

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MILWAUKEE
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
MINUTES**

**Thursday, December 10, 2020; 2:30 p.m.
Held virtually on Microsoft Teams**

Chancellor Mark Mone called the Faculty Meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

I. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

1. Chancellor's Report

Chancellor Mone reported on the mode of instruction for the spring semester which will be a similar format to the beginning of fall semester with roughly fifty percent of courses completely online, twenty percent face-to-face, and the rest in a hybrid format. The Chancellor also reported on campus COVID testing initiatives including Quidel testing used for higher-risk students and employees and Binax testing which is open to all faculty, staff, students, and community members.

Chancellor Mone discussed the work of the 2030+ Implementation Teams and the upcoming Town Hall meeting that will take place on January 27th. He summarized topics discussed at the Board of Regents meeting including capital projects, the Freshwater Collaborative, and the extension and expansion of the Tuition Promise program. Chancellor Mone also reported on President Thompson's proposed UW System prison education initiative and announced that a 2/2.5% pay plan was approved by the BOR as part of the 21-23 budget.

Discussion took place on the tuition costs of the prison education initiative and the outlook of new funding from the state.

Chancellor Mone invited Provost Britz to give an update on Dean Timothy Behrens of the College of Health Sciences and Dean Ron Perez of the Joseph J. Zilber School of Public Health. Provost Britz reported that Dean Behrens is currently in hospital with COVID-19. Provost Britz is in contact with his wife and is hoping that he will recover. Dean Perez has recently entered hospice care. Provost Britz has been in contact with his family who are currently in the process of saying goodbye. Provost Britz also encouraged Chancellor Mone to take time to rest and recover as he completes his treatment.

2. University Committee (UC) Report: Kathleen Dolan, Chair
The report is attached.
3. Academic Planning and Budget Committee Report: Barry Cameron, Co-Chair
The report is attached.
4. Academic Staff Committee Report: Kyla Esguerra, Chair
The report is attached.
5. Physical Environment Committee Report: Wendy Huddleston, Chair
The report is attached.

Senator Mark D. Schwartz asked if discussion has ensued about stopping parking enforcement during non-business hours. After the meeting, Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administrative Affairs Robin Van Harpen and Director of Transportation Services Prasanna Nanda submitted the following response: <https://uwm.edu/secu/faculty/senate/agendas/20-21/12-10-2020attachments/response-to-parking-enforcement-question/>

6. Information Technology Policy Committee Report: Shana Ponelis, Chair
The report is attached.

7. Student Association (SA) Report: Emma Mae Weber, President
E.M. Weber reported that the SA is wrapping up for the semester. The SA recently hired a chairperson for the Oversight and Appeals Commission and is currently in the process of hiring a Diversity and Inclusion Director. E.M. Weber will hold a State of the Students address on December 11th at 1pm on Instagram live.

II. SENATE ROLL CALL

Secretary of the University Trudy Turner conducted the roll call for the Senate. There were 44 senators and Parliamentarian Richard Marcus present. A quorum of the Faculty Senate was present.

III. AUTOMATIC CONSENT

1. The minutes of the November 12, 2020 Faculty Senate meeting were approved as distributed.
2. SAAP 13-04: Recommendation of the Policy Advisory Committee and the Office of Public Records to Revise the Public Records Access Policy was received.

IV. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

No report.

V. SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

1. Honorary Degrees. Faculty Senators moved to a closed session Microsoft Teams meeting where a motion was made and seconded to go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85 (1) (c) and (f) to consider the qualifications of and balloting for four candidates nominated as recipients of an Honorary Degree. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote, and closed session began at 3:19 pm. Honorary Degrees Committee Chair Simone Ferro presented the ballots for the honorary degree candidates.

A motion was made and seconded to rise from closed session. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote. The committee reconvened into open session in the original Microsoft Teams meeting at 3:50 pm.

