Minutes of the UWRF Faculty Senate for February 17, 2011, Volume 35, Number 10

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<th>Representation</th>
<th>Term Expires 2011</th>
<th>Term Expires 2012</th>
<th>Term Expires 2013</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CAFES</strong></td>
<td>Laine Vignona</td>
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<td>Michael Middleton</td>
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<td><strong>CAS</strong></td>
<td>Patricia Berg* (Jane Harred) John Heppen Jennifer Willis-Rivera* (Robin Murray)</td>
<td>David Rainville*</td>
<td>James Madsen Brad Mogen</td>
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<td><strong>CEPS</strong></td>
<td>Hilary Pollack</td>
<td>Todd A. Savage</td>
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<td><strong>CBE</strong></td>
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<td>Hossein Najafi* (John R. Walker)</td>
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<td><strong>4th Division</strong></td>
<td>Valerie Malzacher* (Maureen Olle-LaJoie)</td>
<td>Barbara Stinson* (Gretchen Link)</td>
<td>Kristie Feist* (Michelle McKnelly) Ashley Olson</td>
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<td><strong>At-Large</strong></td>
<td>Dennis Cooper* (Kris Hiney) Kathleen Hunzer* (Laura Zlogar)</td>
<td>Dawn Hukai Robyne Tiedeman* Marshall Toman</td>
<td>Wes Chapin Stephen Reed</td>
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<td><strong>Chancellor's Designee</strong></td>
<td>Fernando Delgado*</td>
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* Absent  () Substitute

Agenda, February 17, 2011

Call to Order: 11:00 a.m., Willow River Room, UC

1. Seating of Substitutes
   - Jane Harred for Patricia Berg
   - Kris Hiney for Dennis Cooper
   - Michelle McKnelly for Kristie Feist
   - Laura Zlogar for Kathleen Hunzer
   - Maureen Olle-LaJoie for Valerie Malzacher
   - John R. Walker for Hossein Najafie
A motion to approve the seating of substitutes was made by Dawn Hukai; it was seconded by Michael Middleton. The motion carried unanimously (16 of 16 voting members present at this point in the meeting).

2. Approval of the minutes from the February 2, 2011 meeting of the Faculty Senate

The minutes of the February 2, 2011 Faculty Senate meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dawn Hukai; it was seconded by Michael Middleton. John Heppen then made a motion to postpone the approval of the minutes from the February 2, 2011 meeting of the Faculty Senate until the March 2, 2011 meeting; Michelle McKnelly seconded this motion. The motion to postpone approval of the February 2, 2011 minutes carried unanimously (17 of 17 voting members present at this point in the meeting).

Reports:
Chair’s Report (James Madsen, CAS)
Jim reported briefly on his attendance at the most recent Faculty Representatives’ meeting. He also noted the Falcon Promise item passed Student Senate.

Vice Chair’s Report (Dawn Hukai, CBE)
Ballots for nominations for the divisional elections went out to the various colleges and 4th Division on Monday, February 14, 2011, which are to be returned by or on Thursday, February 24, 2011. Ballots for the actual divisional election will be sent out on February 28, 2011.

Other Reports
No other reports were presented at this meeting.

Unfinished Business:
Motion from the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (James Madsen, Chair) to appoint Gretchen Link (4th Division) to chair the ad hoc Committee on Constitutional reform. (Action was postponed at 12-1-2010 meeting)

A motion to postpone action on this item was made by John Heppen; it was seconded by Laine Vignona. The motion carried unanimously (19 of 19 voting members present at this point in the meeting).

New Business:
1. Discussion of the actions of the governor and the right to collectively bargain

   Wes Chapin made a motion to introduce the following resolution opposing SB-11; John Heppen seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously (18 of 18 voting members present at this point in the meeting).

   Dawn Hukai excused herself at this point in the meeting.
The Senate moves to adopt the following resolution, and to have its Chair forward it immediately to the Governor, legislative leaders, Senator Harsdorf, Representatives Knudson and Murtha, and the members of the media and community:

Alarmed that the Governor has proposed a budget repair bill that includes an effective take-home pay cut of 8-12 percent for state workers,

Concerned that UW-System faculty and staff have shouldered significant take-home pay cuts over the last seven years,

Further concerned that the proposed changes will undermine the welfare of the effected state workers, the ability of the UW-System to retain and attract staff and serve students well, and the efforts to have the UW-System serve as an engine for growth for the State,

Noting that the budget-repair bill eliminates all legally established rights to collective bargaining for faculty and academic staff, something that the UWRF Faculty Senate has supported consistently over the years (e.g., Resolution 1-2008-09, Resolution 7-2006-07, etc.), and effectively eliminates collective bargaining for most other state workers,

Fully cognizant that immediate action by leaders at all levels is needed to oppose the devastating repair bill,

The UWRF Faculty Senate:

1. Requests leaders at all levels to oppose these drastic changes;
2. Calls upon members of the State Legislature to vote against the budget repair bill;
3. Encourages the State of Wisconsin to invest in higher education;
4. Demands that the Governor negotiate these and any related issues in good faith with appropriate representatives of faculty, staff, and administrators.

John Heppen made a motion to amend the resolution as noted below; Wes Chapin seconded this amendment to this motion. After discussion, this motion to amend the resolution was withdrawn by John Heppen and supported by Wes Chapin.

“Fully cognizant that immediate action by leaders at all levels is needed to oppose the devastating repair bill, WHEREAS BOARD OF REGENTS PRESIDENT PRUITT AND UW-SYSTEM PRESIDENT REILLY HAVE FAILED TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP IN ADVOCATING FOR THE UW-SYSTEM,” (capitalization and bold font added to highlight suggested amendment)

Gretchen Link than made a motion to amend the resolution as noted below; Michael Middleton seconded this amendment to the motion. This amendment to the motion passed unanimously (18 of 18 voting members present at this point in the meeting).

