Present: Greg Ahrenhoerster, Aaron Brower, Rose Brust, Luke Dock (Marcy Dickson), Joe Foy, Margaret Hankenson, Holly Hassel, Evan Kreider, Greg Lampe, Graham Pearce, Mark Peterson, Matt Raunio, John Short, Jeff Verona, and Linda Baum

1. Call to order. The November 13, 2014 WisLine meeting of the UW Colleges Senate Steering Committee (SSC) was called to order at 2:33 p.m. by SSC Chair Mark Peterson.

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

3. Approval of Minutes for SSC #5 (2014-10-24). The minutes of the October 24, 2014 meeting of the committee held at UW-Richland were approved by unanimous vote [Ahrenhoerster/Hassel].

4. Reports

   a. Interim Chancellor Aaron Brower reported that Chancellor Designate Cathy Sandeen will be starting the position on December 15. She was here the past Monday and Tuesday, beginning the on-boarding process. She’s very enthusiastic and engaged, and reading all of the information given to her. Interim Chancellor Brower reiterated to the SSC that her learning curve will be steep as Colleges and Extension are both large and complicated. He knows that Chancellor Designate Sandeen will appreciate assistance. He asked that people communicate succinctly with her to give her a solid context that she can grow from. She will move to Madison in early December and will begin scheduling meetings and visits around the state. On another topic, Interim Chancellor Brower noted that the budget rhetoric from legislators has not been very positive, even though he believes they continue to appreciate and value UW Colleges. UW System’s focus remains on advocating for the System budget to the governor and legislature. Finally, Paul Whitaker and the Faculty Compensation Committee held a town hall meeting last Friday. They are collecting feedback now so please share yours with them. Interim Chancellor Brower publicly thanked them for their work.

   b. Provost and Vice Chancellor Greg Lampe noted that he had met Chancellor Designate Cathy Sandeen for three hours with the Cabinet on Monday morning. When his time came to discuss the UW Colleges, he focused his attention on the culture, mission, and vision of the UW Colleges, and stressed that students, academic quality, and rigor are at the core of the institution’s academic enterprise. The provost spoke about shared governance, described our unified Senate, and the Faculty, Academic Staff, and Classified Staff Councils, before discussing our diverse student populations (first generation, part-time, adult, and under-served for example). Provost Lampe met with Chancellor Designate Sandeen again on Monday afternoon in a one-on-one setting and talked about UW Colleges academic programs including the Bachelor of Applied Arts
and Sciences degree completion program, UW Flexible Option, and the Associate of Arts and Science degree and its pending revision. He talked about UW Colleges faculty and our culture of teaching, learning, and assessment, and Student Affairs and how they are working to sustain enrollments, provide excellent student advising and student support services, and using technology tools to assist with those efforts. The provost shared information on the developmental education program and the successes of students in Math and English. He related that the chancellor designate seems to be a good listener who seems to be absorbing information with which she is presented and asking good questions. In response to a request from the Senate Steering Committee Chair Mark Peterson, Provost Lampe shared that the Repositioning Task Force (RTF) budget reduction recommendations had all been implemented in the Madison-based administrative offices. SSC Chair Peterson said that there were two parts to the RTF charge: to find funds to offset the UW Colleges structural deficit and to uncover revenue producing activities; he asked if former Chancellor Ray Cross had done the second part. Provost Lampe replied that he had no knowledge of any progress being made on the second part of the charge; however, he assured the Senate Steering Committee that the RTF report will be relied upon when considering future budget reductions.

c. Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Joe Foy told the SSC that he had been working with Stephen Schmid, BAAS Assessment Coordinator, and the Senate BAAS Assessment Committee (SBAC) on the development of an assessment program. At their last meeting, the SBAC had looked at various assessment models, and an approach for assessing the degree completion program was chosen; an upcoming meeting will work out further details. The associate vice chancellor will work with Schmid to gather information for course mapping by learning outcomes within the program’s framework. BAAS Program Manager Patti Wise has completed the staffing and curriculum for the BAAS for the spring; she is working on the staffing of a two-year curricular plan ensuring students a pathway regardless of which campus a student is on. The Senate Curriculum Committee (SCC) is considering how to work with the Senate BAAS Curriculum Committee (SBCC) to add degree designations to lower-division courses (AAS courses that BAAS students under revised MOUs might be taking) that align with the BAAS (GS, CS, IN/SL). All thirteen campuses have submitted undergraduate research grant proposals of $10,000/campus to UW System. UW Colleges Online and Distance Education is self-funding a $10,000 grant to expand undergraduate research opportunities for students through a distance education format. OPID Director Jennifer Heinert is working with Provost Lampe to get Teaching Fellows/Scholars applications submitted. The Senate Professional Development Committee (SPDC) has evaluated GISE?KSEG proposals, and Associate Vice Chancellor Foy will work with the provost to submit those. Interim Chancellor Brower and Chancellor Designate Sandeen are crafting a joint letter to ask for stories reflecting the work of Colleges and UW-Extension for the April Board of Regents meeting hosted by Colleges and Extension at UW-Waukesha to help frame who we are as an institution.

d. Senate Steering Committee Chair Mark Peterson said that the Faculty Representatives had also been asked to collect stories from Colleges colleagues. Foy
suggested that Peterson work out his ask letter with Rose Smyrski, Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor of Communications and External Relations.

e. **Academic Staff Lead Senator Jeff Verona** related that he has been gathering feedback on ASPP #708. One thing he has heard is that IAS who teach only Online are worried about reporting “up the line.” He wondered, in light of the agenda item discussing Online becoming a campus, how IAS are to let Online know they are available. Associate Vice Chancellor Foy responded that Mike Bartlett, Associate Dean of UW Colleges Online, would be the correct go to person. Holly Hassel wondered about the role of departments in #708, saying that if there are IAS with little department contact, there is a problem. AS Lead Senator Verona responded that the fifth point of ASPP #708 noted that if the IAS wished to be rehired at a different rank, they had to initiate the contact, and the department determined what materials they had to submit for review. Hassel said that answered her question.

f. **Classified Staff Lead Senator Rose Brust** informed the SSC that elections are underway for UW-Baraboo/Sauk County and UW-Manitowoc classified staff representatives, but only UW-Manitowoc currently has a nominee in place. The University Staff Council (USC) has continued to meet with the state-wide group, discussing layoff and grievance policies, and the group will be meeting soon with Al Crist, UWS Senior Associate Vice President, Human Resources & Workforce Diversity. The USC workgroups are continuing with policies on layoffs, grievances, and performance management. David Prucha, Director of Human Resources, UW Colleges and UW-Extension is the new liaison between the Council and Central Office; the Council is scheduled to meet November 14 via Lync.

g. **SGC President Graham Pearce** reported that elections for the Student Governance Council had been held this fall. Ten of thirteen campuses participated, a quorum was present, and a full board was elected and is in place. He had presented on the SGC at the Student Leaders Retreat at UW-Fox Valley. The SGC is working to get nominees for the student vacancies on Senate committees. There are a couple more SGC meetings scheduled this semester. SGC President Pearce explained that rebuilding the organization, getting people in campus SGAs interested and getting buy in from them is the current goal. He thanked Kim Valenza, SGC Advisor, and Rich Barnhouse, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, for their assistance in orienting him to the work of the SGC President.

5. **Business**

   a. **Revisions and amendments toward campus status for UW Colleges Online.** SSC Chair Peterson explained that the topic of creating a new college or its functional equivalent is discussed in Wisconsin State Statute 36. There was some debate over whether creating a virtual campus was allowed, whether it would be considered a functional equivalent or an organizational change. It was determined that the conversation will be held until Provost Lampe has checked with System Legal. Following that determination, it was further decided to hold the second and third items
(changing Senate Online Program Committee to be advisory, and recommending that the chancellor form a taskforce to draft a constitution for the virtual campus and help create the policy infrastructure), pending a finding from Legal.

b. **Revisions to #408 for dissolving, combining, splitting, and/or relocating programs or departments.** Holly Hassel explained that since IP #408 has been developed, conversations have been held about how to handle other situations that need to have policy coverage. Chairs’ Representative Greg Ahrenhoerster continued, mentioning a vote by the Computer Science department to disband and how that would be handled if there was a policy to cover the situation. The matter will be sent to the Senate Academic Policy Committee (SAPC) [Hassel/Raunio].

