

NOTES from the MEETING OF THE COMBINED SENATES
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-STOUT
APRIL 24, 2007
BALLROOM C
2:30-5:00 P.M.

Forrest Schultz, Faculty Senate Chair, welcomed everyone at 2:35 p.m.

I. Chancellor's Report – no report.

II. Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs' Report

- A. Title III – Summer Institute (Jane Henderson) – Jane Henderson, Assessment and LTS, explained that the Title III Grant was awarded to UW-Stout in October of 2004 by the Department of Education. The two primary goals for the campus for this five-year grant are to improve retention and graduation rates through student services and faculty development, and to establish and implement a system to assess student learning outcomes in order to allow the institution to make valid curricular decisions and systematically improve the teaching and learning process. Henderson gave an overview of each of the areas of the Grant and noted that the campus was on target with improving its retention and graduation rates. The Grant-sponsored events have been well attended, with 1,764 undergraduate students and 281 faculty/staff. Students have indicated that they were influenced by Title III activities, especially with their level of knowledge of career possibilities with a Stout education. Faculty/staff indicate they have been influenced by workshops, increased knowledge of new classroom tools used to enhance student learning, new teaching techniques, and the opportunity for travel.
- B. UW-Stout Teaching and Learning Center Activities – Henderson publicly thanked Anne Hoel, Interim Director, noting her passion and energy with the program, and gave an overview of the activities that have happened or will happen this spring. Several faculty development sessions have been given and a “Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (STOL) Conference will be held on May 23. Henderson noted that new instructor workshops will continue to be held, retention rates of new instructors analyzed, and that the Engagement Survey will be made public in the future.

- III. Vice Chancellor for Administrative and Student Life Services' Report – Vice Chancellor Moen distributed an “Administrative Briefing on Summer Projects” to the group and explained that the functions of purchasing, vendor maintenance, accounts payable, general ledger, financial reporting, and asset management will convert to PeopleSoft between July-September 2007. Several budget requests from Stout are currently being reviewed by the Joint Finance Committee, including the Harvey Theatre Project; Price Commons 2nd floor renovation; UW-Stout's DIN for Nanotechnology, Computer & Electrical Engineering, Polymer Engineering, Biotechnology; the Teacher Education Supplement; and the Recruitment & Retention Funds. She noted that these projects still need action by the Senate, Assembly, and the Governor (who can veto all or part of them). It is hoped that the budget decisions will be finalized by July 1. Moen reported that the Strategic Planning Group's summer Retreat will be two-half days on July 23 and 24 and agenda items include enrollment management and program alignment. She also gave an overview of the many campus projects and timelines that are scheduled during the summer, including the Walms Survey that is documenting asbestos on campus, storm water management to reduce the articulate in run-offs from roofs and sidewalks, replacing steps and doors of Harvey Hall, replacing windows at the LST House, and many roof replacements. The state has a certain pot of money for all agency projects, she explained, and all of the UW-System campuses compete for these funds. The Campus Master Plan is where UW-System is requiring each campus to contract with an outside consultant, who will come in and talk to people about space issues. Next fall, the firm will submit suggestions on how to improve and/or how to resolve the issues and could also be used to convince the state that the campus needs new buildings.

IV. Other Announcements & Information

- A. Polytechnic Update - Faculty Senate Chair Schultz explained that Doug Mell serves on the Polytechnic Marketing Team and asked him to give an update. He noted that there is also a long-standing committee that provides long-range direction and planning regarding polytechnic on campus. Mell reported that the Chancellor hired a marketing consultant and a plan should be drafted by June, which would hopefully be implemented in August. The article, "[Frequently Asked Questions About the Polytechnic Designation](#)" has been placed on the Polytechnic website to help answer basic questions people might have and would be distributed with Stout's admission material this fall. Chair Schultz noted that he also sits on the Marketing Committee and its motive is to ensure that communication was getting out. He encouraged anyone who had any questions to contact him, Mell, or any of the other members. Mell added that his e-mail address was on the website and he invited people to send him any questions or concerns.
- B. Janice Coker, Associate Vice Chancellor, reminded everyone that the AQIP open forums would be held on April 25 at 11:00 a.m. and April 26 at 2:30 p.m. in preparation for the AQIP visit on May 2-4.
- C. Dennis Shaw announced that there will be a Senate Social from 2:30-3:15 p.m. on May 8 to celebrate the completion of a good governance year. Administrators and SSA officers were also invited to attend. At 3:15 p.m., each Senate will break into their last Business Meetings of the year.

MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
APRIL 24, 2007
BALLROOM C – (Following Meeting of the Combined Senates)

ATTENDANCE:

CHAIR: Forrest Schultz
VICE CHAIR: Len Bogner

SECRETARY: Anne Hoel
PAST CHAIR: Steve Schlough

PRESENT: T. Allen, P. Calenberg, K. Carlson, S. Cole, K. Doll, J. Dzissah, B. Flom, P. Ghenciu, D. Homa, R. Howarton, T. Karis, A. Kirby, M. Miller-Rodeberg, S. Nold, R. Nyland, C. Rohrer, A. Scott, J. Taylor, S. Terry, J. Watts

EXCUSED: B. Anderson, B. Bergquist, T. Brantmeier, K. McDonald, G. Neidermyer, R. Qalyoubi-Kemp, L. Stradins, R. Teleb, G. Wheeler

- I. Call to Order – 3:10 p.m.
- II. Announcements and Information
 - A. Chair Schultz reminded everyone of the Senate Reception scheduled for 2:30 p.m. on Friday, May 8.
 - B. Vice Chair Bogner announced that there will be an Orientation for New Senators on May 11 from 1:00-2:00 p.m. in the White Pine room, where he will give an overview of Chapter 36, Faculty Senate Bylaws, Open Meeting Law, and Simplified Parliamentary Procedure.
 - C. Steve Schlough announced that after serving many years on both Senates, he will be taking a few years off.
- III. Minutes of April 10, 2007 (Attachment 1)
 - Motion: Bogner/Cole moved to approve the Minutes of April 10, 2007.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Alignment Committee – Vice Chair Bogner explained that he e-mailed Senators a list of “Overarching Alignment Principles.” An added third priority, “Faculty Participation,” was added after the committee received much feedback recommending that the realignment process and final model should have the consent of the Faculty Senate. Vice Chair Bogner said that he would like the document endorsed by the Faculty Senate prior to his meeting with Associate Vice Chancellor Coker on April 27.**

Motion: Schlough/Carlson moved to endorse the list of “Overarching Alignment Principles” and to bold 3.C.

Discussion ensued and focused on how some models could change the role of department chair and collective bargaining. Allen explained that if the collective bargaining issue passed, Wisconsin’s faculty and academic staff would have the same legislation as the neighboring states of Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois. It would not provide a union, but would give the faculty/academic staff an opportunity to choose. Some campuses would move forward to embrace the new legislation and others may hold back. Ultimately the big decision would be where to cut the lines on management and labor—especially where the department would chairs, deans, and program directors would fall under this system? Additionally, many freedoms the faculty/academic staff currently enjoy would not be available under collective bargaining, as the language would be tighter and more restrictive. Office hours could be specifically spelled out. The dilemma would be in the details and where the lines would be drawn, as there could be several unions competing for faculty and staff to join. The Governor had it in his budget, but people in the Joint Finance Committee removed it, so they could deal with separate pieces of legislation. Allen said that he felt the current process of selecting the department chairs by their peers and being appointed by the deans should be protected. The department chairs have a dual responsibility--to represent and advocate for their peers and to represent the administration, and it’s a challenging role to walk that type of tightrope. Allen concluded by encouraging Senators not to give that up these positions in lieu of collective bargaining.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

Vice Chair Bogner thanked Steve Nold and Julianne Taylor for helping him with the process.

- B. University Priorities – Vice Chair Bogner explained that the top two priorities were “workload” and “defining the campus role in polytechnic” and smaller priorities were still being formed. By May 8, the Faculty Senate will have an opportunity to vote on the action items before they are brought to the Chancellor’s Summer Retreat. Schlough cautioned the group to be careful when discussing and defining workload. Much discussion ensued regarding workload and how to define service, teaching, and research, and the dilemma defining a 12-credit teaching load. Other issues discussed included the increasing class sizes, how using D2L creates increased workload, how the additional work applies pressure on the faculty’s’ time, so jobs are taking longer than what they are getting paid for (what formerly took 40 hours now takes 60 hours), and the responsibility the department chair has in monitoring and balancing everything.**
- C. Planning and Review Committee (Brian Finder; Attachment 2) – for information.**
- D. Financial Committee (Steve Terry) – Senator Terry reported for Gene Ruenger and asked the Senators permission to continue the Finance Committee. The group met several times during the year and plans on forming the committee’s purpose, especially regarding finance matters that the Faculty Senate would like more input on. Administration could also use the committee to help give input on resource activities. It is hoped that they would have better direction with a new chair and would look to the Faculty Senate for its charges. Schlough said that he would like the group to review the budget book data that says that the campus is short by 15 faculty positions. Terry replied that the committee could examine this and other types of concerns.**
- E. Other**
- 1. Workload - Chair Schultz noted that the Faculty Senate needed to finalize some sort**

