

Minutes – Recruitment, Admissions, and Retention Committee
December 1, 2006

Attendees: D. Leake, N. Shonoiki, D. Trechter, A. Olson, K. Tjournehoj, A Tuchtenhagen, S. Egerstrom, D. Marchand, M. Brennan

L. Schneider-Rebozzo,

1. Review/Approve Minutes from November 17, 2006 – minutes, as amended, approved.
2. Consider roles of Enrollment Management and Recruitment, Admission, Retention Committee – can the two committees be merged?

Enrollment Mgmt committee has gotten very large, membership goes beyond the description in the Handbook. It started out as a means of thinking about enrollment targets, but has morphed more into issues of retention. Difference between Enrollment and RAR has to do with the vagaries of shared governance – what is policy versus what is administrative. Talking about enrollment needs input from key managers (Deans, Financial Aid, Registrar, Admissions, etc.).

This Committee has a difficult time finding a meeting time, what would happen if we had an even larger committee? Faculty committees have often been created in response to administrative actions that they take. Leake and Tjournehoj voiced support for primarily focusing the RAR on retention issues. Leake notes that in committees in which deans and the provost sit, faculty don't have much voice/power. Concern was voiced that administrative committees become "work-arounds" of faculty senate committees; a means of avoiding having to work with Senate Committees.

D. Trechter asked, "Would a merged committee need to have all of the people currently involved in enrollment management committee (e.g. do all the deans need to be on it)?" S. Egerstrom, notes that Enrollment management committee tends to be more of an action-decision making committee, not a policy-making committee. To do this, need to have key decision makers at the table. A. Tuchtenhagen noted that Enrollment Mgmt Cmte hasn't met this year but a whole series of meetings have been held to address specific issues (e.g. how to deal with registering international students). A. Tuchtenhagen, "Shared governance isn't shared management?" D. Trechter notes that it is very difficult, often, to draw a clear line between what is management and what is policy and if this takes place outside of the governance process, the institution of shared governance is undermined. D. Leake notes that the charge of this committee is largely an oversight/advisory/policy making body and can't really be sufficiently responsive to the managerial decisions that have to be made. A. Tuchtenhagen, notes that at Enrollment Mgmt committee, faculty senate chairs are in presence and therefore gets the shared governance voice into the process.

Motion. The RAR suggests that UW-River Falls maintain both the RAR and Enrollment Management Committees. The composition of the Enrollment Management and its charge should be updated because its composition in the Handbook does not represent the actual composition of the committee.

Postponed.

3. Other – International Students

Motion (Olson, Tjornehoj)– If UW-River Falls is to be an attractive place for international students to come to college, the campus needs to provide needed services once they arrive. Currently there are limits on the availability of tutoring and no note taking assistance for international students or students' whose first language is not English. Both of these services may be needed if these students are to be retained and successful at UW-River Falls. The RAR Committee is not aware of anywhere on campus where such services are currently available and we would like to encourage the appropriate Strategic Planning task force to address this issue.

Motion passed.