c. **Student affairs administrative staff representation on the Senate Assessment Committee.** There were two nominees. After a brief discussion, a motion was made and carried unanimously to place Sue Kalinka (Director of Student Development, UW-Waukesha) on the Senate Assessment Committee (SAC) as the student affairs administrative staff representative [Peterson/Hassel].

d. **Colloquium planning committee self-nominees.** Motion to place Wendy Seegers (Director of Alcohol and Other Drug Education, UW-Fox Valley) on the Colloquium Planning Committee carried unanimously [Hankenson/Raunio]. SSC Chair Peterson will make another call for the several remaining vacancies on the committee.

6. **Other Business**

   a. **Concerns with the relation between Central and shared governance. A question of Colleges’ culture?** After the email in the materials had been read, SSC Chair Peterson related that he had been shocked and disappointed when he read it. His experience has been that anyone could say anything to anyone without fear. There is a collegial structure in Colleges that needs administration at Senate meetings in order for the Senate to hear from them and for them to hear from the Senate. There should be no danger, Peterson continued, of junior faculty speaking their mind, and if one is perceived, the department and their campus are failing to mentor and support them. Provost Lampe said that it used to be the chancellor and provost there with others attending as necessary. He also noted that under former Chancellor David Wilson the presiding officer duties were formally delegated to the SSC Chair. The provost related that in his experience, including when he was a faculty member, there has always been a sense that faculty could say whatever they wanted. The Colleges’ Senate and sense of shared governance makes UW Colleges unique in a very positive way, Provost Lamp said, but noted that he does not want junior faculty to feel silenced. Holly Hassel argued that it is hard to understand for those who are tenured the perspective of those who are not and are in a meeting with people in charge of their employment. It is a risky situation for vulnerable people. She disagreed that it was the responsibility of the department, and wondered if administrators and people at the top of the power structure should be limited at Senate meetings. The provost mentioned that there were things that could be changed, such as having only tenured faculty on the Senate, or having administrators report and leave. Matt Raunio pointed out that the meetings are open, and the Senate
could not exclude administration. Chairs’ Rep Ahrenhoerster said a power imbalance can be perceived regardless of whether there is any true power difference or intent to use any power. It was held that a faculty member must get past the fear of any power balance in order to get to tenure. Margaret Hankenson said that if there was a problem it should be determined exactly what it was and to what extent it might reach. Provost Lampe agreed, saying that free discussions were very important. It was decided that Holly Hassel and Margaret Hankenson will craft a series of discussion questions and circulate them to the Senate Steering Committee. The importance of having administration in shared governance was agreed upon, but there is a fear that the issue could become an “us against administration” wedge, so the questions should be shaped to avoid creating that wedge and keep a collegial spirit. The Hankenson/Hassel questions, after circulating through Steering for approval, will be sent to senators to share with collegiums (in December), so feedback can be discussed in January [Peterson/Hassel].

7. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 3:53 p.m. when quorum was lost.

8. **Action Items**

   a. **Baum** will post the approved minutes of SSC #5 in appropriate electronic files.
   b. **Peterson** will send SSC minutes and chair report to senators and campus steering chairs.
   c. **Lampe** will check with System Legal on the legality of the plan for a virtual campus.
   d. **Peterson and Baum** will work to set up a SSC WisLine before the one currently scheduled for December 11 to discuss a virtual campus when Legal has provided an answer.
   e. **Peterson** will steer revision of IP #408 to SAPC (dissolving, combining, splitting and/or relocating programs or departments).
   f. **Peterson** will inform Sue Kalinka of SAC membership (and thank M. Millspaw for self-nomination). **Baum** will include Kalinka in all appropriate listings.
   g. **Peterson** will inform Wendy Seegers of Colloquium Planning Committee membership (cc Foy). **Baum** will include Seegers in all appropriate listings. **Peterson** will put out another planning committee call.
   h. **Hankenson and Hassel** will develop discussion questions and circulate to SSC for approval. Discussion questions to be sent to senators to be shared with collegiums in December. Feedback to be January agenda item.