

JOINT LEGISLATIVE/REGENTS COMMITTEE

2016-2017 Membership Roster

Faculty Members:

Elizabeth Fletcher Brown

Laura Godden

Lori Reichel, Convener

Academic Staff Members:

James Bushman

Cynthia Carlson (Council Rep.)

Patricia Fairchild

University Staff Members:

Sandra Vinney

Student Members:

Joint Legislative & Regents Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 13, 2016

Room 328, Cartwright Center

Attendees (in alphabetical order): Elizabeth F. Brown, James Bushman, Cynthia Carlson, Patricia Fairchild, Laura Godden, Joseph Heim, Lori Reichel, and Sandra Vinney

Meeting Convened: 2:30 p.m. in room 328 in the Cartwright Center by Lori Reichel

1. Introductions of the faculty and staff members of the committee. The student members have not yet been appointed.
2. Volunteer for taking Minutes
 - a. Elizabeth Brown volunteered.
3. Review of last year and last meeting
 - a. Joe Heim described the scope of the committee's work and its relationship with the Board of Regents as well as the Wisconsin state legislators from the region.
 - b. Lori Reichel had been reelected as the committee's chair at the prior meeting in May 2016.
 - c. Last year's minutes are available [here](#).
4. Potential Upcoming Debates
 - a. Joe Heim discussed the upcoming debates:
 - i. October 25, 2016 at 7 p.m. the 94th Assembly District candidates, Representative Steve Doyle (D) and Julian Bradley (R), will debate and then at 8 p.m. the 96th Assembly District candidates, Representative Lee Nerison (R) and Alicia Leinberger (D), will debate. These debates will be held at Port O'Call in the Cartwright Center.
 - ii. November 1, 2016 at 7 p.m. the 32nd Senate District candidates, Senator Jennifer Shilling (D) and Dan Kapanke (R), will debate. This debate will be held at Syzrelczyk Great Hall in the Cleary Alumni & Friends Center.
 - iii. James Bushman volunteered to create the flyers for these debates.
 - iv. The members of the committee discussed the possibility of having other candidates debate or hold forums at UWL prior to this Fall's election.
 - b. Joe Heim then provided a brief overview of the work that the committee would be doing in the Spring to track the legislation relevant to UWL at both the state and federal levels, particularly the state budget legislation.
5. Volunteer to keep our group updated on the 2017-2019 biennial state budget (ex follow the media coverage); request made by Chancellor Gow
 - a. James Bushman volunteered.
6. Additional news
 - a. No additional items were raised.
7. Other items
 - a. The members agreed that the next meeting would take place at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 11, 2016 in room 328 in the Cartwright Center.

The meeting then adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Legislative & Regents Committee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 11, 2016
Room 328, Cartwright Center

Attendees (in alphabetical order): Elizabeth F. Brown, James Bushman, Cynthia Carlson, Patricia Fairchild, Laura Godden, Joseph Heim, Lori Reichel, Jacob Schimmel, and Sandra Vinney

Meeting Convened: 2:30 p.m. in room 328 in the Cartwright Center by Lori Reichel

1. Introduction of the new student member, Jacob Schimmel.
2. Approval of Minutes for the September 13, 2016 meeting.
 - a. James Bushman moved to approve.
 - b. Jacob Schimmel seconded.
 - c. Minutes were unanimously approved.
 - d. A copy of the September minutes are available [here](#).
3. Potential Upcoming Debates and Flyers
 - a. The committee discussed adding the names of all of the on campus sponsors to the flyers that James Bushman had created.
 - i. October 25, 2016 at 7 p.m. the 94th Assembly District candidates, Representative Steve Doyle (D) and Julian Bradley (R), will debate and then at 8 p.m. the 96th Assembly District candidates, Representative Lee Nerison (R) and Alicia Leinberger (D), will debate. These debates will be held at Port O'Call in the Cartwright Center.
 - ii. November 1, 2016 at 7 p.m. the 32nd Senate District candidates, Senator Jennifer Shilling (D), Dan Kapanke (R), and Chip DeNure (The Integrity Party) will debate. This debate will be held at Syzrelczyk Great Hall in the Cleary Alumni & Friends Center.
 - b. The committee then discussed the distribution of the flyers.
 - i. Lori Reichel stated that she would distribute the flyers to Chancellor Gow and to members of her department. She also stated that she would put a notice about the upcoming debates in the Campus Connection.
 - ii. Jacob Schimmel volunteered to have the Student Association post the flyers on the bulletin boards around campus.
 - iii. Sandra Vinney said that she would see that the flyers get posted to the electronic bulletin boards around campus.
 - c. Joe Heim discussed the logistics for the upcoming debates. He indicated that he would be moderating all three debates.
 - i. Patty Fairchild and Cynthia Carlson offered to help prepare charts for the debates that would indicate which of the order in which the journalists and other panelists would ask the candidates questions.
 - ii. The League of Women Voters will keep time for each debate.
 - d. Joe Heim requested that everyone encourage others to attend the debates.
 - e. Jacob Schimmel mentioned that the Student Association was also hosting an election panel discussion on November 3, 2016 in Port O'Call. The panel would be comprised of four professors and representatives from the Democratic and Republican parties.
4. Current Occurrences Regarding the 2017-2019 Biennial State Budget:

