

**University Staff Council (USC) – Minutes**  
**January 11, 2022 – 2:00-3:00 p.m.**  
**UW-La Crosse, Graff Main Hall Room 325**

**Call to Order** – 2:00 p.m.

**Roll Call** –

Council Members in attendance: Ben Kolitcke, Alan Kelly, Dave Pohnl, Domingo Carrion, Becky Yoshizumi, Jeanne Voss, Pearl Bearhart, Leslie Fell, Tom Fell, Terry Stika, Karen DeSchepper, Kimberly Schliebe

Absent: Bill Klein

Guests: Mary Grattan,

**Approval of Minutes** – Becky motioned, Ben second, Council approved.

**Treasurer’s Report** – No questions, recorded as is.

**Committee Reports**

**USC Bylaws** - Mary Grattan

No update.

**USC Committee on Committees** – Amy Servais

No update.

**USC Elections** – Ben Kolpitcke

No update.

**USC Program, Grants and Fundraising (PGF)** - Karen DeSchepper

USC tree survived December winds storms. Committee to meet later this month to start planning spring Showcase and finalize Spring Newsletter.

**USC PGF/Sub-committee Grants** – Nicole Novak

No update. Next deadline February 1<sup>st</sup>.

**USC Excellence Award** – Jeanne Voss and Karen Brandt

We are currently formatting list of eligible University Staff members to contact Supervisors for nominations with details distributed by the end of January. Excellence webpage is now update with the 2022 nominations set for April 1, 2022. Watch for digital signage in the next month!

**USC Excellence Recognition** – Becky Yoshisumi

Aiming for a lunch event on Wednesday, July 20, 2022.

**UW Shared Governance** – Karen DeSchepper

No update. Next meeting on 1/21/2022.

## **Joint Committee Representation Reports**

### **Joint Academic Initiatives Oversight – Paige Jordan**

No update.

### **Joint Environmental Sustainability Committee - Pearl Bearhart**

Met via Zoom on December 10<sup>th</sup>. Received an update on the “Marsh Road” project from James Longhurst. DOT looking at improving existing infrastructure vs constructing a marsh road. JCES is staying up to date on the project in the event there is anything we can do to assist.

Received a mini grant to put in Tower Gardens in the Student Union. This is a new/old project. New proposal includes a retention plan, as student that was upkeeping graduated. The tower garden goal is to provide produce for students who would not otherwise be able to afford/access it. Grant was approved.

This winter, the committee broke into subcommittees: Divestment, Bike Infrastructure, General Education, and Electric Car Infrastructure.

### **Joint Planning and Budget – Ingrid Iverson and Pearl Bearhardt**

Natalie Solverson provided an update regarding Navigate how it’s going and future plans. So far reviews have been more positive than negative, with general feedback from staff being related to training and having to use both Wings and Navigate.

Vice Chancellor, Finance Update:

David Kim is new CIO, starts Jan 20th

UW-System is proposing a 1% one-time merit pay; will have to be approved by JCER. Additionally, UWL is proposing increasing minimum wage to \$15 for all University Staff. There are 43 employees who would see an increase. Needs to be approved by JCER.

GQA & Academic Initiatives; there is little appetite currently to raise either GQA or Academic Initiatives this year or next year.

To fund the 2% pay plan, UWL will tap into reserves for the next few years. If tuition is not raised within 5 years, it will be difficult to continue funding pay plans and difficult decisions would have to be made at that time.

Chancellor’s update:

Winter Commencement occurred, trying to maintain safety protocols.

Anticipates wearing masks in the Spring term. Large scale events are up in the air. Anything food related is tricky, so without food, it’s possible to have events, especially outside.

Update on the UW System President: the search team has narrowed down the candidates and then the Regents committee will give out a final list of candidates.

The Madison Chancellor search will occur after the UW System president search.

Provost update:

J Term has higher enrollment than last year, though Spring is down about .6% for undergrads.

Corey Sjoquist discussed enrollment targets for Spring 2022, Fall 2022, and Spring 2023. We've exceeded the past targets but want to maintain retention as well.

Budget 101 is scheduled for Jan 26th, 1:15-2:45pm in the Hall of Nations

**Joint Legislative & Regents Relations** - Nicole Novak

No update.

**Joint Multicultural Affairs** – VACANT

**Joint Parking and Appeals Committee** – Mark Beckerjeck

No update.

**Joint Freedom of Speech Program Committee** – Kimberly Schliebe and Ben Cornforth

No immediate updates from JCPS – we are looking into organizing a potential campus guest, but have yet to meet this semester, and may be re-evaluating based on campus safety and resources available.

**Joint Textbook Oversight Committee** - Sandra Vinney

No update.

**Community Engagement Council** – Karen DeSchepper

No update. Make sure to visit our site and please share if/when appropriate with others.  
<https://www.uwlax.edu/community/>

**HR Advisory Committee** – Rebecah Neitzel and Kimberly Schliebe

No update.

**Work-Life Taskforce** – Ben Cornforth

No update.

**S&S Dean of the College of Business Administration** – Bobbi Webster

CBA Dean's search - still in progress. We will start to review applications January 6th; application deadline is January 14th.

**S&S Dean of the College of Science and Health** – Amy Servais

Position has been posted.

**Old Business**

**TTC Appeals** – Deadline extended to February 4, 2022. Currently have three appeals for USC Appeals Committee to review. USC Exec met with ASC Appeals Committee to ensure we have a similar format. Will gather US Appeals Committee soon to review process.

**CFA/Truman Lowe resolution** – Draft of Letter of Support presented for approval. Discussion had regarding selection process and thoughts on person selected. USC supports Truman Lowe rename but would like Campus involvement on candidate selection for other buildings from Students, Alumni, Faculty and Staff.

## **New Business**

**Campus signage** – Signage question from last meeting was discussed with Dr. Hetzel. A new process has been implemented. Now, all signs go out for bid. There are different tiers for signage. All unfinished signage projects are planned and will be completed. Consistent interior building directories/signage would be helpful. Will mention to the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor.

**Exec. Updates** – 1% Lump Sum for appreciation during pandemic discussed with Dr. Hetzel. Look for information to come from HR. Requested USC budget to be discussed with Bob. Council question - Where is the salary savings from the ITS staff that is going from UWL to UW Systems? \$15.00/hour will be the minimum pay rate on UWL Campus.

Mark Haakenson has accepted the Controller position in Business Services. Congratulations Mark!

Bylaws Committee should review numbers for US Categories.

## **Get Engaged**

- Please join us 15 minutes before our Council meeting for networking! Room will open at 1:45.

**Adjourn** – 2:41 p.m.