

University Staff Council (USC) – Minutes

October 13, 2020 – 2:00-3:00 p.m.

UW-La Crosse, WebEx meeting

Call to Order – 2:04 p.m.

Roll Call –

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

Absent: Dave Pohnl, Tom Fell

Guests: Jeanne Voss, Kathy Thoen

Approval of Minutes – Change in spelling, Theon to Thoen. Approved minutes with spelling correction.

Treasurer’s Report – Council approved TR.

Committee Reports

Bylaws – No Update

Committee on Committees – No update

Elections Committee – No update

Program/Grants/Fundraising Committee – Launched the fall newsletter on October 2nd. Hoping to revisit Spring Showcase at the Stadium Complex. Please consider volunteering for Rotary Lights. Time and task information will be sent out once we are notified of our assignment and USC tree for Rotary Lights Christmas Tree in the Park can be set up the weekend of November 21st.

Grant Subcommittee – Extended the deadline for grant applications due. New deadline in Monday, October 19, 2020. Committee will meet to determine funding by October 23rd. Please apply.

University Staff Excellence Award – No update

UW Systems Shared Governance Updates – No update

Joint Committee Representation Reports

Academic Initiatives Differential Allocation (AIDAC) – No update

Environmental Sustainability – Committee reviewed bylaws and elected officers. Chair and Co-Chairs are Emily Roraff and Andrew Ericson. The recorder for meetings is Adam Driscoll with Lisa Pitot as an alternate. There will be a sustainability coordinators group call the first Tuesday of every month from 1:00 – 2:00.

Joint Planning and Budget (JPB) – Natalie recapped enrollment, which is ok, but there are areas to watch. Tuition shortfall is estimated to be a lapse of at least \$2 million. Our savings in travel and the hiring freeze, \$4 million, will cover these shortfalls. The committee reviewed the CARES Budget; there are eight different buckets of money they are dealing with. Hoping for federal funding for spring semester.

Legislative and Regents (JLR) – No update

Multicultural Affairs (JMAC) – No update

Parking – No update

Free Speech Promotion – Planning to have two speakers present virtually during Free Speech Week. The committee is down two members, as Chancellor Gow has not yet appointed new nominees. Will be electing new chair and recorder for the committee.

Textbook – No update

Community Engagement Council – No update

Old Business

COVID-19 – Discussion on which offices are open in GMH. Most Academic departments have at least one individual in house during business hours. COVID-19 services page has hours and individual office status posted. COVID-19 response needs were down last week when students returned to Academic buildings.

Committee vacancies – Title IV committee, no USC member volunteered. Are we okay to fill the seat with a non-council member to fill seat? A University staff member volunteered. They will be required to keep the Council updated on meetings via Committee Reports. Still

need a volunteer for Textbook Rental. ADIAC still open but will possibly be filled. Some Search and Screen committee members have changed due to the length of term with pandemic.

New Business

Spring Semester changes – Spring semester will begin Feb 1 instead of Jan 25 and there will not be a spring break.

iFeed updates – Cancelled in full this year however, the food drive will continue with supplies/food being donated to the University Food Pantry. Michelle is currently taking donations for local food pantries. Donation distributions will be 30% Wafer, 30% Hunger Task Force and 40% UWL food pantry. If you would like to donate contact Michelle.

Benefits Open Enrollment – Deadline is October 23rd. Please look into your benefits sooner than later to avoid problems. US can now carry over 2019 and 2020 leave until December 31, 2021. With that, the HRAC will post their meeting minutes to the website. Committee will meet monthly. Michelle's charge is to bring US questions to HR for answers. Last month, the applicant pool was discussed as well as student representation on the committee. Becky suggested Supervisor Training be a topic at the next meeting. Kathy has a list of topics she will forward to Michelle from the CASSH Staff Advisory Council. Onboarding troubles have been and continues to be an issue and should be addressed as well. Zen Desk has been an issue as either no one responds or many HR reps respond for the same Zen Desk ticket.

USC Exec – We, the Council, represent University Staff and are unaware of some changes or events that effect our staff. What questions to do we need to ask to be better informed to better serve US. Please bring all topics to our (Exec Committee) attention so we can better serve and discuss with Bob, Joe or Betsy

Exec Committee to discuss meeting with John again monthly and possibly Betsy

Joys and Concerns – Contact tracing update. Becky thought that 7-8 people would be working on tracing. IT and A&F were to assign people to the program. Justin confirmed that 10 individuals were going to participate on the Tracing Team.

University Staff working in Police Services are now working 12 hours shifts.

Adjourn – 3:17 p.m.