

2010 – 2011
Academic Staff Assemblyⁱ
9 February 2011 Agenda

12:15 – 1:45 p.m.
University Center 68A

1. **Approval of 26 January 2011 Minutes**
2. **Academic Staff Committee Reports**
 - a. Awards [Weber]
 - b. Economic Issues [Ehlen]
 - c. Elections/Balloting [Clokey]
 - d. Government [Fragola]
 - e. Organization [Miolo]
 - f. Professional Development [Ehlen]
 - g. Instructional Promotions [Farmer]
 - h. Review [Ogunsola]
 - i. Title Appeals [Ehlen]
 - j. Titling [Naff]
 - k. Rewards and Recognition [Simes]
3. **Updates/Announcements**
 - a. Director of FUN [Naff]
 - b. Assembly Priorities [Ehlen]
4. **Other Business**
 - a. Collective Bargaining [Clokey/Ehlen]
 - b. Unit Clarification [Clokey/Ehlen]
 - c. *Resolution on Employee Pension Contributions [Ehlen]*
 - d. Furlough Resolution [Ehlen]
 - e. Miscellaneous/Round Robin [Assembly Staff]

ⁱ *Italicized items include attachments for review/discussion.*

**2010 – 2011
Academic Staff Assembly
26 January 2011 Minutes**

**12:15 – 1:45 p.m.
University Center 68A**

PRESENT: Freda Briscoe, George Clokey, Denise Ehlen [Chair], Nancy Farmer, Mike Flanagan, Patty Fragola, Nadine Kriska, Giuliana Miolo [Vice Chair], David Reinhart, Kim Simes, and Curt Weber

ABSENT: Kyle Naff and Elizabeth Ogunsola

1. **Approval of 15 December 2010 Minutes:** Fragola/Kriska moved to approve the minutes. The Assembly discussed/reviewed the minutes. Approved by unanimous vote.

2. **Academic Staff Committee Reports**

- a. Awards [Weber]: Weber reported that he will work with Miolo to notify the Committee of the awards deadline that is set for Monday 14 February 2011. If the Committee approves the recommended deadline, Ehlen will notify the Associate Vice Chancellor's office.
- b. Economic Issues [Ehlen]: No report
- c. Elections/Balloting [Clokey]: Clokey announced that he will be convening the Committee in the upcoming weeks.
- d. Government [Fragola]: Fragola reported that she is in the process of finalizing the academic staff survey. Fragola, Clokey and Ehlen will meet to discuss a few issues before it is disseminated.
- e. Organization [Miolo]: Miolo reported that the committee membership list is updated and that Pellien sent emails to all committee members.
- f. Professional Development [Ehlen]: Ehlen reported that three applications were submitted in January. The Committee is meeting at 10:00 am on Monday 7 February 2011 to review the applications and make recommendations. Ehlen will send the Assembly the recommendations for ratification.
- g. Instructional Promotions [Farmer]: Farmer reported that three applications were received and all were highly recommended for promotion by the Committee. Farmer called for a vote to ratify the recommendations of the Committee. Clokey/Miolo moved to approve the recommendations. Approved by unanimous vote. Ehlen/Pellien will send the recommendations to the Provost.
- h. Review [Ogunsola]: No updates
- i. Title Appeals [Ehlen]: No updates
- j. Titling [Miolo for Naff]: Miolo reported that numerous meetings are scheduled for the upcoming weeks. As of now, no one has been identified to replace Bill Widen.

- k. Rewards and Recognition [Simes]: Simes reported that four applications were received and the Committee recommended that two receive a \$250 one-time cash bonus and the other two receive a \$150 one-time cash bonus. Simes called for a vote to ratify the recommendations of the Committee. Kriska/Fragola moved to approve the recommendations. Approved by unanimous vote. Ehlen/Pellien will send the recommendations to the Chancellor.