VI. BUSINESS

1. SAAP 07-04: Recommendation of the Policy Advisory Committee and Human Resources to Revise the Criminal Background Check Policy. A senator moved adoption of SAAP 07-04. Human Resources Associate Director of Employment and Compliance Services Karen Masetti-Moran presented the document.

Discussion took place on the decision to no longer include representatives from the governance groups on the review committee.

MOTION: To approve SAAP 07-04. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

2. 2030+ Think Tank – School, College and Program Realignment Group Update. Co-Chairs Kristian O'Connor, Gillian Rodger, and Dietmar Wolfram presented. [Click here to view the presentation.](#)

Discussion took place regarding the source of the data on student experience and perspectives.

MOTION: To extend time by five minutes. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

Additional discussion took place on considerations for the three potential groupings including creative collaboration between school/colleges and departments, disciplinary identity, and how to remove barriers and improve student experience while also realizing efficiencies.

3. Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) Update. CETL Director Diane Reddy presented. [Click here to view the presentation.](#)
4. Faculty Document 2137R6: Recommendation of the Senate Subcommittee on the Evaluation of

Administrators (SSEA) to Revise the Policy for Faculty Evaluation of Administrators. A senator moved adoption of FD 2137R6. SSEA Chair John Reisel presented the document.

MOTION: To approve FD 2137R6. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Secretary Turner announced the results of the Honorary Degrees balloting. All four candidates received positive votes from the Faculty Senate.

Senator Mark D. Schwartz requested information on enrollments for the spring 2021 semester. After the meeting, Division of Enrollment Management Interim Co-Lead Kay Eilers submitted this response:

<https://uwm.edu/secu/faculty/senate/agendas/20-21/12-10-2020attachments/enrollment-update/>

VIII. GENERAL GOOD AND WELFARE

Senator Thomas Malaby shared additional information about [the new scholarship at the Honors College for BIPoC graduates of MPS](#). He asked the senate to contact him (malaby@uwm.edu) or Jill Budny (budney@uwm.edu) to participate.

IX. ADJOURNMENT -The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Report to the Faculty Senate
Thursday, December 10, 2020

University Committee (UC) – Kathleen Dolan, Chair

1. The UC has met weekly since my last report to the Faculty Senate on November 12.
2. We continue to monitor campus activities through our regular meetings with the Provost and Chancellor and have talked with them about spring course modalities, the possibility of the new rapid Covid testing site on campus returning in the spring semester, budget planning for schools and colleges, and monitoring the VSIP program.
3. The UC heard a report from Mark Schwartz on the status of efforts to launch MORFS on campus (Milwaukee Organization Representing the Faculty Senate). To date, 60 people have pledged approximately \$8,000. The goal for moving forward is raising \$20,000. As with so many things, Covid has slowed the progress of organizing.
4. The UC has had discussions about the service burdens that department, school/college, and university service place on faculty. We will shortly begin a review of the annual reports of the various University governance committees to determine the scope of their activities.
5. As UC chair, I am now a member of the campus Space Optimization Project Committee. We had our first meeting this week. As enrollments and faculty/staff numbers decline, campus will be undertaking an inventory of campus space and instructional and research needs with the goal of space that can be repurposed, consolidated, or streamlined to reduce the cost of maintenance of underutilized space.
6. More information on these topics, as well as up-to-date information on UC activities can be found at <https://uwm.edu/ucnews>.

Academic Planning and Budget Committee (APBC) – Barry Cameron, Co-Chair

APBC has met twice since the last Faculty Senate meeting in November. The focus of the November 19, 2020 meeting was a report from the budget team on step 1 revenue projections and its impact on the FY22 budget. In this extraordinary pandemic year, the revenue projection stage follows the detailed budget discussions to achieve an approximate 9.0% permanent budget cut to Schools/Colleges and Central Support/Infrastructure. Based on conservative revenue projections for FY22, the budget cut will be less than the 9.0% plan presented to Deans earlier in the semester. As required by the new budget model, the magnitude of the cut for individual Schools/Colleges will depend on performance related metrics such as undergraduate and graduate enrollments and degrees awarded.

