



Minutes of the UWRF Faculty Senate for November 15, 2006

Vol. 31 No. 11.

Representation	Term Expires 2007	Term Expires 2008	Term Expires 2009
<i>CAFES</i>	Bob Baker	Laine Vignona	
<i>CAS</i>	Wes Chapin	Patricia Berg	Peter Johansson
	Larry Harred	John Heppen	
	Barbara Werner		
<i>COEPS</i>		Ogden Rogers	Michael Miller
<i>CBE</i>			Glenn Potts
<i>4th Division</i>	Cara Rubis	Gregg Heinselmann	Sarah Egerstrom (Mark Meydam)
		Brenda Boetel (Jr)**	Melissa Wilson (Jr)
<i>At Large</i>	Karl Peterson (Jr)	Dawn Hukai (Sr)	David Rainville (Sr)
	Nan Jordahl (Sr)		Terry Ferriss (Sr)
	Charlie Hurt*		

* Chancellor's Designee

** Absent

() Substitute

Call to Order: W. Chapin called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m in the Regents Room of the Student Center.

Seating of Substitutes: Mark Meydam for Sarah Egerstrom

Guests: Brent Greene, Meg Swanson, Don Betz,

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of November 8, 2006 were approved as corrected by general consent.

Chair's Report:

- Wes Chapin announced that there would be a recess if there was no objection in order to have the Faculty Senate's picture taken with the Chancellor.
- Wes Chapin reported that there has been communication with Madison about the health insurance issue.
- Charlie Hurt and Ian Williams of the General Education Committee have met to work on fixing the senior capstone course situation and the Multi-Disciplinary

courses issue. More senior capstone courses are being offered and will be online shortly.

- At the regents meeting in Madison, President Reilly thanked UWRF and the Faculty Senate. President Reilly believes that the UW System helped elect and un-elect officials.
- There are two pay plan requests before the regents. One for 2 years and another for 4 years.
- Student Senate is receptive to sharing a Program Assistant with the Faculty Senate.

Other Reports:

Brent Greene from the Office of International Programs and Meg Swanson from the International Programs Committee reported on their activities. At the Regent's meeting, the Regents were interested in learning more about UWRF's international programs. A goal for International Programs is to increase the number of UWRF students studying abroad and to increase the number of international students studying at UWRF. They also reported that UWRF needs a better support system for international students studying at UWRF.

Unfinished Business: none

New Business:

Proposal 1: Second reading of a joint motion from General Education and Academic Program and Policy Committees to amend Section A.4 and Section K.2.g of Article III Standing Committees of 3.3 Faculty Bylaws in Chapter III Organization of the Faculty and Staff of the *UW-River Falls Faculty/Academic Staff Handbook*. Barbara Werner moved and David Rainville seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 20 yes and 1 abstention.

Proposal 2: Second reading of a motion from the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. The University of Wisconsin–River Falls Senate recommends that the Board of Regents adopts a comprehensive policy requiring that all UW institutions conduct criminal background checks on new hires, and that each institution shall use its governance process to adopt criminal background check implementation policies and procedures, and that each institution will submit its plan to the UW System General Counsel and UW System Office of Human Resources for review and approval. Barbara Werner moved and Peter Johansson seconded the motion. Barbara Werner offered a Friendly Amendment to insert if between that and the in line 1 to read “. . .that if the Board of Regents. . .”. The amendment was then withdrawn. Questions were asked about the implications of approving the motion and does the Faculty Senate want to recommend an adoption of criminal background checks. Glenn Potts replied that criminal background checks are

already applied to certain employees of UWRF currently and the intention of the motion was to state that governance needs to be involved if criminal background checks are applied to all employees. Wes Chapin stated that this is an attempt by the UWRF senate and other UW senates to interject shared governance in the process. Barbara Werner offered a Friendly Amendment to insert if between that and the in line 1 to read “. . .that if the Board of Regents. . .” and to delete and that with then in line 4 to read “. . .on new hires, then each institution shall. . .”. There were not objections. Barbara Werner offered a Friendly Amendment to insert This is in no way advocating the passage of the Background Check Policy by the Regents at the end of the motion. There was no objection. The motion with amendments read **The University of Wisconsin–River Falls Senate recommends that if the Board of Regents adopts a comprehensive policy requiring that all UW institutions conduct criminal background checks on new hires, then each institution shall use its governance process to adopt criminal background check implementation policies and procedures, and that each institution will submit its plan to the UW System General Counsel and UW System Office of Human Resources for review and approval. This is in no way advocating the passage of the Background Check Policy by the Regents.** The motion passed by a vote of 17 yes, 2 no and 1 abstention.

Proposal 3: Second reading of a motion from Faculty Welfare and Personnel Policies Committee to incorporate the Committee’s recommended revisions into the final draft of the campus Criminal Background Check policy. Wes Chapin announced that the words “encouraging the Human Resources unit at UW-RF” were being deleted from the motion as stated in the agenda if there was no objection. No objection was raised. Barbara Werner moved and Glenn Potts seconded the motion. Glenn Potts spoke to the issue and explained the changes in the motion. Peter Johansson asked which candidates are subject to a background check. Glenn Potts replied that the final 3-4 candidates will be subject to criminal background checks. Wes Chapin stated that every campus has been asked to forward a policy. Terry Ferriss asked about the appeal process. It was replied that appeals will go to the Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration and that the Provost will keep to Academic issues only. B Werner asked about the credit check and G Potts replied that for hiring Department Chairs it would be necessary. L Harred asked how long it would take and G Potts replied 2 to 3 days. Questions were asked about the appropriateness of the motion and concerns were stated regarding the content of the measure, but not the process of shared governance. Questions were asked why the Faculty Senate was considering this motion and if it mattered. Wes Chapin replied that a policy concerning criminal background checks was going forward and the FWPP respond with a middle-ground policy that ensured governance input. The motion passed by a vote of 18 yes 1 no and 1 abstention.

Proposal 4: First reading of a motion from the University Curriculum Committee to recommend changes to the Faculty Senate By-Laws and to renumber/re-letter subsequent committee descriptions appropriately.

Proposal 5: First reading of a motion from the Executive Committee to recommend approval of the revised UWS-7.

Proposal 6: A motion from the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to recommend approval of the initiatives and tasks developed by the senate's ad hoc strategic planning working groups was made by Bob Baker and seconded by Greg Heinselman. The motion passed by with 19 yes votes and 0 no votes and 0 abstentions.

Discussion of Strategic Planning Prioritization: Wes Chapin reported that the prioritization committee will meet on November 27, 2006 and be comprised of the Chancellor, the Provost, the Vice- Chancellor for Administration and Finance, Mary Foster, Alan Tuchtenhagen and the five members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Terry Ferriss and Peter Johansson asked about the involvement of the Deans in the prioritization process. Charlie Hurt replied that this will not be the end point of the process, that the goal of the prioritization will be to have the support of all ten individuals and that the Executive Committee will report back to the Faculty Senate.

New Business Miscellaneous: None

Adjournment: Barbara Werner moved to adjourn at 5:06 pm and John Heppen seconded. The motion passed by general consent.