MINUTES
UW-Madison University Staff Executive Committee
08.13.15

Members Absent: N. Hilmanowski (Excused), P. Droes (Excused), Seat 3 Vacant
Others Present: J. Rebholz, S. Hildebrand, P. Sheehan

At 2:00PM, Chair Kutz, called the meeting to order.

Ms. Czynszak-Lyne moved, seconded by Mr. Newton, to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting. All in favor with the exception of Mr. Pond, who abstained. MOTION CARRIED.

Chair Kutz paused to accept public comments. Mr. Fritter noted today marked the birthday of Cuban Revolutionary Fidel Castro. Mr. Fritter also noted that this week marked the 80th anniversary of Social Security and the closing of the border between West and East Berlin, Germany, in 1962. Ms. Czynszak-Lyne noted for the record a thanks to Mr. Bruce Petters regarding his service to the Executive Committee, the University Staff and the campus.

Chair Kutz asked for reaction of the committee to the teleconference with UW-System President Cross. Discussion was heard that the scheduling of the call by President Cross was appreciated but that concerns remain regarding both tenure and shared governance.

Chair Kutz provided a report regarding the statewide shared governance council teleconference. It was noted that UWGB is going from two Deans to four. It was reported that UW-Stevens Point, among other campuses is working on the UPS policy. It was noted that UW-Whitewater is lobbying to have a shared governance seat on the Chancellor’s Cabinet. Chair Kutz also reported that UW-Stout chose a University Staff Marshall for their commencement ceremony for the first time.

Chair Kutz recognized the Secretary for a report. Secretary reported that Seat 3 had been offered to the next highest vote getter in that category. Mr. Patrick Sheehan of OHR reported that he had been in touch with the HR Director for that employee to inform them of participation rights.

Chair Kutz reported that a new UDDS code has been established which is associated with the Arts Institute. Discussion was heard regarding the Legislative proposed ban on fetal tissue research. Discussion heard that such a proposal would reverse a policy set in place since the Thompson administration. Secretary instructed to reach out to the Vice Chancellor for Research and seek an appearance before the committee for discussion.

Chair Kutz opened discussion on the 2015-16 goals for University Staff shared governance. Question raised as to where the goals came from and who do they apply to. Objection heard as to the listing including Fixed Term Finite staff in shared governance as a goal. Discussion heard that it should be made clear that the submitted list is a collection of individual submissions for consideration rather than a...
document reflecting collective agreement. Discussion heard that a known list of ‘To-Do’s’ is productive. General agreement heard that the list should be titled, “to-do list”.

Chair Kutz opened discussion on the shared governance status of the Fixed Term Finite staff. Question was raised if Fixed Term Finite staff should be brought into University Staff shared governance participation. Chair noted that 370 employees on campus now hold the title of Fixed Term Finite. Discussion heard that the status of such employees is a matter for Congress to address. Concern raised that FTF employees could create turnover if holding elected positions. Discussion heard that the Bylaws Committee may be the proper venue for such a discussion.

Chair Kutz opened discussion on the structure of University Staff Shared Governance. Discussion was heard that the original structure was laid out knowing that it would not be permanent and would be subject to adjustments. Question was raised if the Congress and the Executive Committee should be viewed as to separate groups or not. Question raised if Congress should directly elect the members of the Executive Committee. Discussion heard regarding an exit strategy regarding the current organization of the Executive Committee.

Discussion was heard regarding the current arrangements by which the Executive Committee votes as members of Congress but no one who was elected to Congress has a vote at the Executive Committee level. Discussion heard that the Executive Committee has to provide consent to any changes regarding Executive Committee structure or the Bylaws Committee would be out of compliance with its Charge. Discussion heard that Executive Committee Bylaws are already in existence. Discussion heard that Executive Committee could bring a recommendation to the Congressional Bylaws Committee to better define the relationship between Congress and the Executive Committee.

At 4:00PM, Ms. Czynszak-Lyne moved, seconded by Mr. Newton, to adjourn the meeting. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes prepared and submitted by: J. Lease / Secretary