Minutes
UWC Senate Steering Committee
Meeting #6: WisLine
Monday, October 26, 2015
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Present: Greg Ahrenhoerster, Julianna Alitto, Caroline Geary, Holly Hassel, Troy Kozma, Greg Lampe, Juli McGuire, Graham Pearce, Mark Peterson, Matt Raunio, Cathy Sandeen, John Short, Melissa Smiley, and Linda Baum

Not Present: Luke Dock, Joe Foy, Jeff Verona, and Brad Wilson

1. Call to order. The October 26, 2015 WisLine meeting of the UW Colleges Senate Steering Committee (SSC) was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by SSC Chair Holly Hassel.

2. Approval of the agenda. The agenda for the meeting was unanimously approved [Kozma/Peterson].

3. Approval of Minutes: SSC #5 Draft Minutes (2015-10-12). The minutes of the October 12, 2015 SSC meeting were approved by unanimous vote [Kozma/Peterson].

4. Reports

   a. Chancellor Cathy Sandeen reminded the Senate Steering Committee of the recent announcement of Lin Larson as UWC-UWEX Assistant Vice Chancellor for Communications and Marketing. He held a similar position at the University of Iowa and will start on November 16. The Media Relations Specialist will be announced later today, said the chancellor. She reminded the committee that these are not new positions, but unfilled positions that are now being filled. Chancellor Sandeen said that a survey on messaging themes will be sent out soon to everyone. The survey will help determine categories and themes as the institution heads into advocacy mode for the next biennium. Regional associate deans will be announced later this week. There were great candidates, and the decisions made were difficult. There has been no change in the status of the potential UW Colleges and Wisconsin Technical Colleges System merger, stated the chancellor. She has met with one member of the State Assembly advisory group and is meeting with another; she continues to stress the individual missions of the institutions. Chancellor Sandeen then spoke to proposed legislation that would remove the current exception to the state’s concealed carry law that allows UW System to ban weapons in campus buildings. UWS President Cross and the chancellors are against the legislation. Chancellor Sandeen has asked UW Colleges’ deans to get in touch with local law enforcement for their opinions; student veterans have been asked their opinion, and a concern has been raised that it could exacerbate PTSD. Chancellor Sandeen concluded by noting that the agenda item on regionalized faculty is something that there are no plans for and never have been; regionalizing faculty has never been under consideration. Chair Hassel thanked the chancellor for clarifying her position on regionalizing faculty.
b. **Provost/Vice Chancellor Greg Lampe** reported that regional associate deans would be named later this week, possibly on Thursday, October 29. The provost agreed with Chancellor Sandeen’s earlier comment that the regional associate dean decisions had been difficult ones. He also noted that the regional deans had been involved in the decision making process. The Executive Director of Libraries will be announced early this week. The provost said next central office administration will begin to prepare for the regional director level searches: director of facilities, director of continuing education, and director of communications. More will be shared about those positions soon. Consolidated efforts continue to move forward; a report was given at the deans, associate deans, and chairs meeting on October 23 to update them on the Center for Academic Success and Engagement (CASE) and the Solution Center. He pointed out that the Solution Center is the local campus component dedicated to support students and that there is also a help desk which is located in Madison. Hence, being responsive to student questions and needs will be a coordinated effort between the campuses and the help desk in Madison. Provost Lampe reiterated that there has never been a plan to regionalize faculty; there are no plans to regionalize faculty positions.

c. **Senate Steering Committee Chair Holly Hassel** noted that she had sent out a written version of her report. She is working to set up the agenda for the Senate Leaders’ discussion on Friday, October 30. She met with the Institutional Assessment Coordinator Valerie Murrenus Pilmaier to develop a timeline to help the CACs with assessing regionalized leadership and consolidated services. Chair Hassel worked with the chair of the UW Stevens Point Faculty Council on a resolution around concealed carry. An institution specific one is on the agenda. A general one has been circulated to all faculty reps; there are some interested in signing a collective response and others are circulating their own resolutions, so SSC Chair Hassel expects a strong response.

