

If you are interested in more information concerning shared governance and the University staff Congress, please contact John Lease, Secretary of the University Staff, at (608) 263-2995. If you would like to request translation of this document, please call Cultural Linguistic Services:

ESPAÑOL / SPANISH: (608) 265-1489 or (608) 265-0838

HMOOB / HMONG: (608) 263-2217

བོད་ཡིག / TIBETAN: (608) 890-2545

中文 / CHINESE: (608) 890-2628

नेपाली / NEPALI: (608) 262-7521

MINUTES

University Staff Congress

9.18.23

All Members were present with the following exceptions:

EXCUSED: M. Cramm (7), K. Stoebig (23), C. Morales (41), J. Johnson (50), A. Hagen (70), J. Gerrits (78), R. Ness (80), R. Kutz (81), R. Gassen (95)

ABSENT: D. Creasey (2), K. Nachtigal (18), J. Duncan (40), K. O'Neill (36), B. Weeden (54), T. Stewart (79), R. Carson (84),

In addition, one Alternate was present.

At 2:30PM, Vice Chancellor Cramer stated that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

Vice Chancellor Cramer directed the attention of the Congress to the draft Minutes of the previous meeting. A motion was heard to approve those Minutes, as was a second. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Vice Chancellor Cramer paused for public comments. None sought recognition in this regard.

Vice Chancellor Cramer provided a report to the Congress. Vice Chancellor Cramer updated the Congress by informing them that the computer access initiative now has all kiosks deployed and they are operational. Vice Chancellor Cramer informed the Congress that Badger Safety App has now experienced 15 thousand downloads. Vice Chancellor Cramer noted that in regard to

sustainability, the Stars rating system has now upgraded the campus to the status of 'Silver', which reflects the actions of such divisions as Housing, and the move-out program they use to save materials from landfills. Vice Chancellor Cramer informed the Congress that the Board of Regents has approved the 23-24 operating budget. Vice Chancellor Cramer concluded that October 2nd will mark Custodial Recognition Day.

Applause heard in the hall.

Representative of District 51 expressed concern regarding the flow of pedestrian traffic on campus and sought clarity in regard to the TTC appeals process as it related to job titles. Representative of District 51 expressed concern that those who had viewed the ATP training module were given the impression that Academic and University Staff could be merged and objected to the use of the term 'human capital'.

Representative of District 65 relayed the concern of his constituent who must transport equipment to the workplace and rely on service parking passes to park at the venues to which they transport such items. The problem is that service passes are oversold relative to the number of available parking spaces in which the users of those passes are allowed to park. Consequently, they must park in other available spaces, risking a ticket to do their jobs. They have raised their concerns to Transportation but have been told that it is a policy matter and Transportation doesn't make policy.

Representative of District 32 noted that parking areas utilized by essential workers become unavailable on football game day weekends.

Representative of District 51 referenced the ongoing competition between the need for workers to maintain research facilities and the prioritization of parking spaces for event attendees.

Representative of District 5 sought clarification regarding the enrollment numbers.

Reply came that 9,100 freshmen and transfer students are joining the student body this fall.

Vice Chancellor Cramer recognized Associate Vice Chancellor Cindy Torstveit, Director of Facilities, Planning and Management.

Ms. Torstveit provided an overview of the Division mission and organization, noting that it is the largest and most diverse division on campus, and consists of eight departments.

Ms. Torstveit noted that in the previous year, the minimum wage was increased to \$17 an hour and shift differential increases and bonuses were implemented in the snow removal program. Ms. Torstveit informed the Congress that new recruitment strategies are underway in order to fill vacancies and further noted that there has been an increase in employee referrals. Ms. Torstveit clarified for the Congress that employees have a choice as to which type of vacuuming equipment they are assigned, either backpack or upright. Ms. Torstveit noted that parking permit requests were up by 2,000 over the previous year. Ms. Torstveit concluded her report by informing the Congress that making the campus a leader in sustainability is a strategic priority.

Representative of District 57 expressed concern about failure to follow up on work orders and failure to conduct regular meetings of building tenants, where such concerns can be addressed.

Reply came that there has been some lag in this regard, but meetings should resume regularly in October.

Representative of District 19 expressed concern regarding the Madison Metro bus service.

Reply came that the Division is examining the impact of changes in the bus system.

Representative of District 51 thanked Ms. Torstveit for the improvement in PPE and attention to requests regarding the vacuuming equipment. The representative sought clarity if bus ridership has increased or decreased and also sought clarity if employees understand how to access the computer kiosks and, in addition, if they understand they can access them during work time. Representative of District 51 also asked for follow-up regarding the snow removal program.

Reply came that supervisors could provide a follow-up report on the snow removal procedures that can be evaluated before the next season gets underway.

Representative of District 51 noted that while it can be said that the campus is fully staffed, it must also be noted that 300 positions were cut. Representative of District 51 also inquired as to why more day positions than night positions are open.

Reply came that 15-day positions are currently open, and it is not clear that there is one single reason as to why night positions are filled, and day positions are not.

Representative of District 51 sought clarity as to the operation of new floor care equipment.

Reply came that it is an autonomous scrubbing machine operated remotely.

Representative of District 64 spoke in favor of the solar installation at Research Lab on Stoughton Rd. and recommended his S Stoughton Rd. workplace for another potential solar installation noting off site makes the complexities of installation easier.

Representative of District 30 sought clarity in regard to vehicle charging stations.

Reply came that the number of stations is being expanded.

Representative of District 30 stated that he has observed a shuttle bus for UW Health that shuttles employees from outer lots to the workplace and inquired if such a service might be implemented with campus employees.

Reply came that these observations would be shared with Patrick Kass of Transportation.

Vice Chancellor Cramer recognized Mr. Terry Fritter for the purpose of providing a report from the Central Committee and taking feedback from Members of Congress.

Mr. Fritter noted that nominations remain open for the Elizabeth S. Pringle Award until 6 October. Mr. Fritter informed the Congress that the last week of September is 'Banned Books Week' and that members of the University Staff can access the State's largest library by use of their WiscID card.

At 3:17PM, a motion to adjourn was heard, as was a second. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes prepared and submitted by: J. Lease / Secretary