

University Staff Senate

August 18, 2020

MINUTES

PRESENT: A. Avery-Johnson, R. Badger, M. Cosgrove, A. Dempsey-Fischer, J. Downey, G. Dukes, P. Geraci, G. Henion, S. Kennedy, A. Kupiecki, T. Nation, C. Parks, J. Peshut, P. Reilly, R. Sauers, C. Sekyi, J. Stoczany, A. Tarr, K. Valerius, R. Wahl, K. Waldoch, S. Yasaitis

ABSENT: S. Butkovic, J. Johnson, C. Larson, K. Miller-Kyles, P. Osheim, L. Perryman

GUESTS: M. Mone (Chancellor), M. Duellman (IT & TEAMS Calling)

- I. Call to Order-The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.
- II. Approval of minutes for July 28, 2020-AUTOCONSENT-The minutes were approved as submitted.
- III. Chancellor Update-M. Mone-The Chancellor was on hand to welcome the group and discuss items that will also be in his upcoming plenary speech to campus. Courses will be taught at 25% capacity with 75% remaining online. Dorms will be filled at a 60% capacity to allow for space should there be any for quarantined students who cannot return home. Increased funding has become available from the state to help offset testing and tracing of students. The budget shortfall is very steep. Due to savings in Spring it will be easier to handle. UW-System is working on a budget to offset much of the losses seen from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- IV. Chair Update-S. Yasaitis-Budget scenarios continue as pandemic hotspots rise around the country with schools returning to in person teaching. Our campus is prepared for a variety of plans should they be needed. All faculty and staff need to take safety training before returning to campus. Most furloughed people will be back to full time work the week of August 24-31, 2020. Chair Yasaitis sent the Resolution on the Layoff Policy to the Chancellor who shared it with Provost J. Britz, Director of Human Resources T. Danielson and Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administrative Affairs R. Van Harpen. A working group was formed to revise the current layoff policy with T. Danielson, R. Van Harpen S. Yasaitis, J. Peshut and G. Dukes. They will revise the policy and work on implementing the new changes.
- V. Return to campus-safety and testing-new money has become available for more contract tracing and testing for students. At this time testing and tracing of Faculty and Staff will still be through people's insurance carriers and their primary care physicians.
- VI. Working Remotely Logistics and Costs-J. Peshut brought to the attention of the Senate the costs associated with working from home. Costs can be quite high if

- workers do not have proper equipment. The Faculty Economic Benefits Committee are looking into ways that Departments/Schools/Colleges may be able to pay for supplies for workers. J. Peshut will update the Senate if or when new information becomes available.
- VII. TEAMS Phone numbers-M. Duellman was on hand to answer questions about the move to TEAMS phones and phone numbers. Individual phone numbers were assigned to all Faculty and Staff on campus. The move from centrex to TEAMS phones has been completed for individuals. Departmental phones will be moved later this Fall semester 2020. Headsets and phones are available. Check with IT services to see if there is a cost. Departments may need to pay for a phone if you need one at your desk.
 - VIII. Committee and Member Updates/Reports-US Nominations committee will meet 8/19 to discuss any appointments needed for Fall 2020 committees.
US Survey Working Group-The Senate discussed the survey and when would be a good time to launch. September/October was a good target time to launch the survey to ALL University Staff. The US Senate would like to review the survey one more time in its finalized form before launch.
 - IX. New/Other Business-There was no new or other business.
 - X. Adjournment-The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m.