

University Staff Senate

MARCH 17, 2020

CURTIN HALL 175

MINUTES

Present: A. Avery Johnson, S. Butkovic, M. Cosgrove, J. Downey, L. Eastman, P. Geraci, G. Henion, S. Kennedy, A. Kupiecki, K. Miller Kyles, P. Osheim, C. Parks, J. Peshut, P. Reilly, R. Sauers, J. Stoczany, R. Wahl, K. Waldoch, K. Valerius, S. Yasaitis

Absent: R. Badger, K. Czerniakowski, G. Dukes, J. Johnson, T. Nation, L. Perryman

Guests: M. Mone, J. Britz

- I. Call to Order-Meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m.
- II. Approval of minutes for February 18, 2020-Minutes were approved as submitted.
- III. Chancellor's Report-The rapidly evolving situation with the COVID-19 virus puts the campus at risk. The Campus Administration is evaluating the situation internally and with UW-System on best strategies. Working from home is recommended. UW-System is authorizing 80 hours of additional leave pay for those that may need it to stay home. Campus will be updated regularly on changes that will affect them.
- IV. Chair's Report-None.
- V. PREFERENCE FORMS/ELECTIONS update-L. Eastman-The deadline to fill out preference forms has been extended to March 20. Sample ballots are being reviewed by the Nominations Committee. Elections are to be held April 2-17.
- VI. TTC Update-S. Yasaitis-There has been no new news on this. As updates become available, they will be sent to campus.
- VII. US Survey Working Group-There are several surveys being worked on. Facilities Services are working on one. System is working on one that is focused largely on student climate issues. Due to concerns about surveys, we will continue with our survey and make sure that it does not conflict with other survey groups. The survey working committee will look at perhaps making the survey into two parts to focus on issues that are important to University Staff on our campus.
- VIII. Facilities Staffing Issues-The committee discussed what issues they have seen on campus and how can they address their issues. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic this issue is even more at the front of the issues being faced by University Staff. Staffing issues in Facilities Services have been a problem for a while. Currently there are less than 100 Custodial staff on UWM's main campus. That is one third the amount that were in service at the height of capacity. Many have left due to attrition and some have left due to working conditions and pay issues. Facilities Services are working on hiring more workers but due to budget issues and other factors have not been able

to fill all positions. There is a focus group/team working on these issues. A. Avery Johnson and C. Larson are on the team and they are working to address these issues. A. Avery Johnson said he will draft a resources document for staff.

IX. Committee and Member Updates/Reports-

Climate Committee-A brown bag with speak has been scheduled, but may be postponed due to COVID-19. The Brown Bag will be on Importance of Mentoring for Staff.

Coronavirus Crisis Committee-The committee is now meeting weekly. The campus went from phase 2 (one of the lowest phases) to phase 5 (highest phase) within a week. The committee is a team of Administration and Campus Governance leaders that discuss what are the best options for Campus with regard to best practices during the Pandemic.

Campus will be closed to all but essential personnel

Work Remotely if you can

Daily updates from University Relations will be sent out with further guidelines.

X. New/Other Business-There was no new business.

XI. Adjournment-The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 pm