d. Academic Staff Lead Senator Jeff Verona was not in attendance, but **Academic Staff Council member Melissa Smiley** reported in his stead. She related that the Council continues working on the 70% tripwire and divisor issue. At the November meeting ASPP #804 is expected to be approved to allow for any university staff who change their appointment to an academic staff appointment to retain certain rights. Chair Hassel added that the work on the 70% tripwire and divisor issues came out of comments at the September Senate meeting and involve a drop in pay if an IAS falls below 70%. The divisor is used to calculate salaries. Work is being done to develop a statement to send to the Chief Financial Officer and Provost.

e. **University Staff Lead Senator Juli McGuire** thanked Assistant Vice Chancellor for Human Resources Jason Beier for meeting with the University Staff and Academic Staff Councils to discuss position reductions to library staff for which notices recently went out. She also expressed her appreciation for the information organized in the newsletter sent out by Christa James-Byrnes. The University Staff Personnel Committee and Council Chair are meeting weekly to create a draft of a performance evaluation policy and form for the Council to review with HR and finalize other policies before the next Council meeting. The university staff’s layoff policy signed by the chancellor was not referenced in the letters to library staff, possibly due to conflicting language; this is being
addressed by the Council. US Lead Senator McGuire asked that anyone with professional development ideas send them to her. McGuire concluded by congratulating USC Senator Roseann Stenstrup who was recently named to the Academy for Leadership and Innovation Class IV (2016).

f. **SGC President Graham Pearce** reported that the SGC released a statement October 15 on the Campus Carry Act (shared with the UWC Senate). It followed statements from a number of other state student groups on this proposed legislation. SGC opposes the legislation, primarily because it politicizes an issue that is currently left up to the administrators to decide. They argued, SGC President Pearce said, that the administration has a non-partisan incentive to keep students on campus safe.

5. **Business**

a. **Examine travel required by policy, especially class visits, for affordability.** The issue was brought forth by Chair of Chairs Greg Ahrenhoerster who asked that travel issues in policy, especially class visits be examined in relation to departmental budgets. He noted that the visits for IAS could become very costly. The recent change in reimbursement rates for travel could bankrupt some departments, he said. He asked that it be made more clear that the visits do not have to be face to face. Julianna Alitto asked what percentage of the budget is spent on visits, Ahrenhoerster guessed at least 30% of the English budget. The Senate Budget Committee (SBC) will be charged with reviewing the relevant policies (IP #320 and FPP #501) and making recommendations as needed; SBC is to include an analysis of costs, percentage of the (old) current and percentage of potential new costs of travel.

b. **WisLine Anytime vs Skype for Business for SSC meetings.** Aside from the costs of WisLine Anytime calls, no information had been gathered on this topic. It is not known if there is a way for a person traveling, as Julianna Alitto was today, to join in a Skype meeting. It was determined that this item will be held for now.

c. **Review drop date deadline.** Chairs’ Rep Ahrenhoerster asked if there was a benefit to moving the drop deadline back a week. UW-Waukesha has their advising session a week after the drop deadline, and it is too late to advise dropping a course at that time. Provost Lampe said that he was not sure how the drop deadline was set or what guidelines might come into play. There was general consensus that the Senate Academic Policy Committee (SAPC) be asked to investigate the rationale behind the current drop deadline and look into possibly changing the deadline. The SAPC should confer with the UWC Controller LauraLynn Grigg, Bursar Poikseni Hyseni, and Registrar Larry Graves.

d. **Review of AAS Degree Reimagining Project timeline.** UWC Associate Degree and Curricular Reimagining Project Faculty Coordinator Caroline Geary explained that the timeline had been divided into two large phases. The first was basically how to fit into System policy, and the second phase would address items such as gaps in curriculum. She noted that the timeline will continue to be updated as the project continues. She reported that the Chairs had asked for a knowledgeable group to review their recommendations and provide feedback as the project continues. The SSC agreed that having a group to
provide feedback was a good idea. Chairs’ Rep Ahrenhoerster asked that any requests sent from the leadership team to the departments include clear guidelines and due dates. Faculty coordinator Geary indicated that the leadership team will continue to frame issues with questions, criteria, and models to vet. It was suggested that information from the AAS Degree Reimagining Project be sent out in advance of the February Senate meeting, and then a discussion at the meeting can occur to provide feedback. An endorsement vote can be on the April Senate agenda.

