voluntary. He wondered if people would be given options or their home left as it is currently noted. Provost Lampe expressed his sense that homes assigned in contract letters would not be revised. He stated that the Senate is needed to help answer the home question and provide policy clarity and guidance. Kozma stated that the initial genesis should be separated—those prior to X date. Provost Lampe said that he will check with HR regarding appointment and determination information as it stands and send those answers to Steering, saying that Hassel could also share it with FPSC. The committee endorsed a charge including grandfathering unanimously [Ahrenhoerster/Alitto]. SSC Chair Hassel will compose the charge and circulate it prior to sending it to FPSC.

e. **Proposal to form committee re: Online participation in RTP and faculty/IAS merit.** Chair Hassel explained that Online would need to take part in merit and RTP activities. She suggested a group be formed to take on the issue of Online involvement in merit and RTP. She and Dean of Online and Distance Education Mike Bartlett, department chairs, online faculty and IAS, and Online program staff should be part of the group, Hassel said. Kozma added that FPSC should be involved since they are working on merit policy. Hassel agreed that a liaison who would be continuing next year would be helpful. Chair Ahrenhoerster expressed that Hassel’s verbal list of who would be involved was better than the written, as the written did not include IAS. The committee unanimously endorsed the formation of the committee as discussed [Kozma/Raunio].

6. **Other Business.** Chair Hassel pointed out the date of the next WisLine: Monday, February 8.

7. **Adjournment.** The January 25, 2016 WisLine meeting of the UW Colleges Senate Steering Committee was adjourned by SSC Chair Holly Hassel at 11:21 a.m. when business was concluded.

8. **Action Items**

   a. **Baum** will post the approved minutes of SSC #9 in appropriate electronic files.
   
   b. **Hassel** will send SSC #9 minutes and chair report #10 to senators and campus steering chairs.
   
   c. **Hassel** will inform new committee members of their appointments. **Hassel** will thank those not appointed for their nominations. **Baum** will update all listings as appropriate.
d. **Hassel** will inform Ramona Gasper of the approval of the 2017-2018 AY calendar (with Spring department meeting day included).

e. **Hassel** will steer FPP #501 to FPSC (re: home for split appointments/assignments), noting that current faculty should be grandfathered and including information from the provost. The charge is to be shared with SSC before being sent to FPSC.

f. **Hassel** will create a call for the creation of a committee to involve Online in merit and RTP. She will circulate the call to SSC prior to sending it out.