- a. Joe Heim discussed the tuition increase that the Board of Regents is requesting as part of the budget. He also distributed copies of the 2020FWD: Moving Wisconsin and the World Forward brochure produced by the University of Wisconsin System.
 - b. Joe Heim also alerted the committee to the October 17, 2016 meeting on the budget in Madison.
- 5. Additional news
 - a. No additional items were raised.
- 6. Other items
 - a. The members agreed that the next meeting would take place at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 29, 2016 in room 328 in the Cartwright Center.

The meeting then adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Joint Legislative & Regents Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

Room 328, Cartwright Center

Attendees (in alphabetical order): Elizabeth F. Brown, James Bushman, Cynthia Carlson, Laura Godden, Lori Reichel, and Sandra Vinney

Absent: Joseph Heim, Patricia Fairchild, and Jacob Schimmel

Meeting Convened: 2:30 p.m. in room 328 in the Cartwright Center by Lori Reichel

1. Approval of Minutes for the October 11, 2016 meeting.
 - a. James Bushman moved to approve the minutes.
 - b. Elizabeth Brown seconded the motion.
 - c. The minutes were unanimously approved.
 - d. A copy of the October minutes are available [here](#).
2. Discussion of the Fall Debates
 - a. The committee discussed what worked and did not work at the Fall Debates. The consensus of the committee was that the Syzrelczyk Great Hall in the Cleary Alumni & Friends Center was a preferable venue over Port O'Call and should be considered for future debates. The committee members did acknowledge that the new spaces in the new Student Union should also be considered for future programs and debates.
 - b. Lori Reichel thanked everyone for their advertising efforts, which resulted in the debates being well attended. The committee noted that all of the debates, except for the 96th Assembly District debate, had capacity crowds. The members of the committee felt that the reason for the relatively sparse attendance at the debate for the 96th Assembly District was because the district is south of La Crosse and posed a longer drive for its residents to attend the debate in La Crosse than for the residents of the 94th Assembly District..
3. UW-President Ray Cross campus visit on Tuesday, November 29, 2016
 - a. Joe Heim could not attend the Joint Legislative & Regents Committee meeting because he was escorting UW-President Ray Cross on this campus visit. President Cross was in a meeting with the UW-L faculty and then was in a meeting with the UW-L Student Association at the same time as the Joint Legislative & Regents Committee meeting. Jacob Schimmel did not attend the meeting because, as Student Association President, he had to attend the meeting between President Cross and the UW-L Student Association.
 - b. Lori Reichel encouraged members of the committee to attend the public Listening Panel from 3:30 to 5 p.m. The Listening Panel would consist of UW-President Cross, Wisconsin 95th Assembly District Representative Jill Billings, Faculty Senate Chair Anne Galbraith, UW-L Student Association Vice President Patrick Brever, La Crosse Tribune Executive Editor Rusty Cunningham, and former Regent Brent Smith. Lori encouraged the committee members who could attend to ask questions. The committee spent some time discussing what questions should be addressed to the panel. The committee felt that it was likely that the

panel would be asked to discuss the prospects for the UW budget and what steps might be taken in light of the recent ratings downgrade of the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

4. Additional news

- a. No additional items were raised.

5. Other items

- a. The members agreed that the next meeting would take place at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, January 31, 2017 in the new Student Union.

