

# UWM-University Staff Senate

January 19, 2021

## MINUTES

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

ABSENT: K. Czerniakowski, J. Downey, S. Kennedy, C. Larson, L. Perryman

GUEST: M. Mone (Chancellor)

OTHER ATTENDEES: B. Gehring, K. Hennemann, A. Lamb

- I. Call to Order-The meeting started at 10:00 a.m.
- II. Approval of minutes for December 15, 2020-The minutes were approved as submitted via AUTOCONSENT.
- III. SAAP 10-12-COVID Health and Safety Policy-The SAAP was approved as submitted via AUTOCONSENT.
- IV. Chancellor Update-M. Mone-
  - a. COVID testing on campus is increasing for Spring Semester. Still waiting on vaccination information.
  - b. Budget update for campus will be presented at Chancellor's presentation January 27.
  - c. January 27 Town Hall will address budget and UWM's role in Education across the state and globally.
  - d. A 2%/2.5% raise has been approved by the regents for the next biennium for the budget.
- V. Chair Update-Enrollments doing better than anticipated making budget losses less than anticipated. This helps departments and colleges plan more and have fewer furloughs/layoffs.
- VI. VSIP-About 100 employees have accepted the VSIP across all categories (Faculty, Academic Staff and University Staff). This will save UWM about \$5 million. Campus is reviewing and will update information. Most positions will not be replaced as positions were planned strategically to help with budget planning.
- VII. Future furloughs-There are no furloughs planned at this time for the future.
- VIII. Work at home expenses-S. Yasaitis is discussing this issue with Campus Administration to see if there may be an option for reimbursement. Expense information should be shared with Chair Yasaitis.

- IX. Disciplinary Mtg policy-J. Peshut will finalize changes to the policy and re-send to the committee.
- X. Defining “essential workers” -Chair Yasaitis is working to get employees a better definition of Essential Worker. This will help to get workers access to COVID vaccines.
- XI. Employee Tuition program/Employee Tuition Reimbursement program-S. Yasaitis will get more information on this and report to the Senate as it is known.
- XII. Announcement of J. Peshut leaving US Senate and new Vice Chair of Senate-J. Peshut has announced she is retiring in February. G. Dukes was elected the new vice Chair of the USC and US Senate at the meeting of the USC on January 19, 2021. G. will be Vice Chair effective February 12, 2021.
- XIII. Member Reports-
  - a. University Staff Climate & Information Committee-Committee is working on their Brown Bag Series. Hope to hold first one in March/April.
  - b. ITPC-New Tutorials are available online for those that work with CANVAS and CETL. There will also be a campus implementation of a new Light Board to help with tech on campus.
  - c. PEC-Cancelled for January 2021.
- XIV. New/Other Business-The Senate would like to recognize the great work of J. Peshut (Vice Chair) and S. Butkovic (Chair of US Awards) for their service. They will be retiring in February. Their dedication and service have been most appreciated.
- XV. Adjournment-The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.