Minutes
UWC Senate Steering Committee
Meeting #2: WisLine
Wednesday, September 2, 2015
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Present: Greg Ahrenhoerster, Julianna Alitto, Joe Foy, Holly Hassel, Juli McGuire, Graham Pearce, Mark Peterson, Matt Raunio, Cathy Sandeen, John Short, Jeff Verona, and Linda Baum


1. Call to order. The September 2, 2015 WisLine meeting of the UW Colleges Senate Steering Committee (SSC) was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by SSC Chair Holly Hassel.

2. Approval of the agenda. The agenda was approved by unanimous vote [Alitto/Raunio].

3. Approval of Minutes for SSC #1 (8-27-2015). The minutes of the August 27, 2015 meeting of the SSC held at UW-Fox Valley were unanimously approved [Alitto/Raunio].

4. Reports

   a. Chancellor Cathy Sandeen said that this initial gathering of a new group was a good time for her to affirm her commitment to shared government. She noted that shared governance means the ability to make better decisions and allows for a better flow of information. The Wisconsin legislature changed the language around shared governance, and while that might be different, Chancellor Sandeen stated that she thinks everyone will continue to work together regardless of what Chapter 36 says. The chancellor went on to mention several items going on with the budget and implementation process: notice of the recruitment process for regional deans; BISC 2 getting started soon, and the upcoming formation of task groups for Round 2 decisions.

   Chancellor Sandeen thanked SSC Chair Holly Hassel and former Chair Mark Peterson for meeting over the summer to discuss and send out a memo to faculty on the state of tenure at that time. There is a Board of Regents task force examining tenure since it was been removed from Chapter 36 and moved into Regent policy. Various provisions need to be defined, such as for eliminating programs and layoff, and she is hoping for strict criteria noted for extreme circumstances. Chancellor Sandeen added that there are UW Colleges faculty members on that task force.

   An informal group of Republican assemblypersons is meeting to discuss the possible merger of UW Colleges and the Wisconsin Technical College System. Chancellor Sandeen, UW System President Ray Cross, and WTCS President Morna Foy are tracking the situation; all agree that a merger is a bad idea and emphasize that message, along with the missions and efficiencies of UWC and WTCS.
Thinking ahead to the next eighteen months and the next budget cycle, Chancellor Sandeen is working towards a list of six themes to resonate with the public and elected officials. They will be vetted and must fit both Colleges and Extension. She read a preliminary list to the committee. Input from governance groups may be gathered via web survey after brief discussions at meetings. Chair Hassel asked that some of the items be around engaged citizenship instead of so many being focused on economic impact, as she felt it would be more true to Colleges’ mission. Chancellor Sandeen acknowledged the statement and the thought behind it, but also said that the desired audience must be kept in mind.

b. **Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Joe Foy** reported that much of his time has been spent on BISC work over the summer. The Course Options Coordinator position was eliminated, so that work has been absorbed by Academic Affairs, and Foy is working with Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Rich Barnhouse and Provost Lampe to determine that impact. Institutional guidelines are being established, along with tools to help support campuses as they negotiate with area school districts on Course Options and other credit outreach offerings. One new addition is an effort to provide tuition breaks for students who receive free or reduced school lunch. The UWC is reentering conversations about the Course Options Consortium work with UW-Oshkosh, and updates will be coming soon. The ESL Working Group asked Provost Lampe for an extension, and will report on their recommendations for UW Colleges later this fall. Associate Vice Chancellor Foy spoke of two conferences: the Wisconsin Undergraduate Research Conference will be held in the spring centering around undergraduate research collaboration across System; and coming up in September is the Lumina Foundation sponsored AAC&U’s LEAP faculty collaborative conference which Caroline Geary, Wisconsin LEAP Fellow, will attend along with nine other Colleges’ faculty.

c. **Senate Steering Committee Chair Holly Hassel** informed the SSC that she attended Board of Regents meetings over the summer and has posted links to notes. The tenure task force, as mentioned by the chancellor, had convened to explore implications of the removal of tenure from Chapter 36. The criteria for layoff remains in statute, but protections are under Regent policy. Hassel related that she had spoken with UWS President Cross, who is convinced the tenure task force can work out the issues and keep protections in line with AAUP. Hassel is a part of the Virtual Campus Investigation Committee, and the group has been working well and making progress.

d. **Academic Staff Lead Senator Jeff Verona** stated that academic staff governance has been involved with a lot of people shifting recently. He will be putting out a call for an Academic Staff Nominations and Elections Committee member, and then shifting more attention to filling vacant liaison positions. The AS Council will be consulting with the University Staff Council on ASPP #804 around university staff transferring to become academic staff.

e. University Staff Lead Senator Juli McGuire reported that the University Staff Council will hold their first full meeting of the academic year next week. ASPP #804 is on the
agenda. They are also discussing splitting the US Rep to System job as that person has to attend more meetings than originally thought. There are two vacancies on the University Staff Nominations and Elections Committee and the University Staff Personnel Committee that will require calls. University Staff Lead Senator McGuire said that the USC is interested in having regular meetings with administration and the chairs of each Council.

f. SGC President Graham Pearce noted his last report had been prior to the SGC election—his bid for re-election had obviously been successful as he was with SSC again. The Executive Board had also been elected. SGC is now working to collect many nominations for various positions including the SGC First Year Officer, Senate committees, any BISC 2 task forces that might need a student member, and for the Chancellor’s Search Advisory Committee. The Executive Board has been working on their priorities for the upcoming year, including possible constitutional changes. Pearce referred to Hassel’s earlier comments about the Virtual Campus Investigative Committee, agreeing that it is making progress on Online issues. SGC President Pearce concluded by saying he had served on BISC this summer, and has agreed to Round 2.

5. Business

a. Committee Appointments:
   i. Senate Curriculum Committee (student affairs).
      Tony Landowski (Director, Academic Success Center, UW-Waukesha) was unanimously appointed [Alitto/Ahrenhoerster].
   ii. Senate Online Program Committee (faculty member).
      Dubear Kroening (Professor, Biological Sciences, UW-Fox Valley) was appointed by unanimous vote [Raunio/Ahrenhoerster].

b. Upcoming nomination calls:
   i. Senate Curriculum Committee Faculty Member
   ii. University Staff Nominations and Elections Committee
   iii. Faculty Appeals and Grievances Committee
      SSC Chair Hassel said the Senate Curriculum Committee call had been sent; she and US Lead Senator McGuire will send calls for the USNEC, and she will keep an eye on the Faculty Appeals and Grievances Committee situation.

6. Other Business

a. Resolution from CTA department. The CTA department sent a resolution expressing opposition to a UWC-WTCS merger and insisting that shared governance play a role in any such discussions should they continue. General consensus held that since the talks are so preliminary, the resolution should be acknowledged and kept in mind if the topic does move forward.

b. Update from Provost Lampe on forming Colleges wide committees (NODE Advisory Board). Provost Lampe was unavailable and the update was postponed. He will be
consulted about updating SSC regarding the formation of Colleges-wide committees at the next SSC meeting.

7. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 3:44 p.m. when business was concluded.

8. Action Items

a. Baum will post the approved minutes of SSC #1 in appropriate electronic files.
b. Hassel will send SSC minutes and chair report to senators and campus steering chairs.
c. Hassel will inform those appointed (and those not) to Senate committees. Baum will update all listings as appropriate.
d. Hassel, Verona, and McGuire will continue to make calls for committee vacancies.
e. Hassel will acknowledge the CTA resolution.
f. Hassel and Baum will check with Lampe regarding placing update on forming Colleges-wide committees on September 18 SSC agenda.