

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE
UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 18, 2022
Teams Meeting
1:00 pm

Present: Professors E. Bornstein, D. Misra, V. Moerchen, G. Rodger, N. Rothfels,
M. Schwartz, J. Snethen
Special Guests: J. Britz, C. Vang

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA – The meeting was called to order by N. Rothfels at 1:01 p.m.

I. PERSONS WHO WISH TO BE HEARD – None

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The minutes of the January 11, 2022 meeting were approved.

III. SPECIAL GUESTS^a

Provost Johannes Britz

- A. It is important that the campus provide good messaging to the students regarding the start of the semester. Instructors are to inform their students whether their course will begin on-line or in-person. N95 masks will be available to campus later this week.
- B. The UW System President search has resulted in two finalists who are being interviewed. However, the interviews with the finalists is limited to a small number of select groups.
- C. The school/college realignment document will be presented to the Board of Regents in February.

Vice Chancellor Chia Vang

- A. There was a review of the DEI Framework that VC Vang has put together. There is a need for concrete actions to be taken to improve the campus climate, and this has resulted in the DEI goals. One goal is to increase diversity of faculty. To this end, the university is developing a plan to use opportunity hires to meet this goal. At this time, the plan is to have funding for three opportunity hires each year for the next five years.
- B. An organizational chart was presented to show the variety of offices and programs that fall under the division.

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

IV. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. N. Rothfels reported on the spring semester planning meetings that were held last week.
- B. There are some replacements for the Faculty Senate and Rules committee this semester. There remains a need to fill a position in the Social Sciences in the Faculty Senate for this semester.
- C. Kate Nelson sought information on the next steps to be taken on the Climate Action Plan. She would like Senate endorsement of the plan as it stands. N. Rothfels will work on a resolution acknowledging the work done and urging the administration to strongly consider the recommendations in the Plan.

V. MEMBERS' REPORTS - None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. The proposed changes to the Interim COVID-Related Health & Safety Policy (SAAP 10-12) were discussed. The changes involve moving the end date for the guidance to March 20. The policy changes were approved by consensus.
- B. Proposed changes from Legal Affairs to Faculty Document 3372 were discussed. The changes are intended to bring the document's wording in line with state government recommendations. The proposed changes were approved by consensus.
- C. There was a discussion of the questions that had been formulated by the governance groups for the interviews with the UW System President finalists. There was also a discussion of the UW System President Transition Process questions.

VII. OLD BUSINESS - None

VIII. PERSONNEL MATTERS

Per Wis. Stats 19.85(1)(f), it was moved and seconded to go into closed session to discuss personnel matters. Upon roll call vote, closed session began at 2:42 p.m. The committee reconvened in open session at 2:49 p.m.

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – ASC Chair Nicole Oswald will be at the January 25, 2022 meeting. There will also be a discussion of MORPHS at the January 25 meeting.

XI. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.