“The UWRF Faculty Senate IN COLLABORATION WITH THE ACADEMIC STAFF COUNCIL:” (capitalization and bold font added)
Wes Chapin then made a motion to amend the resolution to include the language outlined below to be inserted between the “Noting” and “Fully Cognizant” clauses; Marshall Toman seconded this motion. The motion carried unanimously (18 of 18 voting members present at this point in the meeting).

Whereas, UW-River Falls academic staff and faculty are willing to share the burden of reducing state expenditures in this time of fiscal crisis, and

Whereas, this is demonstrated by our shared sacrifice of a 3% pay cut through mandatory furloughs, and

Whereas, UW-River Falls academic staff and faculty absorbed an additional pay cut with the permanent rescission of a proposed 2% salary increase, and

Whereas, this additional pay cut would be implemented prior to the end of mandated furloughs thus resulting in a total reduction of more than 10% per paycheck for some employees, and

Whereas, these draconian decreases will disproportionately and dramatically impact our State’s lowest wage earners—an immoral act by any measure, and

Whereas, UW-River Falls academic staff and faculty salaries are already, and have historically been, lower than those of our peers in both the private and public sectors, and

Whereas, SB-11 would make future recruitment and retention of highly qualified and motivated academic staff and faculty more difficult in a highly competitive and international market, and

Whereas, SB-11 would end over 50 years of state-union relations that have helped produce an outstanding workforce, and

Whereas, passage of this bill will remove millions of dollars from the local economy and have a negative impact on the State business community which is in direct conflict with the objective of job growth, and

Marshall Toman made a motion to title the resolution as noted below; Jane Harred seconded this motion. The motion carried unanimously (18 of 18 of voting members present at this point in the meeting.

“A Resolution Expressing Unified Opposition to SB-11 from the Faculty and Staff of UW-River Falls”

John Heppen then called the question to vote on the resolution; John R. Walker objected to calling the question. The members of the Senate voted in favor of this objection (15 yeas, 0 neas, 3 abstentions). John Walker then moved to amend the overall resolution by inserting the statement outlined below; Marshall Toman seconded this amendment. The amendment passed unanimously (18 of 18 voting members present at this point in the meeting).

“Whereas, proponents of the bill have used rhetoric pitting Wisconsin citizens against workers in the public sector, and”
The Faculty Senate then returned to the original motion to ratify the Resolution Expressing Unified Opposition to SB-11 from the Faculty and Staff of UW-River Falls as presented below. The resolution passed unanimously (18 of 18 voting members present at this point in the meeting.

A Resolution Expressing Unified Opposition to SB-11 from the Faculty and Staff of UW-River Falls

The Senate moves to adopt the following resolution, and to have its Chair forward it immediately to the Governor, legislative leaders, Senator Harsdorf, Representatives Knudson and Murtha, and the members of the media and community:

Alarmed that the Governor has proposed a budget repair bill that includes an effective take-home pay cut of 8-12 percent for state workers,

Concerned that UW-System faculty and staff have shouldered significant take-home pay cuts over the last seven years,

Further concerned that the proposed changes will undermine the welfare of the effected state workers, the ability of the UW-System to retain and attract staff and serve students well, and the efforts to have the UW-System serve as an engine for growth for the State,

Noting that the budget-repair bill eliminates all legally established rights to collective bargaining for faculty and academic staff, something that the UWRF Faculty Senate has supported consistently over the years (e.g., Resolution 1-2008-09, Resolution 7-2006-07, etc.), and effectively eliminates collective bargaining for most other state workers,

Whereas, UW-River Falls academic staff and faculty are willing to share the burden of reducing state expenditures in this time of fiscal crisis, and

Whereas, this is demonstrated by our shared sacrifice of a 3% pay cut through mandatory furloughs, and

Whereas, UW-River Falls academic staff and faculty absorbed an additional pay cut with the permanent rescission of a proposed 2% salary increase, and

Whereas, this additional pay cut would be implemented prior to the end of mandated furloughs thus resulting in a total reduction of more than 10% per paycheck for some employees, and

Whereas, these draconian decreases will disproportionately and dramatically impact our State’s lowest wage earners—an immoral act by any measure, and

Whereas, UW-River Falls academic staff and faculty salaries are already, and have historically been, lower than those of our peers in both the private and public sectors, and

Whereas, SB-11 will make future recruitment and retention of highly qualified and motivated academic staff and faculty more difficult in a highly competitive and international market, and
Whereas, SB-11 would end over 50 years of state-union relations that have helped produce an outstanding workforce, and

Whereas, proponents of the bill have used rhetoric pitting Wisconsin citizens against workers in the public sector, and

Whereas, passage of this bill will remove millions of dollars from the local economy and have a negative impact on the State business community which is in direct conflict with the objective of job growth, and

Fully cognizant that immediate action by leaders at all levels is needed to oppose the devastating repair bill,

The UWRF Faculty Senate in collaboration with the Academic Staff Council:

1. Requests leaders at all levels to oppose these drastic changes;
2. Calls upon members of the State Legislature to vote against the budget repair bill;
3. Encourages the State of Wisconsin to invest in higher education;
4. Demands that the Governor negotiate these and any related issues in good faith with appropriate representatives of faculty, staff, and administrators.

Miscellaneous New Business:
No miscellaneous new business was addressed at this meeting.

Adjournment:
A motion to adjourn was made by Jane Harred; it was seconded by Michael Middleton. The motion carried unanimously (18 of 18 voting members at this point in the meeting). The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.