Minutes
UWC Senate Steering Committee
Meeting #14: WisLine
Monday, March 28, 2016
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.


Not Present: Keith Montgomery, Matt Raunio, and Brad Wilson

1. Call to order. The Monday, March 28, 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 agenda was unanimously approved [Ahrenhoerster/Peterson].

3. Approval of Minutes: SSC #13 Draft Minutes (2016-03-07). The draft minutes of the March 7, 2016 meeting of the SSC were approved by unanimous vote [Alitto/Kozma].

4. Reports

a. Chancellor Cathy Sandeen related that she had been in Wisconsin Rapids earlier to witness Governor Walker sign bill AB 282 that provides state funding for emergency grants for students of two-year institutions. UW Colleges will receive $140,000 (divided equally between the campuses and Online) each year in order to provide grants of up to $500 per student a year that can be used to pay for expenses such as medical bills or car repairs. She said that it will be a direct benefit to students and thanked the author of the bill, Representative David Murphy. SSC Chair Hassel thanked Chancellor Sandeen for her efforts in getting the bill passed, saying it makes a huge difference for students. Noting the Board of Regents (BOR) tenure policies on the upcoming SSC agenda, she said the UW-Madison versions are expected to be on the April BOR agenda and will provide information and direction for the other UW institutions. Chancellor Sandeen expressed that it was unfortunate that none of the faculty reps’ proposed language had been adopted, and said she hoped it would be included in the UW Colleges’ policies and approved by the Regents. A UWC diversity and inclusion project is getting underway with a listening session at UW-Rock County. It is an important first step, and she thanked Graham Pearce and Holly Hassel for their help. The Board of Regents will be meeting at UW-Green Bay April 7-8, and all chancellors are to report on how the budget cuts are impacting their institution. Chancellor Sandeen told the SSC that she has been scheduled to report last, and wants to make sure it is impactful—she does not want to scare off potential students, but she wants to accurately highlight the disproportionate effects of UWC cuts. An impact initiative will be launched soon as a means to engage external stakeholders. Taking the lead from the Wisconsin Idea, stakeholders will be asked how UW Colleges impacted their lives and helped make their ideas real. The database of positive ideas and impacts can be used in budget advocacy. The chancellor reported that
the Quality Improvement Advisory Council had had their first meeting; chaired by Executive Library Director Jennifer Chamberlain, they will be working with the Senate Assessment Committee (SAC) and campus assessment committees. SGC President Graham Pearce may be sharing information on the planned student survey with the Advisory Council, too. Chancellor Sandeen concluded by saying that there are many campus visits on her April schedule.

b. **Provost and Vice Chancellor Greg Lampe** informed the SSC that he had submitted the final application for the UW Colleges to become an experimental site for the US Department of Education Second Chance Pell Pilot Program for Incarcerated Individuals. He reminded the committee that UW Colleges would partner with the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, and would offer the Associate of Arts and Science Degree, a Business Certificate, and a Legal Studies Certificate both face to face and online. He should have a response from the Department of Education within a month or two. BAAS Program Director Patti Wise and the provost have been meeting with provosts at the BAAS UW partner institutions to discuss minor technical changes needed in the Memoranda of Understanding. Provost Lampe is working with UW-Madison on coming to a mutual understanding regarding the transfer of UW Colleges international students. UW-Madison is not following the Guaranteed Transfer agreement as it relates to international students and there are issues around required grade point averages and credits at time of application versus at the time of transfer. Provost Lampe is optimistic that these issues will be resolved soon.

c. **Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Joe Foy** stated that he would hold his report until submitting a written one to the full Senate at the face to face meeting in April.

d. **Senate Steering Committee Chair Holly Hassel** said that she had collected the recent updates around tenure policies and sent them out as a report. Recent work on diversity has occurred in part as a response to the student blackout. Chair Hassel has been speaking with SGC President Graham Pearce, Lamonte Moore, and the chancellor’s Chief of Staff Molly Vidal about diversity and inclusion. The Regent Policy Documents (RPDs) went forward and were approved without the language recommended by faculty reps and the Tenure Policy Task Force members. Chancellors wonder how much customization will be accepted despite some assurances from President Ray Cross, and all are looking toward the polices that will be put forth by UW-Madison. Hassel said that Colleges policies will require rigorous review. She reported that she had followed up on the issue from the last meeting around faculty supporting students in crisis, speaking with the faculty member, Associate Vice Chancellor Joe Foy, and Director of Conduct and Compliance Kris McCaslin. McCaslin will hold discussions with faculty members from various divisions to get a sense of typical issues they discuss with students and then post a collection of resources online to help guide them. Chair Hassel reminded the SSC that she is still working on a faculty retention study with the faculty rep from UW-Whitewater about how changes around UW System have impacted faculty retention.

e. **Academic Staff Lead Senator Jeff Verona** reported that the academic staff is in the middle of their election cycle and they are optimistic that they will fill all of the AS
senator vacancies. Other academic staff who nominate may be coordinated with vacancies in other Senate committees. Verona believes the last round of academic staff layoffs is complete, and related that morale is very low. He stated that people worry about the loss of institutional memory that has taken place and feel that not all AS applicants were given good consideration or support. Another large and looming concern is low enrollment and how it plays into IAS losing courses. Enrollment is linked to recruitment, and changes in recruiting staff and procedures may be disrupting the recruitment process.

