

MINUTES

ACADEMIC STAFF ASSEMBLY

Monday, February 8, 2010

272 Bascom Hall (3:30-5:00 pm)

Provost Paul DeLuca, called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm.

AUTOMATIC CONSENT BUSINESS

The minutes of the December 14, 2009 Academic Staff Assembly meeting were approved.

Featured Report: Discussion of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Research Enterprise White Paper

Ad Hoc Committee Chair, Noel Radomski and committee members; Jenny Dahlberg and Alice Pulvermacher summarized the salient points of the whitepaper. The committee recommends “Chancellor and Provost conduct a thorough, inclusive review of the research enterprise before proposing structural solutions.” Further, the committee sees the need for a research enterprise vision or strategic plan to be budget supported. Highlights from discussion:

- Assembly members and Provost commended the committee on their work.
- Objections noted by Graduate School’s Research Animal Resources Center guests regarding program. The Provost encouraged the committee to take these comments under consideration.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Staff Executive Committee (ASEC): Heather Daniels, Chair

Katherine Loving, Civic Engagement Coordinator to the University Health Service, was presented a certificate in appreciation of her work with the Tech Shop Project.

Announcements included:

- Save the date: April 13, 2010 - Academic Staff Institute, Concourse Hotel
- Nominating Committee slate to be approved by Assembly in March
- ASEC met with Don Nelson, Assistant Director, State Relations and will be meeting with Vince Sweeney, Vice-Chancellor for University Relations
- The Chancellor to meet with the Assembly in May
- Donna is recruiting Assembly Representatives for unrepresented districts.
- Creation of a Competitive University Workforce Commission announced by UW System President Reilly. Serving on the commission is System Academic Staff Representative from UW-Green Bay.

- ASEC agenda items for the remainder of the year include:
 - Work with the Provost to reinvigorate existing CASIs (Committees on Academic Staff Issues) as well as creating new CASIs
 - Work with the Steve Stern on “Academic Staff Excellence Rewards Initiative”

Compensation and Economic Benefits Committee: Miriam Simmons

- FAQs updates: Domestic Partner Benefits and Extraordinary Salary Range (ESR) to be posted on the web.

Personnel Policies and Procedures Committee (PPPC): Bruno Browning, Co-chair

- Provost sent annual letter to Deans and Directors regarding job security for academic staff who have worked five or more years in their current positions.
- PPPC to send flyer, along with letter to all academic staff explaining job security issues.
- PPPC participated with MASA on an informational brown bag on job security.
- To meet with CASIs to discuss job security process.
- March vote: minor changes to ASPP in Chapter 14, which reflect current practice regarding ASA electronic elections.

Ad Hoc Committee on Collective Bargaining: Russell Dimond, Chair

- Website has information regarding the collective bargaining situation for academic staff at UW-Madison (<http://acstaff.wisc.edu/Committees/posting.aspx?item=40>).
- Interviews with key players across campus to be set up; Assembly update next month.

BUSINESS

Academic Staff Policies and Procedures Changes: Bruno Browning, PPPC Co-chair

- Motion made from the floor to accept the proposed changes in ASPP. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Standing Committee Slate: Luanne von Schneidemesser, Nominating Committee Chair

Luanne presented a slate for CC (Communication Committee), CEBC (Compensation and Economic Benefits Committee), and DRC (Districting and Representation Committee). She requested nominations from the floor; none were given. Luanne made a motion to accept each slate. All slates were approved by unanimous consent.

Unit Clarification Resolution

ASEC presented a Resolution on Unit Clarification to the Assembly. A motion was made to accept the resolution. A motion was made and seconded to consider a substitute resolution by David Ahrens. Carol Weidel read the substitute resolution to the Assembly. Discussion ensued regarding further clarification of some statements made in the substitute resolution. Motion was made to send both resolutions back to committee to create a hybrid motion for the Assembly to consider in March. The motion was passed with a voice vote. ASEC will work with David to create a revised resolution.

PROVOST'S REMARKS: Paul DeLuca

Provost addressed climate issues that were raised in the letter ASEC sent him November 10, 2009

- Salary and merit issues addressed:
 - Steve Stern is working on “Academic Staff Excellence Rewards Initiative” regarding concerns from academic staff.
- Provost will speak to issues of job security at the March Chairs Breakfast.
- Work to reinvigorate the CASIs:
 - Provost will speak to Deans regarding CASI support, which he sees as vital to shared governance.
- Discussion:
 - Smart Furloughs: Not much to be done this year, the University will push bill next year. He will consider suggestion from Daña Alder to expand the language in the bill to include employees supported by funds other than federal grants, i.e., private grants, gifts, student segregated fees, etc.
 - Job Security Issues: Focus on leadership education and understanding of current provisions.
 - White Paper – next steps: Close consideration will be given to this report and one soon to be submitted by the Faculty. Before moving forward there will be opportunities for discussion from the university community.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

*Submitted by Donna Silver
Secretary of the Academic Staff*