

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE  
UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
May 20, 2024  
LUB N456  
2:30 pm

Present: Professors K. Dolan, M. Kavanaugh, K. Kirshner, L. McHenry, W. Otieno, G. Rodger  
Excused: R. Leson  
Others Present: L. Hager, S. Scholz, T. Szabo, J. Urdan

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA – The meeting was called to order by K. Dolan at 2:30 p.m. The agenda was approved.

- I. PERSONS WHO WISH TO BE HEARD – None
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The minutes of the May 14, 2024 meeting were approved.
- III. SPECIAL GUEST<sup>a</sup> - None
- IV. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT & ANNOUNCEMENTS
  - A. Dean Gronert is seeking augmentation for a subcommittee of full professors in a department in the College of Letters & Sciences. Further work is needed in identifying the augmentor.
- V. MEMBERS’ REPORTS – None
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. CGS Discontinuation Proposal

The UC discussed the proposal, identifying areas that needed clarification. L. Hager asked about the number of college-age people in Waukesha County, and why UWM doesn’t invest to try to attract more of such people to UWM-Waukesha. K. Dolan pointed to decreases in high-school age students in Waukesha County, as well as a decline in the percentage of students in Waukesha County attending Universities of Wisconsin schools in general.

M. Kavanaugh expressed concern regarding the emotional aspects of closing CGS. K. Dolan anticipates that the UC report will focus on aspects of the process that are not being well-understood by the campus community. For example – why can’t the main campus absorb the tenured faculty at CGS. The UC report can provide more data on whether or not that might be possible.

J. Urdan was present to answer questions regarding the program discontinuation proposal. There is a question as to whether under Board of Regent Policy 20-24

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

whether the entire CGS is a program, and it is the administration's contention that the entire college does meet the definition of a program. Regarding the lay-off of faculty, this process begins after the proposal is approved. UWM is currently working on policies that will cover preventing the institution from hiring someone to perform essentially similar duties to laid-off faculty before the faculty decline the opportunity.

L. Hager asked about how an entire college can be discontinued under the guise of a program, while elements beyond the associate's degree are allowed to continue. J. Urdan responded that it was possible to continue a program such as the Bridge Program by moving it to a different unit. K. Dolan added that the proposal is not discontinuing the associate's degree entirely so that other units could offer an associate's degree.

J. Urdan addressed a question on whether main campus personnel can be appointed to teach in the Bridge program versus CGS faculty and staff. L&S is staffing Bridge with Academic Staff positions, and such positions do not fall under reappointment provisions for faculty. Additionally, reappointment of faculty rights are a statutory right and will apply after faculty lay-offs begin.

L. Hager brought up the issue of main campus units potentially being interested in hiring CGS faculty, but these units not having financial resources to do so. More information on the budget situation on the main campus will be needed to provide clarity on this issue.

B. Summer Meeting Plans

K. Dolan will work with Drew Knab to determine a date when he will be able to meet with the UC to discuss the financials. K. Dolan will also be working to get information on items such as the Bridge program from Academic Affairs.

VII. OLD BUSINESS – None

VIII. PERSONNEL MATTERS – None

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – The next UC meeting is on June 7 at 10:00 AM.

X. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.