



## **2012-13 University of Wisconsin System Council of Academic Staff Representatives Friday, September 20, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

### **Attendees:**

Katie Wilson, UW-Eau Claire  
Kristy Aoki, UW-Green Bay  
Joshua Rybaski, UW-La Crosse  
Kevin Niemi, UW-Madison  
Kathleen Koch, UW-Milwaukee  
Victor Alatorre, UW-Oshkosh  
Alfredo Sandoval Flores, UW-Parkside  
Andrea Cool, UW-Platteville  
Michael Martin, UW-River Falls  
Mike Pagel, UW-Stevens Point  
Jerry Addie, UW-Stout  
Lynne Williams, UW-Superior  
Patty Fragola, UW-Whitewater  
Danielle Dickson, UW Colleges Online  
Tom Culviner, UW-Extension  
Sal Carranza, UW System Administration  
Kevin Reilly, President, UW System  
Mark Nook, Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, UWSA  
David Miller, Senior Vice President for Administration and Fiscal Affairs, UWSA  
Stephen Kolison, Associate VP, UWSA Academic, Faculty, & Global Programs  
Dave Giroux, Executive Director, UWSA Communications & External Relations  
Margo Lessard, Senior Special Assistant for Human Resources & Workforce Diversity  
Carmen Faymonville, Academic Planner, UWSA Academic & Student Affairs  
Bob Jokisch, Special Assistant, UWSA Academic & Student Affairs

The Joint Session of the Academic Staff and Faculty Representatives with UW System Administration staff began with introductions of new academic staff and faculty representatives. Kevin Reilly, President, and Mark Nook, Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs then discussed Future Legislative Communications Strategies and UW Shared Governance. President Reilly noted that at the Board of Regents Common Ground Conference on Thursday, September 5, Assembly Speaker Robin Vos stated that he has asked workgroups to look at the issue of shared governance. Vos noted concerns that shared governance slows everything down and there is interest in giving Chancellors more flexibility to move more quickly. Vos also raised other issues:

- Teaching workload
- Diversity of curriculum, which is part of the national dialogue
- Board structure and membership

- Job readiness

The legislative working group has not produced a report, so there isn't anything to respond to yet. However, there have been discussions with Chancellors about strategy on these issues. They have compiled examples of the positive benefits of shared governance. In addition, there are plans for a group including Regents, Chancellors, Faculty Representatives, and System Administration staff to meet with Speaker Vos to find out where this is going.

On faculty workload, it is always a challenge to explain that more is involved than time in the classroom. It was noted that this is similar to other occupations, including legislators. Speaker Vos has asked for information on workloads by campus. Faculty Representatives suggested comparison with peer institutions and also noted that it is important to look at multiple semesters because there are changes from one semester to the next. President Reilly noted that Chancellors were asked to prepare information on individuals with unusual workloads.

Regarding legislative strategies, President Reilly noted that the Governors' Budget was very positive for the UW System. This changed with the cash balances issue. President Reilly noted that balances were publicly discussed at Board meetings and the balances were reflected in financial statements signed by the Legislative Audit Bureau. The plan now is to limit balances to 15% of budget with allowing more if plans in place are approved.

In addition on legislative strategies, President Reilly noted that some restructuring is going on internally, with the plan to bring in more people with contacts with legislators and to build relationships around trust and transparency. Regent contacts with legislators are important, and Margaret Farrow and Jan Mueller can play an important role there. Finally, campus staff also play an important role in dealing with legislators.

On the Presidential Search, Margo Lessard noted that they will follow a two committee structure format similar to searches for chancellors. The Search and Screen Committee is chaired by Regent Milner and is comprised of Regents, former Regents, a chancellor, provost, an academic staff, two faculty, a classified staff member, and a student. The Regent Selection Committee is comprised of six regents and chaired by Regent Falbo. The timeline is as follows:

- A search firm familiar with UW System has been hired
- Advertisements for the position will be posted next week
- Target application deadline is November 15
- Search firm will be working to encourage people to apply
- In mid-December, 10-12 semifinalists will be interviewed
- 5 finalists will be interviewed in early January, including video interviews with chancellors
- Early January decision with starting date to be determined

The issue of getting candidates to campuses was raised, but this is difficult with time constraints. The concern was also raised with insuring candidates understand that the UW System is more than just UW-Madison. Margo Lessard noted the person they are working with on the Search Firm is a former head of System. Strong candidates will need to understand the UW System. Margo noted that nominations are welcome, and her office will share link to Presidential Search web site when it is live. The presidential search website is: <http://www.uwsa.edu/presidential-search/>

Senior Vice President David Miller then provided an update on the UW Budget and Program Revenue Balances:

- While the overall UW System budget is only cut \$2 million from the previous year, the total of cuts and lapses is \$202 million because of the complexity of the budget.
- In the Governor's budget, there was a \$181 million increase in the biennium. However, \$152 million covered fixed cost increases, such as \$57.3 million for debt service. The UW System still has to pay the tuition share of fixed costs despite freeze, in addition to \$58.3 million to HEAB for financial aid.
- The next biennium will be a real challenge. \$32 million of the base cut is ongoing and we won't be able to cover that out of balances. In addition, the budget includes \$62 million in ongoing unfunded liabilities. This has been discussed with the Board of Regents and the Chancellors.
- The UW System has to report to the Legislature on Balances. The report will focus on four areas – tuition, auxiliaries, general operations, and other unrestricted program revenue. Systemwide funds are being drawn down for one time lapses. A chancellors' working group will look at what should be held centrally; a major area is veterans' remissions. The UW System is proposing a 15% reporting threshold to Board; this is not a cap.
- Also have to report to Legislature on GPR/Fee allocations.
- David Miller also noted that the UW System needs to explain the difference between two sets of tuition - tuition from additional students, which was the source of program revenue balances, and tuition increases, which was not.

Mark Nook then provided an update on Board of Regents meetings. He noted that the Board of Regents Education Committee priorities are:

- Faculty Workload
- Quality of Education
- Compensation

In October, there will be presentations on Accountability and Remedial Education. For Remedial Education, there will be a call for a study, to take a deep look at remediation.

Senior Vice President Mark Nook noted that there will be regular updates on legislative relations, presidential search, shared governance, and legislative strategies at these meetings.