1. Approval of 15 September 2010 Minutes
2. Academic Staff Committee Reports
   a. Awards [Weber]
   b. Economic Issues [Ehlen]
   c. Elections/Balloting [Clokey]
   d. Government [Fragola]
   e. Organization [Miolo]
      1. Standardizing Timeline/Deadlines
   f. Professional Development [Ehlen]
   g. Instructional Promotions [Farmer]
   h. Review [Ogunsola]
   i. Title Appeals [Ehlen]
   j. Titling [Nafl]
   k. Rewards and Recognition [Simes]
3. Updates/Announcements
   a. Director of FUN [Nafl]
   b. Assembly Priorities [Ehlen]
   c. Strategic Planning and Budget Committee [Ehlen]
4. Other Business
   a. Collective Bargaining [Clokey/Ehlen]
   b. Unit Clarification [Clokey/Ehlen]
   c. Faculty Union Movement [Ehlen]
   d. HEOA Textbook Law [Ehlen]
   e. Miscellaneous/Round Robin [Assembly Staff]

\footnote{Italicized items include attachments for review/discussion.}
2010 – 2011
Academic Staff Assembly
15 September 2010 Minutes

12:15 – 1:45 p.m.
University Center 264

PRESENT: Freda Briscoe, George Clokey, Denise Ehlen [Chair], Nancy Farmer, Mike Flanagan, Patricia Fragola, Nadine Kriska, Kyle Naff, Giuliana Miolo [Vice Chair], Elizabeth Ogunsola, Kim Simes, Gene Toboyek, and Curt Weber

1. Approval of 12 May 2010 Minutes (Final 2009-2010 Meeting and First 2010-2011 Organizational Meeting): Simes/Fragola moved to approve the minutes. The Assembly discussed/reviewed the minutes. Approved by unanimous vote.

2. Academic Staff Committee Reports
   a. Awards [Weber]: No report
   b. Economic Issues [Ehlen]: Ehlen reported that the Committee will be meeting in October to go over the Academic Staff Salary Equity Adjustment Policy and Procedures. Ehlen will share recommendations with the Assembly at an upcoming meeting.
   c. Elections/Balloting [Clokey]: No report
   d. Government [Fragola]: No report
   e. Organization [Miolo]: Miolo reported that she will begin reviewing the committee memberships/lists now that the committee liaisons have been identified. Miolo will provide an update at an upcoming meeting.
   f. Professional Development [Ehlen]: Ehlen reported that the Committee will be convening in October for an organizational meeting to review the Request for Proposals (RFP). If Assembly members would like changes made to the RFP, please notify Ehlen.
   g. Instructional Promotions [Farmer]: No updates
   h. Review [Ogunsola]: No updates
   i. Title Appeals [Ehlen]: No updates
   j. Titling [Naff]: Naff reported that the Committee will meet on 16 September 2010 to review one titling request.
   k. Rewards and Recognition [Flanagan]: Flanagan announced that he will no longer serve as the liaison for Rewards and Recognition. Simes announced that she will now serve as the liaison. Lemmon will forward relevant documents for Simes’ reference.

3. 2010-2011 Academic Staff Professional Development Seminars: Deferred until the Assembly’s top priorities are identified.
4. Updates/Announcements

a. Council of Academic Staff Representatives [Miolo/Ehlen]: Ehlen reported that the Council has identified dates for the Council meetings. The first meeting will be on 1 October 2010. Ehlen will share the minutes with the Assembly when she receives them.

b. Strategic Planning and Budget Committee [Ehlen]: The Committee is looking for an instructional academic staff member to fill a vacant seat on the Committee. Ehlen asked relevant Assembly members but all had prior commitments. Ehlen will identify another staff member to serve on the Committee.

