

## **University Staff Council (USC) – Minutes**

**May 12, 2020 – 2:00-3:00 p.m.**

**UW-La Crosse, WebEx meeting**

**Call to Order – 2:05**

**Roll Call –**

Council Members in attendance: Brandon Harris, Becky Yoshizumi, Britney Heineman, Kimberly Schliebe, Justin Bolstad, Michelle Edge, Tom Fell, Neng Lee, Nouchi Lor, Dave Pohnl, Karen DeSchepper, Ben Kolpitcke, Domingo Carrion

Guests: Kimberly Johnson, Kathy Thoen, Amy Servais, Janet Craig, Carol Beckerjeck, Susan Hall, Kathy Mc Inerney, Ben Cornforth

**Approval of Minutes – Council approved minutes**

**Treasurer’s Report – Council approved TR**

### **Committee Reports**

**Bylaws – No update**

**Committee on Committees – No update. Will most likely call for new volunteers soon.**

**Elections Committee – No update**

**Program/Grants/Fundraising Committee – No update**

**Grant Subcommittee – No update**

**University Staff Excellence Award –** Committee selected a winner for the Excellence Award, which will be announced in closed session. The University Staff Breakfast will be postponed until December or January. Milestone gifts are still being ordered on the regular schedule with delivery options pending at this time. Milestone recipients can be acknowledged through Campus Connect and other University communication sources until the breakfast is determined. Adding members to this committee will be advertised separately.

**UW Systems Shared Governance Updates** – Meeting weekly now. Reviewed Blue Print document that Systems distributed. Scheduled changes will be moving forward and very quickly. Some UW Campuses are experiencing furlough situations. President Cross shared 5 criteria to return to Campus: Testing, Tracking/Tracing, Separation, Isolate and Protect.

### **Joint Committee Representation Reports**

**Academic Initiatives Differential Allocation (AIDAC)** – No update

**Environmental Sustainability** – Committee voted electronically on Green Fund Grant priority. The Green Fund grants and mini grants went to SUFAC and Senate as resolutions. This concludes JCES meetings and updates for the year.

**Joint Planning and Budget (JPB)** – Committee had discussions regarding COVID-19. The State is currently assigning a 5% lapse to all State agencies for FY20 (projected to be \$2.1 million for UWL). A lapse is projected again in FY21 and possibly FY22. No known amounts at this time. Committee is contemplating continuing to meet weekly over the summer to keep informed of the budget situations moving forward.

**Legislative and Regents (JLR)** – No update

**Multicultural Affairs (JMAC)** – Committee met to wrap up the year and review the final report.

**Parking** – A few appeals were decided via email. Uncertain as to when the committee will meet again due to Victor's departure.

**Free Speech Promotion** – Tentatively confirmed some events for the fall. Waiting Joe's response on term assignments for committee members.

**Textbook** – No update

**Community Engagement Council** – No update

### **Old Business**

**USC Elections** – Discussed delayed election process. Britney shared how other campuses are proceeding. Michelle suggests moving forward with elections due to the fact that we are currently not experiencing a furlough. Britney suggests adding a furlough concern in Bylaws similar to the extended leave of absence portion. Ben is asking if it worth selecting a new council with possible furloughs and potential work at home situations reoccurring. Waiting until we are all back on Campus and situated will benefit us to gain more participation and awareness to the election process. Tom and Karen agree with keeping the Council as is.

Brandon agrees but is also concerned with the commitment from the Executives. He does not want to ask too much but is very comfortable keeping the Exec Committee and Council as is. Karen, Justin, Ben and Nouchi terms are ending. All would be fine continuing for another year. How would delaying elections effect next year. The open elections would remain with the same seats, everyone will just serve four year terms instead of three. Ben Cornforth suggested a special election time as an option. Kim motioned to keep Council and Exec committee the same. Brandon seconded. Council approved. Ben abstained. Other members approved.

## **New Business**

**Committee on Committee discussion (elections & grants committee)** - Do we want to promote and attempt to get more individuals participating on Committees? Karen's opinion is that it is a bad time to promote. Brandon thinks Sub Committees should remain the same and should be asked if they are willing to serve another year on their term. Joint Committees have their own bylaws and will not serve a longer term. Britney agrees. Chairs of committees will reach out to their committee members and discuss terms. We will solicit according to response from committee chairs.

**USC Exec** – Ray Cross shared a Blue Print for UW Systems. This was shared with the Council. Please review as it is going to be discussed at JPB and Statewide. 2% pay plan increase may not occur as scheduled in January. 1% this fall has not been discussed or updated. As for the USC budget, this was the end of our spend down. The exec committee is drafting a letter requesting to recoup our unused but issued grant money and keep our remaining balance instead of it being swept at the end of the fiscal year. Grants are pending as we do not know our funding status. Furloughs have been discussed on Campus. Governance has not been involved. Becky volunteered our services if needed in those discussions and that process.

**Staff updates** – Dave Pohnl, most of Custodial is back. A small portion have opted to stay home with the safer at home order still in place. Facilities returned as well with staggered start and break times to practice social distancing. All above are working on summer project work as planned.

**Joys and Concerns** –

**Move to Closed Session for only US Council members**

**Adjourn – 3:21 p.m.**