

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE
UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 11, 2022
Teams Meeting
1:00 pm

Present: Professors E. Bornstein, D. Misra, V. Moerchen, G. Rodger, N. Rothfels,
J. Snethen
Excused: M. Schwartz
Special Guest: S. Gronert
Others Present: J. Nguyen

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA – The meeting was called to order by N. Rothfels at 1:02 p.m.

I. PERSONS WHO WISH TO BE HEARD – None

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The minutes of the January 4, 2022 meeting were approved.

III. SPECIAL GUESTS^a

Dean Scott Gronert

A. The COVID Management Team met today to discuss the Spring semester, and there will be a meeting tomorrow with the Deans and a meeting with some members of the Emergency Operations Center and the Scenario Planning Workgroup. Recommendations will be made to the COVID Management Team, and then messaging will begin to campus on what will be done with the beginning of the semester.

B. GER reform was discussed. A preliminary report has been sent to the Provost. The model that is currently being recommended is one based on areas of inquiry. Currently, the GER model is based on divisional breakdown of courses. The areas of inquiry would match up more closely with the UW System Shared Learning Goals than the current model does. Next steps include mapping out the impacts of these changes on programs. Budget issues also need to be worked out. The plan for this semester is to add details to the basic proposal so that more analysis and planning can be conducted before the new GER program advances through the governance process.

IV. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT & ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. N. Rothfels reported the Scenario Planning Workgroup meeting last week led to administration being urged to communicate quickly with campus on plans for the

^a The Committee may go into closed session to discuss personnel matters according to Wis. Stats. 19.85 (1)(f)

Spring semester. There will be another meeting tomorrow to help develop the plan.

- B. The Graduate Program Review Committee needed a replacement and one was found. A replacement senator for Senator Malaby for this semester is being sought.
- C. A meeting to discuss the process for the faculty opportunity hires was held, with a particular emphasis on legal questions. Opportunity hires are problematic when done as part of an open search.
- D. The UW System Faculty Reps met to formulate questions for the UW System President candidates.

V. MEMBERS' REPORTS

- A. E. Bornstein reported that the AAFEC met on Dec. 19 with Provost Britz, Vice Chancellor Vang, and Associate Vice Chancellor Venugopalan. The meeting centered on how to go about with process of opportunity hiring. Discussions were also held on implementing the DEI protocols developed last year in the faculty hiring processes. Retention of BIPOC faculty is a major problem on campus.
- B. D. Misra reported that the APBC meeting last week was cancelled, and discussed GER reform in their previous meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. The numbers of Academic Staff at UWM the last 5 years was discussed. Concerns over the increases in the number of fixed term-renewable Instructional Academic Staff were expressed. Connections between decreases in faculty numbers on campus were noted. The UC discussed bringing the information to the Faculty Senate, and introducing a resolution asking for the campus to make a plan on rebuilding the faculty.

VII. OLD BUSINESS - None

VIII. PERSONNEL MATTERS - None

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Provost Britz and Vice Chancellor Vang will be at the January 18, 2022 meeting.

XI. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 2:34 p.m.