Minutes
UWC Senate Steering Committee
Meeting #15: WisLine
Wednesday, May 6, 2015
4:00 p.m.

Present: Greg Ahrenhoerster, Rose Brust, Marcy Dickson, Joe Foy, Margaret Hankenson, Holly Hassel, Evan Kreider, Greg Lampe, Juli McGuire, Graham Pearce, Mark Peterson, Matt Raunio, Cathy Sandeen, Jeff Verona, and Linda Baum

Not Present: John Short

1. Call to order. The Wednesday, May 6, 2015 WisLine meeting of the UW Colleges Senate Steering Committee (SSC) was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by SSC Chair Mark Peterson.

2. Approval of the agenda. The meeting agenda was amended to include two additional business items, labeled as 5f and 5g. The amended agenda was approved by unanimous vote [Peterson/Raunio].

3. Approval of Minutes for SSC #14 (2015-04-24). The minutes of the April 24, 2015 SSC meeting held at UW-Fox Valley were unanimously approved [Ahrenhoerster/Hassel].

4. Reports

a. Chancellor Cathy Sandeen stated that the Fiscal Bureau projected no additional revenue beyond their previous projections to help address the state budget deficit. The Joint Finance Committee did not approve a public authority for the UW System for this budget biennium, although the concept might be studied and considered for the future. Individual management flexibilities are still under consideration. The flexibilities that would help UW Colleges the most would be compensation and pay plan and purchasing and procurement. Given the rejection of the public authority model, it is unclear as to the future of shared governance and tenure within statute. However, Chancellor Sandeen reminded us that the Board of Regents is committed to maintaining both, and has task forces to work on both issues. Chancellor Sandeen will provide updates on shared governance and tenure as information is made known. While there is continued hope for the amendment for UW Colleges to be exempted from the UW cuts, she acknowledged there is no firm information at this point. Chancellor Sandeen has scheduled a video conference on May 11 to discuss the findings and themes from internal and external feedback gathered around the Budget Planning Task Force recommendations. She will share what she has been learning, what she is considering, and some information about timing of decisions. UW Colleges institutional priorities had been discussed at the Senate meeting April 24 at UW-Fox Valley. Chancellor Sandeen stated she had followed the practices of past chancellors in sharing the priorities for input—which was valued and taken into consideration. She also explained that the priorities were meant to be administrative. Priorities are for the chancellor, vice chancellors, and deans over the coming fiscal year. Although input is helpful, Senate
endorsement is not necessary. She read the Chancellor’s Priorities into record and will circulate them:

- Implement strategic repositioning of the institution to meet current and ongoing resource needs;
- Address compensation needs faced by the UW Colleges by (a) initiating and finalizing a compensation planning process for academic staff and university staff, and (b) continuing planning for further faculty compensation improvements;
- Initiate the Associate of Arts and Science degree and curricular reimagining project;
- Increase enrollments in the UW Colleges with an emphasis on nontraditional, returning adult students;
- Investigate making UW Colleges Online a virtual campus.

Chancellor Sandeen concluded by reiterating and confirming her appreciation of shared governance. The chancellor said she also appreciates the value placed on civility and civil discourse. Rigorous debate is important in our culture, but civility is necessary as everyone works together through difficult times.

b. Provost/Vice Chancellor Greg Lampe reminded the Steering Committee of the site visit earlier in the year by two peer reviewers from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) to review the UW Colleges Flexible Option program. After receiving the draft report from the March two-day visit, the provost and UW Colleges Flexible Option Coordinator Kim Kostka reviewed the report for factual errors and submitted their feedback along with two additional pieces of requested information to the peer reviewers. The draft report stated that all expectations set out had been met and that the reviewers’ recommendation was to approve the UW Colleges to offer a competency-based degree in a flexible format. Next, the returned information will be reviewed and then a final report submitted to the Commission; the final communication from the HLC about the site visit will be received in about a month. On Friday, May 8 Provost Lampe and representatives from UW Colleges and UW-Oshkosh will meet with State Superintendent of Schools Tony Evers and members of the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to discuss the proposed changes to the Course Options statute. The UW Colleges will stress that it is not a cost-free program and that parents/students who have the means to pay for college courses taught to high school students in the high school should be allowed to do so. A spreadsheet detailing the costs, including the mentoring of instructors, is being created to share with Superintendent Evers. Provost Lampe reported he and Interim Dean for UW Colleges Online and Distance Education Christa James Byrnes submitted the requested documentation regarding allowing the UW Colleges to investigate designating the UW Colleges Online program as a virtual campus to UW System administration. UW System President Ray Cross and UW System Associate Vice President for Academic, Faculty, and Global Programs Stephen Kolison will review the documentation. The question of investigating making UW Colleges Online a virtual campus awaits a reply from UW System administration with the next steps. Provost Lampe concluded by thanking Mark Peterson for his three years of service as chair of the Senate Steering Committee. He went on to thank all those on the Senate Steering Committee for their feedback, comments, and work throughout the academic year.
c. **Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Joe Foy** informed the committee that he would be meeting with Provost Lampe, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Rich Barnhouse, and UW Colleges Faculty Coordinator for the Associate of Arts and Science degree and curricular reimagining project Caroline Geary (Associate Professor, UW-Fox Valley) to discuss the leadership team for the reimagining project. Associate Vice Chancellor Foy announced he had recently been elected to the Executive Board for Wisconsin System Council on Undergraduate Research (WiSCUR). He said that there are many collaborative opportunities for undergraduate research, noting that several Colleges and comprehensive campuses in the southeast region of the state have begun meeting to formalize relationships around undergraduate research. There will be a meeting regarding LEAP (Liberal Education and America’s Promise) on May 27; information from sub-committees will be reviewed. Foy is on the Assessment Sub-Committee, working to define high impact practices across UW System institutions and how they are best incorporated into curricular and co-curricular activities for student success. The information provided by the various sub-committees will eventually be worked into a report provided to UW System by December 2015. Associate Vice Chancellor Foy also thanked Chair Peterson for his work as chair and said he looked forward to working with incoming chair Holly Hassel when she assumes her role as chair in August.