5. Other Business

a. Collective Bargaining [Clokey/Ehlen]: No updates

b. Unit Clarification [Clokey/Ehlen]: No updates

c. Competitive University Workforce Commission [Ehlen]: Ehlen reviewed the email from UW System and asked the Assembly members to let her know of any suggestions they would want forwarded.

d. LGBT Taskforce Meeting [Naff for Ehlen]: Naff reviewed the minutes from the 8 September 2010 meeting.

e. University of Wisconsin-Whitewater New Professionals Association [Ehlen]: Ehlen reviewed highlights from the meeting and provided a background on the association.

f. Performance Reviews [Ehlen]: Deferred until the Assembly’s top priorities are identified.

g. Miscellaneous/Round Robin [Assembly Staff]: Ehlen and Naff announced that the Academic Staff Social was a success and that more will be planned for the future.

Consensus to adjourn at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Casey (Lemmon) Pellien, Governance Associate
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Faculty union movement moves forward

By Kellen Olshefski

Published: Wednesday, September 22, 2010
Updated: Wednesday, September 22, 2010 08:09

The push to form a faculty union at UW-Whitewater continues to move forward with the start of a new semester.

Provisions within the 2009 – 2011 state budget include a pay decrease for university faculty as well as required furlough days are the driving factors behind the push to form a faculty union.

Associate Professor Lauren Smith said forming a faculty union at UW-Whitewater will give faculty a bigger voice in improving work conditions.

With current employment terms, faculty members must negotiate terms of employment individually and often at the time they are hired.

The formation of a union would give faculty the right to collectively bargain, meaning faculty would be able to form a workers' organization to help negotiate employment terms for all faculty members.

Smith said creating a faculty union will not only help to improve work conditions for faculty but also improve the educational experience for students.

"I actually think it's good for the university as a whole," Smith said.

Smith said it is assumed that faculty are mostly interested in improving pay, however the union will also address issues such as class size, work loads and policy issues.

"It affects what happens in the classroom, it affects student experiences … a union has the potential to affect the university as a whole and not just the faculty," Smith said.

Smith said advancing the formation of a union is a slow process though they have made progress.

"We certainly have a larger group of people and a better plan about how to proceed."

Some faculty members still oppose the formation of a union. Smith said many oppose because they feel they don't have the time to be involved.

"It isn't going to be an immediate improvement," Smith said. "It's going to require people to use the union to address the issues they see on campus."
Smith said it's important for students to realize the formation of a union is more than improving pay for faculty and helping the university get the resources it needs. Providing a good education is among their top priorities.

"We really are interested in creating an environment where we can do our best job ... we want to preserve the quality of the education we provide," Smith said. "We want to feel like we're doing a good job, doing what we could do if we had all the resources we need."

Faculty in favor of forming a union are contacting those who may be interested in forming a union and trying to get a better sense of who is and is not interested.

Staff will be required to form a separate union though Smith said the faculty union will help in the organization process.
HEOA Textbook Law

To: All UW-W Faculty and Instructional Academic Staff

From: Beverly Kopper, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Date: September 22, 2010

Re: HEOA Textbook Law

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) became effective July 1, 2010 and one of the provisions of this Act explicitly refers to textbooks. The Act requires institutions of higher education who receive federal funding to make information regarding the textbooks to be used in all courses available to students at pre-registration. This means that the UW-W Textbook Rental and University Bookstore must have all book orders for classes one week before pre-registration begins for each semester.

These deadlines are much earlier than we are accustomed. The specific deadlines for submitting your textbook information and orders for 2010-2011 are as follows:

Winterim 2011 classes: October 18, 2010
Spring 2011 classes: November 1, 2010
Summer 2011 classes: January 26, 2011
Fall 2011 classes: March 21, 2011

Please ensure that your textbook information is forwarded to Textbook Rental and to the Bookstore by the above dates. We recognize that occasionally certain circumstances may interfere with adherence to these deadlines, however, it is important for the University to comply with the provisions of this Act.

For additional information on the Textbook Provision of HEOA, you may contact Jane Crouch or Barb Young.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation regarding this matter.

Contact: Beverly Kopper
Department: Vice Chancellor And Provost
Date Posted: 9/22/2010

More Information