

University Staff Senate

December 17, 2024

Via Microsoft Teams

MINUTES

PRESENT: J. Almquist, E. Cochrane, P. Dixon, G. Dukes, L. Eastman, S. Fuller, P. Geraci, G. Henion, K. Morgan, C. Parks, C. Peterson, K. Premeau, M. Renk, K. Valerius, M. Vallejo, R. Wahl, L. Wieczorek

ABSENT: A. Dempsey-Fischer, C. Fitzpatrick, T. Nation, R. Sauers, L. Schiebel, C. Warneke, S. Wirka

GUESTS: M. Mone (UWM Chancellor), S. Genung (UWM CIO),
B. Switala (UWM Police-Interim Chief)

- I. Call to Order-The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.
- II. Approval of minutes for November 19, 2024-The minutes were approved as submitted via autoconsent.
- III. Chancellor Update-The Chancellor updated the Senate on several issues.
 - UW System meeting focused on the budget and the Deloitte report for the whole System. Low enrollments continue to be a key issue for campuses as well as reliance on budgets moving forward. Strategic initiatives will need to be creative in finding funding as campus move to other revenue areas.
 - Discussion around education trends is focusing on AI and Demographics.
 - Changes with the Department of Education are still unknown.
 - The budget request for renovation of Health Sciences is looking positive and may be funded in the upcoming budget.
- IV. Chair Update-G. Dukes updated the Senate on the Chancellor Search and Screen forums. The University Staff forum was one of the best attended forum with excellent questions. Some of the key issues are engagement with faculty and staff, being dedicated to UWM and funding and budget issues.
- V. UWM Safety Report-Interim Chief B. Switala was on hand to update the Senate on the Crime and Safety report for campus. UWM has a sensitive crimes unit that is able to handle sensitive cases to help those victims in a timely manner. Blue light phones are being upgraded on our campus to keep them available. Funding for the blue light phones has been difficult but the campus has now been able to secure this funding to ensure they continue to help those that need them. In addition, the RAVE guardian app is available to all on their mobile device. Just go to the Apple store or the Google play store to download.
- VI. UWM IT Update-S. Genung CIO-updated the Senate on the changes coming to campus. Workday and Huron are coming in the Spring 2025 and Panther AI will also be coming to campus. Guidelines are being developed for campus to help use these technologies across

campus. Workday will be used for many functions from Payroll, Purchasing and More. It is important to keep data safe as technology changes. Be sure to consult the guidelines moving forward.

VII. Regents Policy 20-27 Update/Revision-G. Dukes sent the policy listed below for comment. Comments also can be given directly on this policy. University Staff should be represented equally as our peers. The Senate was also concerned that administration would not be able to choose their interim administrators as needed as has been the practice in the past. Discussion about the ramifications of the changes were in favor of keeping much of the choices with individual campuses and not with System. G. Dukes will give the feedback also to the Regents on behalf of the Senate.

- <https://www.wisconsin.edu/regents/draft-policy-proposals-for-comment/>

VIII. UWM Vehicle safety and sticker identification and campus scheduling of repairs-M. Renk brought to the attention of the Senate an issue with stickers/identification of campus vehicles needing to be better labeled. This way students, faculty, staff and visitors will know who is working on campus and where. He has noticed that some of the vehicles are not labeled or the labels are old. L. Eastman will see who we can ask about this and what can be done.

IX. Campus scheduling of repairs/maintenance and communications-M. Renk-Another issue facing staff working around campus is not being able to do the work due to scheduling conflicts with classes when the workers need to access rooms. The Senate agreed that this can be an issue especially if workers do not know what is scheduled or when or if the department does not know when the workers need to access the room. Better communication is important to keep our campus running well and to avoid workers having to come back or being in the way of campus needs. L. Eastman will look into who to contact about perhaps discussing online form with more information or scheduling. Perhaps someone could come to the Senate and discuss changes.

X. USCIC changes-L. Eastman updated the Senate of the changes. The changes were approved as submitted. The USCIC will move to a non-elected subcommittee of the Senate starting in July of 2025. They will not be in the Spring Elections. Those interested in being the committee should contact the Secretary of the University's office.

XI. Committee/Member Reports-10:55 a.m.

- Search and Screen-VP for Research-K. Valerius updated the committee on the progress of the search. Four finalists have been selected and will be invited to campus for review.
- Academic Planning and Budget Committee (APBC)-L. Eastman discussed that the APBC discussed budget cuts that may be coming in the next budget cycles. One strategy that was discussed was cutting support staff. L. Eastman informed the Senate that she was able to speak on behalf of University Staff to help change the course of this discussion.
- New Bus colors for the campus that are black-The Senate had a small discussion on the new shuttle buses that are black that are circulating around campus that have been painted black. It makes the buses especially difficult to see at night and dusk. Perhaps a different color can be suggested to the provider?*
- According to the website shuttle buses are white or yellow.
- No update as of yet on the ramifications on the changes in the Act 10 legislation. It is still being heard by the courts but it could change the ability of University Staff to join unions.

XII. New/Other Business-There was no new or other business.

XIII. Adjournment-The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m.