d. **Senate Steering Committee Chair Mark Peterson** reported briefly that UW System President Ray Cross had met with the faculty reps to UW System and spoke about the budget. However, there were no details yet to pass along.

e. **Academic Staff Lead Senator Jeff Verona** said that ASPP #708 on titling guidelines for academic staff had been approved by the Academic Staff Council at the April 24 meeting and passed along to the chancellor; they await further word. He offered his thanks for all the work Mark Peterson has done as chair, saying he understood the difficulties the title carries. AS Lead Senator Verona also thanked AS Rep to System Marcy Dickson who is leaving that role and the UW Colleges. He thanked her for getting people excited about shared governance, which is a very good thing.

f. **Classified Staff Lead Senator Rose Brust** stated that the University Staff Council continues to meet with liaison to the Central Office David Prucha. Work on policy writing continues and will over the summer as well. For those who are unaware, Juli McGuire will be the next chair of the Council and the Lead CS Senator. The second member of Steering will be Brad Wilson, who will be the CS Rep to System. SSC Chair Mark Peterson thanked CS Lead Senator Rose Brust for the years she had put in helping classified staff governance come into existence.

g. **SGC President Graham Pearce** said that the SGC would hold elections the next day at noon for the main Executive Board positions. There are nominees for all four positions, so as long as there is quorum, a successful election should be held. They also plan to approve of Patrick Neuenfeldt (Student Life Advisor, UW-Sheboygan) as the new SGC Advisor, and pass a resolution in support of an amendment to protect UW Colleges from
state budget cuts. Pearce is collecting data from the campuses regarding student government elections and using it to contact students who will be taking office for the next academic year. He hopes to start building relationships and interest in Colleges-wide and System-level governance. Following a conversation with Senate Assistant Linda Baum, SGC President Pearce is working to draft a meeting schedule for next year which will include holding their elections before April 1 so the SGC has the same overlap with current and incoming senators as faculty and staff do at the final Senate meeting of the year. He added that he hopes to make the change permanent by revising the SGC constitution. Pearce has been working to facilitate student input on the Budget Planning Task Force report by relaying comments he has gathered and through a student only listening session with Chancellor Sandeen held the previous day. He has been informed that students will be included on implementation committees, and will work to find dedicated students interested in working over the summer. Through his role in UW System Student Reps, he is scheduled to present with two other student leaders for the Board of Regents on June 5; they will focus on the role of System-level student governance and their vision for its role in the future as relates to the Board and System Administration. SGC President Pearce thanked SSC Chair Peterson for his assistance over the past year, and added that he hoped to win re-election the next day and continue working with Steering and the Senate another year. Chair Peterson thanked Pearce for his great work as SGC President and for reviving the SGC.