3. Updates/Announcements

- a. Director of FUN [Ehlen for Naff]: Ehlen reported that the FUN social on Wednesday 12 January 2011 had a very good turnout. The next FUN event is a lunch and will be held on Thursday 17 February 2011 at 12:00 pm in UC 266.
- b. Assembly Priorities [Ehlen]: The Assembly discussed doing a newsletter/flyer at the beginning of the fall and spring semester. Ehlen/Pellien will work on putting a draft together.

4. Other Business

- a. Collective Bargaining/Unit Clarification [Clokey/Ehlen]: Clokey and Ehlen reviewed recent news from System.
- b. LGBT Taskforce Meeting [Ehlen/Simes]: Simes reviewed the minutes from the Wednesday 12 January 2011.
- c. Retirement Resolutions [Ehlen]: Ehlen presented the draft resolutions for discussion. The Assembly reviewed the resolutions. Farmer/Weber moved to approve the resolutions contingent upon modifications. Approved by unanimous.
- d. Furlough Resolution [Ehlen]: Ehlen present the draft resolution for discussion. The Assembly discussed and provided feedback on the resolution. Weber will update the resolution and bring to an upcoming meeting.

Consensus to adjourn at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Casey Pellien, Governance Associate



Academic Staff Committee

January 20, 2011

Keith Gilkes, Chief of Staff
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Dear Mr. Gilkes,

In the spirit of cooperation and collaboration between state leadership and state employees expressed as a desire by Governor Scott Walker, the Senate of the Academic Staff at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee unanimously passed the enclosed resolution regarding state employee pension contributions.

Academic Staff at UW-Milwaukee work in a variety of professional capacities to both provide and support the university's core mission of teaching, research, and development. We are instructors, researchers, administrative directors, administrative specialists, grant writers, program managers, and academic advisors, among many other titles, who care deeply about the success of students and the institution in which we serve.

We are also state employees with a commitment to the fiscal solvency of the state budget as well as taxpayers with an interest in an equitable and reasonable balance between revenue collections and expenditures.

Furthermore, we are members of working and middle class families who are sacrificing and striving to provide for ourselves and our loved ones at home through challenging economic times.

The enclosed resolution presents a request that balances the diverse interests of Academic Staff at UW-Milwaukee at a time of great economic and budgetary hardship. It is a request that allows us to contribute to the bottom line of the state budget in difficult times. It is also a request that ensures we are able to continue to provide for ourselves and our families at home while maintaining a sense of morale required to serve students and the institution to the best of our collective ability.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this resolution. We look forward to working collaboratively and in good faith together on this matter and other critical issues in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sara Tully".

Sara Tully
Chair, Academic Staff Committee

cc: Members of the Joint Finance Committee
Michael Lovell, Interim Chancellor, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
Tom Luljak, Vice Chancellor for University Relations, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
Kevin Reilly, President, University of Wisconsin System

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Academic Staff Senate
Resolution on Employee Pension Contributions

WHEREAS, Wisconsin State Statute 40.05 stipulates, for UW academic staff, an employee-required contribution toward the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) pension fund of 5 percent of earnings; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin State Statute 40.05 allows employers participating in the WRS, including the State of Wisconsin, to cover all or a portion of the employee-required contribution as part of the employee compensation package; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin, as the statutorily-defined employer for UW academic staff, has covered the full employee-required contribution as part of the negotiated compensation package offered to UW academic staff; and

WHEREAS, in the event that a proposal is made to prevent employers participating in the WRS, including the State of Wisconsin, from covering the employee-required contribution or otherwise require UW academic staff to pay up to 5 percent of their salaries toward the pension fund; and

WHEREAS, UW academic staff incurred a 2 percent pay cut with the rescission of a salary increase in 2009 to alleviate state budget shortfalls; and

WHEREAS, UW academic staff incurred an additional 3 percent pay cut as a result of state-mandated furloughs in 2009-2011.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that any legislation leading to a required employee contribution to the WRS pension fund be implemented in a phased manner to ease the negative impact on already reduced take-home pay for employees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any required employee contribution to the WRS pension fund not exceed 1 percent of earnings per fiscal year in additional contributions beyond the previous year's contribution rate.