

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Academic Staff Committee

Monday, July 20, 2020

9:00 am

Teams Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Cashin, Daly, Esguerra, Foran, Kohlmetz, Kunkel, Oswald, Rufer, Wallace
Guests: Johannes Britz, Kathy Dolan

- I. *Call to Order.* The meeting was called to order by Chair Wallace at 9:02 am.
- II. *Automatic Consent.*
 - A. Agenda: Approved as presented.
 - B. Minutes of June 15, 2020: Approved as presented. Minutes of July 6, 2020: Approved as presented.
- III. Guests^a:
 - A. Kathy Dolan, UC Chair, reported she has been fielding questions from several faculty members about fall semester. Conversations with interim UW System President Tommy Thompson are continuing over next few weeks. The UC met with UWM POD Chief LeMire to discuss the PD's role on campus, role in local protests, and relationships with surrounding area police departments. K. Dolan followed up with Robin Van Harpen about who provides oversight of the UWM PD and is waiting for a response.
 - B. Provost Johannes Britz reported on the following: 1. Department chairs, advisors, shared governance leads, student association leadership, associate deans, and assistant deans met on Friday and discussed planning for the fall semester. Detailed communication will be shared soon, including the city's current order on education, but he encourages everyone to remain updated on current plans. 2. Employees should work closely with supervisors to create a work plan for fall 2020 and determine if will return on-site or continue working remotely. 3. Additional furloughs and layoffs are a reality due to the budget crisis and the uncertainty in so many areas. 4. Town halls will be held for prospective students and faculty and staff this week. 5. Final schedule of classes will be available today. Britz expects open conversations to occur between instructors and department chairs about preferences for virtual vs face-to-face courses. Discussion involving AS layoffs and non-renewals and the demographics of affected individuals took place.
- IV. Chair's Report. Wallace reported on the meeting hosted by Provost Britz on Friday about planning for fall semester. HR promised to be flexible, supportive, and accommodating to employees and urges supervisors to listen to employee preferences and requests. Building safety plans are being developed now. The current budget situation is sobering and challenging. Committee meetings and office hours should be virtual in fall and UW-System has adopted a mandatory mask-wearing policy. All face-to-face classes will be shortened by 15 minutes to

^aCommittee may go into closed session to discuss personnel matters per Wisc. Stats. 19.85(1)(c) or 19.85(1)(f)

allow time for cleaning. Although overall enrollment numbers were down, enrollment at the two branch campuses were up. Concerns about students' access to technology and learning assistance were also raised.

V. Unfinished Business.

A. Academic Staff Subcommittees. No update.

VI. New Business.

A. AS Needs Assessment and Senate Debrief. Discussion about developing a survey to determine what common concerns exist among AS so the ASC can concentrate on those issues. S. Cashin volunteered to assist. After further consideration, the ASC agreed that a survey may not be best method for collecting concerns. Instead, it was agreed that an email to all AS inviting to contact the ASC with questions or concerns is a better approach to gather information.

VII. Reports.

A. Campus Committee Reports by Members. No reports.

VIII. Closed session. K. Kunkel moved and C. Daly seconded moving into closed session to review a request for extension to indefinite. Motion passed unanimously and closed session began at 9:47 am. The request was unanimously approved. The committee reconvened in open session at 9:51 am.

IX. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 am.