At the December 3, 2020 meeting, the APBC committee discussed a notice of intent from the Lubar School of Business for a General Business major. APBC member and Lubar School faculty member, Dr. Valeriy Sibilkov, provided introductory remarks on the proposed General Business major. The proposal was well received by committee members and a motion to accept received unanimous support. The General Business Major will be staffed using existing faculty and currently available courses. Course delivery will be both in-person and online.

APBC co-chairs Rodger and Cameron met with the Provost and his budget team on Friday, November 20, 2020 to determine final adjusted numbers for Schools and Colleges for the FY22 budget. Then again on Friday, December 4, there was a meeting to set final adjusted numbers for Central Support and Infrastructure for FY22.

Academic Staff Committee (ASC) – Kyla Esguerra, Chair

Good afternoon, Senators and guests. Since our last report on November 12th, the Academic Staff Committee has met twice, on November 16th and December 7th. The Academic Staff Senate convened once, on Tuesday of this week, December 8.

- Our Senate agenda this week included guest speakers from Enrollment Management and Admissions, and a discussion ensued on how units outside of Schools and Colleges might participate in the yield effort.
- Changes to the criminal background check policy and Codification Committee bylaws were brought forward, each to better reflect current practices, and were both approved.
- At our most recent ASC meeting, members from the Graduate Faculty Committee visited to solicit feedback on changes to policy being considered that would allow academic staff, at the approval of the department executive committee, to advise Master's students and serve on doctoral committees. This was met with support and enthusiasm.
- Finally, interest has been expressed by ASC, in inviting co-leads of the 2030 subgroups to upcoming meetings to have the opportunity to provide feedback prior to the January deadline for recommendations. We have encouraged academic staff to be engaged in the 2030 process, and to attend meetings and provide feedback when given the opportunity.
- The Academic Staff Committee will meet next on Monday, December 21, and we welcome your thoughts. Thank you.

Physical Environment Committee (PEC) – Wendy Huddleston, Chair

The Physical Environment Committee met on October 21, November 18 and December 9th since our last report. UWM's physical environment continues to improve in spite of the pandemic. Several exciting construction projects consistent with our University's values have been discussed at the PEC and continue to progress:

- Fire Circle by the Electa Quinney Institute and sponsored by the Bader Foundation. It will be located on the Northeast Quad between Chapman and Enderis Halls. Completion is expected for Fall 2021. The Fire Circle is meant to be a gathering space for all of the UWM community and serve as a way to recognize the important contributions of indigenous peoples to southeastern Wisconsin.
- Klotsche Addition – continues to be in the planning stages. This annex will serve to improve student services and physical well-being. Construction is expected to begin in 2021.
- Entry water feature at the School of Freshwater Sciences. This water feature will not only enhance the appearance of the SFS building, but also allow researchers and students opportunities to investigate ways to normalize the ecology of urban water run-off.
- UWM continues to be a leader in making campus a welcoming place for all. Currently we have 22% of all bathrooms on campus established as inclusive, and these inclusive bathrooms exist across all four quadrants of campus.

In addition to the exciting construction projects that continue to move forward, our UWM Foundation continues to receive financial support for the University. The committee has heard some naming committee requests for new spaces within the Lubar School of Business.

Not unexpectedly during this pandemic, the status of parking revenues is dire. The volume of parking is down with budget actuals down as much as 75% in revenues. Parking and Transportation has adapted by reducing staffing expenses by 26% and reducing S&E expenses by 53%. The Unit expects greater than \$2 million in losses for the year with significant debt service payments required in spring. Parking and Transit continues to run the Housing shuttles (paid for by Housing). However, no shuttles are running

to off campus buildings. Currently the Unit is using reserves to cover losses. At this time, it is uncertain if the pre-COVID-19 parking fees will be reinstated for FY22.

The committee also received the fall classroom report with utilization significantly affected due to the pandemic.

Information Technology Policy Committee (ITPC) – Shana Ponelis, Chair

[Please see the 2019-20 ITPC Annual Report.](#)