

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-STOUT

SENATE OF THE ACADEMIC STAFF

MINUTES

September 3, 2008

ATTENDANCE

CHAIR: Dennis Shaw

SECRETARY: Robin Muza

PRESENT: Jerry Addie, Wayne Argo, Emily Ascher, Todd Burns, Judy Gifford, Susan Greene, Cheryl Jones, John Lui, Doug Mell, Debra Mosey, Heidi Rabeneck, Amy Riddle Swanson, Lesley Voigt, Marya Wilson and Sheri Yadgir. Guests: Chancellor Sorenson, Provost Furst-Bowe, Vice Chancellor Moen, Dan Riordan and Meridith Wentz..

ABSENT: Tracey DeRusha (excused), Bhaskar Gaddam

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was call to order by Chair Shaw at 3:30 p.m.
- II. **Chancellor's Report:** Reported the university is off to a good year. Enrollment figures are high and fundraising has been good. State Budget is still uncertain.
- III. **Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs' Report:** Provost Furst-Bowe reported that the freshmen enrollment for this year is the second highest ever. Also reported that graduate and international student enrollment is up with transfers holding steady. Eight new degree programs are in process.
- IV. **Vice Chancellor for Administrative and Student Life Services' Report:** Vice Chancellor Moen reported that system is changing processes in University Insurance Reports and Community Shares Program (more electronic e-mails). 2015 Listening invitations will be in the mail soon. Vice Chancellor Moen stressed the need to attend and reminded the senate that the September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting is with the academic senate. The Jarvis Hall project is underway and the state has funded the Harvey Hall Theatre renovation as well as the Bowman Hall Welcome Center. Also reported received permission to construct for the Hovlid renovation. The Memorial Student Center project needs to be approved by the Student Association before moving forward.
- V. **Recommendations for Action from the Retention Committee:** Dan Riordan reported the findings from the Retention Committee. The full report can be found at <http://www.uwstout.edu/provost/rc/final.pdf>. Conclusions from the committee included:
  - a. UW-Stout needs a culture that is engaging, "signature" experience for all freshmen student.
  - b. In order to improve retention, efforts have to be made by all groups involved with Freshmen. Solving the retention problem is a holistic undertaking. No single activity or intervention will make a significant difference in the numbers of students who leave Stout, especially those who leave in good standing. Furthermore, the work of raising the retention rate is a multi-year endeavor. Recommendations were: set 80% goal for 2013-2014; appoint a campus-wide facilitator, pursue action in the following areas of campus culture, academic challenge, communication, academic programs and admissions.
- VI. **Proposed Changes to Positive Action Hearing:** Wayne Argo gave background on the proposed changes. Reported that the change would keep hearing within a reasonable timeframe.
- VII. **Request Revision to UW-Stout Policy 04-63:** Meridith Wentz gave background for the proposed revision and shared the changes.

- VIII. Announcements and Information:** Chair Shaw welcomed new and returning senators. Introductions were made. Chair Shaw announced that the SAS Meeting schedule and membership for 2008-2009 are located on D2L. Simplified Parliamentary Procedures and Open Meeting Law are also found on the D2L site. Chair Shaw discussed the responsibilities of senators which included listening to information and talking to colleagues and talking to constituents. Senator Addie added being a senator means giving time and encouraged senators to be part of standing committees. Chair Shaw asked the senate if they wished a list of their constituents for a list serve. Consensus was that would be helpful. Chair Shaw indicated that his office hours would be the same as last year – 8-10 Mondays and 10-12 Thursdays. Individuals can also email or call. Also informed the senate that the Dean’s Evaluations Report data is available in the senate’s office for those interested.
- IX. Approval of Minutes of July 23, 2008: Motion made for approval by Senator Rabeneck and seconded by Senator Yadgir.** No correction. Minutes approved by the senate.
- X. Reports** (Note: Most committees did not meet in the Summer): Chair Shaw reported the blog is working well. Senator Addie reported that ESURC has met and is implementing revisions to procedures. Wayne Argo recommended needed individuals to review the Handbook.
- XI. Old Business:**
- A. Approval of Officers: Chair is an elected position. Chair Shaw asked the senate for approval for Vice Chair – Senator Addie and Secretary – Senator Muza. **Motion for approval by Senator Burns and seconded by Senator Yadgir.** Motion approved.
- B. Approval of Nomination for Senator from College of Management: Chair Shaw presented to the senate the nomination of Marya Wilson. Senator Wilson’s term will be for one year and then there will be an election for a 2 year term. Senator Yadgir term has been extended to a 2 year term. **Motion for approval by Senator Muza and seconded by Senator Rabeneck.** Motion approved.
- C. Request Revision to UW-Stout Policy 04-63 (attachment from July meeting). Tabled to give senators time to talk with colleagues. **Motion by Senator Gifford and seconded by Senator Burns.** Motion approved.
- D. Proposed Changes to Positive Action Hearing Guidelines (attachment for July meeting). Tabled. **Motion by Senator Riddle-Swanson and seconded by Senator Yadgir.** Motion approved.
- XII. New Business:**
- A. Recommendations for Action from the Retention Committee (attachment) – will be discussed at the next meeting.
- B. Approval of Committee Appointments. **Motion for approval by Senator Muza and seconded by Senator Lui.** Motion approved. Appointment may be found on the D2L site. Chair Shaw shared with the Senate those Committees that still have vacancies.
- C. Setting Senate Goals for 2008-2009. Chair Shaw encourages the senate to begin to think about what we want to accomplish this year.
- XIII. Adjournment – 4:45 p.m.**

Next meeting September 17, 2008 – University Priority Listening Session for Senate of Academic Staff, 3:30 – 4:45 p.m. in the Northwoods Room of the Memorial Student Center. Senate of Academic Staff Executive Committee immediately follows in the Northwoods Room.