The meeting then adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Joint Legislative & Regents Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Room 3145, Student Union

Attendees (in alphabetical order): Cynthia Carlson, Patricia Fairchild, Laura Godden, Joseph Heim, Lori Reichel, and Sandra Vinney

Absent: Elizabeth F. Brown, James Bushman, Jacob Schimmel

Meeting Convened: 10:05 a.m. in room 3145 in the Student Union by Lori Reichel

1. Approval of Minutes for the November 29, 2016 meeting.
 - a. Laura Godden moved to approve.
 - b. Cynthia Carlson seconded.
 - c. Minutes were unanimously approved.
2. Upcoming Events
 - a. The committee discussed the following upcoming events.
 - i. February 6, 2017 from 9-11 a.m. the Public Health Legislative Gathering will be held at the Lunda Center at Western Technical College.
 - ii. March 14, 2017, from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. the Annual Wisconsin Women's Health Advocacy Summit will be held at Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison.
 - iii. April 12, 2017, Joe Heim will be attending the rotunda capitol poster sessions of all UW research by faculty and students at the annual state meeting. UWL always participates and the offices of legislators are open to faculty and students.
3. Potential Events:
 - a. The committee discussed having a forum after the state budget is proposed on February 8 and after Spring Break. Joe Heim will check with legislators for availability on either March 31 or April 7.
 - b. The committee discussed potential forum topics.
 - i. Tuition – continuation of current freeze and then an increase. With the reduction in tuition dollars, where will the funds to make up the difference come from in the proposed \$42.5 million budget?
 - ii. On-campus speakers.
 - iii. White male class – curriculum involvement.
 - iv. Guns on campus.
 - v. UW-Oshkosh lawsuit – foundation and chancellor.
4. Additional items
 - a. Joe Heim encouraged the committee to consider writing to legislators asking them not to cut funding that will impact higher education.
5. Other items
 - a. The members agreed that the next meeting would take place at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 28, 2017.

The meeting then adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Joint Legislative & Regents Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Room 1200, Centennial Hall

Attendees (in alphabetical order): Elizabeth F. Brown, Cynthia Carlson, Patricia Fairchild, Laura Godden, Joseph Heim, Lori Reichel, and Sandra Vinney

Absent: James Bushman and Jacob Schimmel

Meeting Convened: 11:04 a.m. in room 1200 in Centennial Hall by Lori Reichel

1. Approval of Minutes for the January 31, 2017 meeting.
 - a. The Committee approved amending 3. b. ii. to read “On-campus speakers – continue to encourage balance.” No other changes to the minutes were made. The Committee recommends that Chancellor Joe Gow send an email to the campus community encouraging that departments and organizations to host speakers with diverse views.
 - b. Joe Heim moved to approve the minutes as amended.
 - c. Cynthia Carlson seconded the motion.
 - d. The minutes as amended were unanimously approved.

2. Discussion of the Governor’s Report
 - a. Joe Heim provided an overview of the Governor’s Report on the proposed state budget for the next two years. He passed out a handout summarizing the major provisions in the proposed budget. He highlighted those provisions that were most relevant to UWL. These provisions included, among other things:
 - i. a 2% salary increase for all state employees,
 - ii. \$10 million for student aid in the form of additional grants,
 - iii. the continuation of the tuition freeze for the next year and a 5% cut in tuition beginning in the fall of 2018,
 - iv. \$35 million back fill provided to make up for the decrease in tuition, and
 - v. the use of performance measures in the future to determine funding levels for individual colleges and universities within the UW system.
 - b. The committee discussed the proposed budget and its potential impact on UWL.

3. Upcoming Events
 - a. Joe Heim will be attending the March 8th legislative initiative for UWL alumni. This program will be from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Inn on the Park in Madison. It will be hosted by Rep. Jill Billings and Sen. Jennifer Shilling.
 - b. The committee will sponsor a forum with state legislators on Friday, March 31, at 2 p.m. in the Hall of Nation in Centennial Hall. Joe Heim stated that Sen. Shilling and Rep. Billings had confirmed that they would attend. Rep. Lee Nerison and Rep. Nancy VanderMeer may also attend but that was not definite. The forum will discuss the state budget, student fees, tuition, capital budget for UWL buildings, concealed carry on campus, and healthcare concerns. The committee

discussed encouraging attendance by members of the UWL campus community through the use of emails, posters, and digital signs.

4. Additional news
 - a. No additional items were raised.

5. Next meeting
 - a. The members agreed that the next meeting would take place on March 27th. The time would be determined after the committee members completed an online survey.

The meeting then adjourned at 11:59 a.m.