f. SGC President Graham Pearce said that as the chancellor and chair had both related, he has been working with them, Molly Vidal from the chancellor’s office, and SGC First Year Officer Lamonte Moore on the diversity and inclusion listening session currently planned to be held April 5 at 9:00 a.m. at UW-Rock County. The questions for the Student Survey are mostly final and SGC President Pearce will share them with SAC Chair Kristin Plessel for SAC feedback. The survey should be released in early April and run for a month. Student Governance Council held an extra meeting on March 12 in order to adopt changes to the SGC constitution that had been introduced on March 3. Language is now in place allowing for a transition period between outgoing and incoming SGC boards. The constitution also requires elections to be held at the last meeting prior to April 1, with a hand-off date of May 2 and an allowance for an earlier hand-off for positions if both members agree or when there is a vacancy. SGC will meet, related SGC President Pearce, on March 31 to elect next year’s board. Pearce will update the SSC regarding the elections, and will work to have the necessary students attend the April 22 Senate meeting.

5. Business

a. Possible revisions to IP #141 and IP #141.01. BAAS Program Manager Patti Wise explained that the possible proposed revisions are to bring the policies in line with current practice. There had been a move to a pathway for students with an applied associate degree, but it was determined to be confusing and there was a need to have the same standards for all students. There are some credit related changes, but four-year partners are all in agreement with them and with the single degree pathway. Students with an applied associate degree will need to fulfill the same core and breadth requirements as others do, but there are more elective credits available to provide them with the necessary flexibility. Chair Hassel added that Wise will create and circulate a document outlining how the proposed changes compare side by side, which should be especially helpful for those at campuses that do not offer the BAAS. The motion to send the proposals to the Senate Academic Policy Committee carried unanimously [Peterson/Ahrenhoerster].

b. IAS and the Activity Report. A series of questions around having IAS complete the Activity Report and other merit issues had been sent to Provost Lampe, Associate Vice Chancellor Foy, and SSC Chair Hassel, and was shared in turn with AS Lead Senator Verona. The series of questions needing input will be sent, following unanimous vote, to the Faculty Professional Standards Committee (FPSC) [Alitto/Verona].
c. **BOR tenure policies – next steps for UWC.** SSC Chair Hassel suggested that as she had requested that Steering and FPSC have a joint face to face meeting April 22 the item be held until that meeting. There will be more time at the joint meeting to discuss and map out what changes are necessary in light of the Regent Policy Documents (RPDs) as well as other institutional changes. The information will be sent to FPSC and both committees will be asked to review all relevant documents and be prepared for the April 22 joint meeting.

d. **IP #408 – clarify process/procedure.** Hassel pointed out that the process in I. called for the Senate to vote on adopting changes and for faculty to review changes. Since the policy discusses changes to program, she argued changes should be approved by faculty and the Faculty Council of Senators. It was proposed that IP #408 be sent to SAPC to clarify decision making authority and to review the policy for consistency on that point. The motion carried unanimously [Kozma/Alitto].

e. **Create UWC Online Policy Implementation Committee?** SSC Chair Hassel said that there are three parallel processes around the progress UW Colleges Online launching in Fall 2017. The Online Evaluation Working Group dealing with evaluations and merit. The Online Curriculum Task Force is working on curriculum development and revision processes. The Online campus itself is working to create a constitution and shared governance as well as align internal operations with those of physical campuses (solution center, CASE, and marketing). As questions arise about looking ahead to the Fall 2017 launch, Hassel felt that a group to keep an eye on what all were doing and act as a liaison between the three existing groups, the Senate, and Senate committees would be a good idea. Provost Lampe suggested that the proposed work seemed to fall under the purview of the Senate Online Program Committee (SOPC), and that another group was unnecessary. Hassel argued that there is not enough continuity on Senate committees, and that the SOPC would be disbanded by the recommendation of the Virtual Campus Investigative Committee. Proposed membership includes: Academic Affairs Office member (Provost Lampe or designee); Online Evaluation Working Group Chair Troy Kozma; Online Curriculum Task Force Chair Dubear Kroening; SOPC Chair Renee Gralewicz; SSC Chair Holly Hassel; and UW Colleges Online and Distance Education Dean Mike Bartlett. Motion carried unanimously [Ahrenhoerster/Alitto].

6. **Other Business.** Provost Lampe announced that work was proceeding on Institutional Priorities. He hopes that they will be distributed via email about two weeks prior to the April 22, 2016 Senate meeting, and said they will be on the Senate agenda. SSC Chair Hassel asked that if any feedback or action is requested in regard to the priorities that it be carefully spelled out in the email when they are circulated.

7. **Adjournment.** The March 28, 2016 WisLine meeting of the UW Colleges Senate Steering Committee was adjourned by SSC Chair Holly Hassel at 11:03 a.m. as business was concluded.

8. **Action Items**
a. **Baum** will post the approved minutes of SSC #13 in appropriate electronic files.
b. **Hassel** will send SSC #13 minutes and chair report #14 to senators and campus steering chairs.
c. **Hassel** will steer IP #141 and IP #141.01 to SAPC proposing return to single pathway, noting that Patti Wise will provide additional document outlining changes.
d. **Hassel** will send the series of questions around IAS, the Activity Report, and merit to FPSC.
e. **Hassel and Baum** will contact FPSC, inviting them to a joint meeting April 22 and sharing tenure policy information with them.
f. **Hassel** will steer IP #408 to SAPC to clarify the process/procedure around approval of program changes and asking them to ensure consistency throughout policy.
g. **Hassel** will notify appropriate members of new committee membership.