e. **Statement on regionalized faculty.** Provost Lampe again stated that the topic of regionalized faculty has not been raised. Regionalized curriculum has been discussed, but not regionalized faculty. It was questioned why one of the deans returning to a faculty position is moving to a different campus. Chair Hassel said that a dean’s contract notes that tenure is retained, not that campus affiliation is retained. Provost Lampe agreed with the statement. When the faculty/curriculum instrument was then questioned, the provost replied that the instrument was requested from the deans last February to justify positions on campuses by looking at workload and faculty capacity. It was pointed out that the tool had been mentioned as being used to start a conversation about transfer at the last Steering meeting. FPP #603 was brought up. It was discussed that the involvement of the departments had to be seen as a good thing. Agreement was reached that Chair Hassel will examine FPP #501 and #603 around split and joint appointments as well as campus reassignments and report back to Steering. Provost Lampe will ask Associate Vice Chancellor Foy to have the faculty capacity tool shared with the Senate Steering Committee.

f. **Statement on concealed carry on campus.** Melissa Smiley noted that the Academic Staff Council endorsed the resolution. One small amendment was suggested: removing the word “and” at the end of the last “whereas” statement. With general agreement, it was struck. The resolution was supported by unanimous vote [Hassel/Raunio]. SSC Chair Hassel will send it to state legislators, the governor, UW System, and the Board of Regents. Senate Assistant Linda Baum will post the resolution as appropriate.

g. **FPSC responses to charges from Steering: #320, 501.01, 501.02.** Faculty Professional Standards Committee had sent three policy changes and a selection of possible graphics to show necessary dates for the retention, tenure, promotion, and post-tenure review deadline dates. It was decided to place the three policy revisions on the Senate and Faculty Council agendas, and to discuss the choice of graphics at the next Steering meeting.

h. **Suggested revision of UWC Constitution Chapter 2.10; report from subcommittee.** Chair Hassel briefly went over the background of the proposed change and then noted the various changes. Motion to place the suggested amendment of the Constitution on the Senate agenda carried unanimously [Peterson/Raunio].

i. **SGC proposed changes to Senate Bylaws 7.2 and 7.6, appointments to SIITC and SIEC.** SGC President Pearce related that the reasons for the proposed changes to the Bylaws were in the rationale and came down to simplifying the process for the future and
staying in line with statute. It was unanimously agreed to place the item on the Senate agenda [Hassel/Kozma].

6. **Other Business.** There was no further business on the agenda.

7. **Adjournment.** The October 26, 2015 WisLine meeting of the UW Colleges Senate Steering Committee was adjourned at 10:19 a.m. by SSC Chair Holly Hassel at the conclusion of the agenda.

8. **Action Items**

   a. **Baum** will post the approved minutes of SSC #5 in appropriate electronic files.
   b. **Hassel** will send SSC minutes and chair report to senators and campus steering chairs.
   c. **Hassel** will charge the SBC with reviewing IP #320 and FPP #501 and making recommendations as needed; SBC should include an analysis of costs (percentage of the old/current vs. percentage of potential new costs of travel).
   d. **Hassel** will charge SAPC with investigating rationale behind drop deadline and looking into possibly moving the deadline later. Should confer with controller, bursar, and registrar on how/why deadline is set.
   e. **Hassel and Baum** will note Degree Reimagining time on February Senate schedule. Geary will make sure information is sent to senators well in advance of Feb. meeting to ensure good discussion and feedback. **Hassel and Baum** will place endorsement of reimagining on April Senate agenda.
   f. **Hassel** will examine FPP #501 and #603 regarding split and joint appointments and campus reassignment and report back November 13.
   g. **Lampe** will ask **Foy** to have faculty capacity tool shared with SSC.
   h. **Hassel** will circulate endorsed Concealed Carry Resolution. **Baum** will post as appropriate.
   i. **Hassel and Baum** will place IP #320 on the Senate agenda and FPP #501.01 and 501.02 on the Faculty Council agenda.
   j. **Hassel and Baum** will place possible tables for deadline dates on November 13 SSC agenda.
   k. **Hassel and Baum** will place proposed amendment of UWC Constitution Chapter 2.10 on the Senate agenda.
   l. **Hassel and Baum** will place proposed revision of Senate Bylaws (SIITC and SIEC) on the Senate agenda.