of fair Workload Policy. It is hoped that PPC would forward something for action on May 8 that would recognize that Stout was based on a 12-credit load. After that, workload would be decided upon by the colleges/school and departments. Allen noted that the state tends to get concerned about position control where there is growth in overloads. The university always has people leaving, either by retiring or transferring elsewhere. Some years, this is a concern and other years, not so much. When position control is tight, how do you send someone to teach WinTerM classes or other innovative things that serve specific populations? When other faculty are fully assigned, where do these other job assignments come from? Carlson noted that some people feel they must do extra things, even it means they feel maxed out and overloaded, so they can get promoted. Schlough said that he felt that the department was the only place to balance the people, and that it's the responsibility of the department chair for managing that. Schultz agreed and added that there were some unofficial things going on in other departments on campus that should be departmental decisions.

V. Old Business

A. Other

VI. New Business

A. Elect Faculty Representatives to University Committees (Ballots will be brought to the meeting) – Past Chair Schlough distributed ballots to Senators.

B. One-Minute Governance Evaluation (Forrest Schultz; Attachment 3) – Chair Schultz explained that the document was sent out for feedback and asked the Senators if the review should still be done, or if they would like to see something different.

Watts suggested making two separate sub-questions for Questions Number 2 and 3. Cole suggested giving it to a subcommittee to analyze and give input. Allen said that the wording could read “university committees,” or to highlight the questions with bullets to clearly separate each item in Question 1, and to replicate that structure for the other questions. More discussion ensued. Chair Schultz said that the Faculty Senate was only asked to endorse this document.

Motion: Schlough/Watts moved that the Faculty Senate endorse the One-Minute Governance Evaluation, and to follow the same format of Question #1, where senate and standing committees are split.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

C. Recommendations for Improvements in Leave Reporting (Forrest Schultz; Attachment 4) Chair Schultz explained that there were a couple of key policy changes that were proposed, and UW-System President Kevin Reilly would like any recommendations by May 15. Wayne Argo explained that the first section clarifies current policy. However, the second recommendation could create areas for important faculty/academic staff discussions, as it indicates a deadline for submission of the current month's leave report to the Payroll Office by the 10th of the next month. For individuals that don't submit a leave usage report, no sick leave would be accrued for that month. Leave reporting would be on an hour-for-hour basis, which is consistent with the requirements of the state and federal Family and Medical Leave Acts. If you miss an hour, it would need to be put down, Argo clarified. The section also talks about sabbaticals, and sick leave would not be incurred when on sabbatical. In the past, the person was in-pay status and it was accrued. Much discussion ensued and focused on erosion of faculty/staff rights, how the request was not unreasonable since tax payers pay for these benefits, and the cost of health insurance premiums after retirement.

Chair Schultz asked Senators to get feedback from their constituents, as President Reilly wanted recommendations by May 16. He noted that it would be discussed further during the May 8 Faculty Senate Meeting. Recommendations for Section Number III, which evaluates the continued need for colleague coverage as a benefit to students when staff are absent from teaching responsibilities, will be due on October 31, 2007.

D. Senate of Academic Staff Marshal Request (Forrest Schultz; Attachment 5) – Chair Schultz explained that the request came from Dennis Shaw, Chair of the Senate of Academic Staff,

and asks for one Marshal position to be dedicated to academic staff. Schlough noted that academic staff were already provided for in the guidelines and have served in the past as Assistant Marshals. Cole suggested referring the request to EAC. Discussion ensued regarding that academic staff were all ready given an opportunity to serve according to the guidelines and the policy shouldn't be changed.

Motion: Cole/Schlough moved to send the Senate of Academic Staff Marshal Request to the Educational Activities Committee for review and feedback.

Vote: Passed with 1 opposed.

E. Other – Chair Schultz said that the Chancellor requested a Faculty Senate representative sit on the Search Committee for the Vice Chancellor for University Advancement and Communications. The person should be available to meet during the summer. Schultz asked Joy to send an e-mail to Senators and if no one volunteered, he could serve.

VII. Adjournment – 4:45 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Hoel, Secretary

Recorded and prepared by,
Joy Evenson