5. Business

a. Revision of FPP #601.III.B.2. stacking courses. Chair of Chairs Greg Ahrenhoerster explained that the thought behind the original question had been that it would be more efficient to allow stacking of courses than to design new materials and have new courses approved. Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Joe Foy responded that some research into the question had led to the discovery that there is not a good policy or clarity around stacking courses. There are also many questions with departmental bylaws regarding course prep, for example, and since it is believed to be a topic that will come up more frequently, it was determined that answers should be found now. Holly Hassel said she would support having SAPC be involved in taking up the question. The Senate Curriculum Committee (SCC) and Senate BAAS Curriculum Committee (SBCC) will be asked to examine the particular case that was forwarded and FPP #601 for possible adjustments to clarify stacking; the item should be shared with Senate Academic Policy Committee (SAPC).

b. Proposed revision to Bylaws 7.5: eliminating the Senate Correspondence Committee. Chair Peterson read the proposed language to eliminate the Senate Correspondence Committee (SCoC). The motion carried unanimously [Hassel/Raunio].

c. Request from Steering to FAGC and ASAGC to create bylaws and to vet and clarify their processes and procedures. SSC Chair Peterson read the proposed charge to Faculty Appeals and Grievances Committee and the Academic Staff Appeals and Grievances Committee. AS Lead Senator Jeff Verona pointed out that while the idea of a procedural flowchart was great, the academic staff has to follow the law for their
procedures; the AS procedures are different than those of faculty. It was agreed that the charge will tell ASAGC that they have to stay within the constraints of the law. The motion was made and carried by unanimous voice vote [Hankenson/Ahrenhoerster].

d. Request from Steering asking SIEC to investigate and report back on how best to spread inclusivity across UWC and shared governance. The suggested charge to Senate Inclusive Excellence Committee was shared. Holly Hassel wondered if it was specific enough, or if the committee should be told how to consult with the gender equity person. It was agreed that the committee should be able to make that determination. The motion passed on a unanimous vote [Kreider/Pearce].

e. Request from Steering: STAC and SPDC consider a joint meeting for the two to discuss merging and what would be required for that to happen. The suggested charge was unanimously accepted [Kreider/Ahrenhoerster].

f. Granting temporary status to Flex’s drop policy. Steering Committee Chair Peterson explained that UWC Flexible Option Coordinator Kim Kostka was asking that the Senate Steering Committee adopt the proposed revision to the drop deadline in IP #202 on a provisional basis until the matter can be taken up again in the fall. He also noted that the data in Table 1 had been corrected. AS Lead Senator Verona said he had no problem approving the request until SAPC gets going again. The motion passed unanimously [Hankenson/Dickson]. Senate Assistant Linda Baum will create and send the revised policy to the chancellor. If Chancellor Sandeen signs the policy, Baum will post it and send notice.

g. Swapping out Talitha Selby for Devin Bickner on SPDC to accommodate the policy requirements. SSC Chair Peterson and Senate Assistant Linda Baum explained that there were issues with the Senate Professional Development Committee election held at the Senate meeting April 24, 2015. One of the members voted to the committee is moving to a different campus in the fall; he was the only nominee in the category he was in. Another person from that campus was also elected, which goes against the committees one person per campus restriction. Changing to the person who had the second number of votes would clear the issue; Peterson noted that had the campus restriction been realized at the meeting, the person who won would have been removed from balloting. Next, the only nominee in the Humanities OR Natural Sciences/Mathematics spot was a person for Humanities. It was realized after the fact that with that election, the nominee for department chair rep on the committee should have been removed as no longer being eligible, since that person was also in Humanities and there can be no more than two per division. Chair of Chairs Greg Ahrenhoerster had found a new chair nominee: Carey Woodward. Natural Sciences/Mathematics Division faculty member Devin Bickner (Assistant Professor, Mathematics, Sheboygan) and department chair representative Carey Woodward (Associate Professor/Chair, CSEPA, UW-Fond du Lac) were made members of SPDC by unanimous vote [Raunio/Ahrenhoerster].

6. Other Business. There was no Other Business on the SSC agenda.
7. **Adjournment.** The May 6, 2015 WisLine meeting of the UW Colleges Senate Steering Committee was adjourned at 4:53 p.m. when SSC Chair Mark Peterson announced business was concluded and wished all a good summer.

8. **Action Items**

   a. **Baum** will post the approved minutes of SSC #14 in the appropriate electronic files.
   
   b. **Peterson** will send SSC minutes and chair report to senator and campus steering chairs.
   
   c. **Peterson** will steer FPP #601 to SCC and SBCC, to consult with SAPC, regarding stacking courses.
   
   d. **Peterson/Baum** will place proposed revision of Bylaws 7.5 on Senate agenda. **Peterson** will write rationale.
   
   e. **Peterson** will send charge to FAGC and ASAGC regarding their processes and procedures (with special note for ASAGC).
   
   f. **Peterson** will send charge to SIEC regarding spreading inclusivity.
   
   g. **Peterson** will send charge to STAC and SPDC regarding joint meeting to discuss possible merger. **Baum** will make note for Convocation scheduling.
   
   h. **Peterson** will send revised information regarding Flex drop deadline to SAPC. **Baum** will make clean copy policy revisions and send to chancellor for approval, as outlined in IP #405.
   
   i. **Peterson** will inform those who have/have not been elected/appointed to Senate committees. **Baum** will update all lists (email, Senate website, Public Folders, etc.) as appropriate shortly before the new terms begin.