2011 - 2012
Academic Staff Assembly
25 January 2012 Minutes

12:00 – 1:45 p.m.
University Center 262

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

ABSENT: Nadine Kriska

GUEST: Carmen Rivers

1. **Discussion with Carmen Rivers**: Carmen Rivers discussed with the Assembly the options for political banners on the railing on the north side of the University Center. Rivers asked the Assembly what their preference was (i.e. no political banners allowed, political banners allowed with sponsor information and permanent banner indicating the UW-Whitewater recognizes freedom of expression and speech). The Assembly took a vote and a majority of Assembly members (9 to 2) voted to have all banners, not just political, include sponsorship information and a permanent sign on the railing indicating the UW-Whitewater recognizes freedom of expression and speech.

2. **Approval of 25 January 2012**: Simes/Naff moved to approve the minutes. The Assembly discussed/reviewed the minutes. Approved by unanimous vote.

3. **Academic Staff Committee Reports**

   a. **Awards [Weber]**: Weber reported that the deadline to the Assembly office for Academic Staff Excellence Awards is 15 February 2012. The Regents Awards for Excellence – Program Award was announced on the campus’ announcement board on Tuesday 24 January 2012 and is due electronically to the Assembly office on 15 February 2012. The Regents Awards for Excellence – Individual Award is determined by the previous year’s Academic Staff Excellence Awardee. Last year’s recipient is no longer eligible due to employment status so the awardee from two years ago will be used. Ehlen is that awardee. Weber called for a vote to use Ehlen for the individual award. Approved by unanimous vote.

   b. **Economic Issues [Ehlen]**: Ehlen reported that the compression and equity issues have been put on hold but meetings with division directors and deans are in progress to address compression and equity issues for academic staff. Aimee McCann will provide Ehlen with an update in the upcoming weeks.

   c. **Elections/Balloting [Clokey]**: Clokey will provide a timeline at an upcoming meeting. Pellien will send Clokey the list of Assembly members who are up for re-election.

   d. **Government [Kriska/Flanagan]**: No report

   e. **Organization [Fragola]**: No report

   f. **Professional Development [Ehlen]**: No applications were received for the month of January. Applications for the February round are due 1 February 2012.

   g. **Instructional Promotions [Ehlen for Farmer]**: Farmer reported that nine 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. Simes/Weber 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 [Naff]: Naff reported that more titling meetings are scheduled in the upcoming weeks. Assembly concurred with Titling Committee members’ recommendation to move to a monthly meeting schedule. Ehlen is charged with announcing/disseminating meeting dates and submission timeline to all academic staff.

k. Rewards and Recognition [Simes]: Simes reported that the Spring 2012 deadline is 1 March. Pellien will announce the program the week on 30 January 2012.

4. Updates/Announcements

a. Assembly Priorities [Ehlen]: Ehlen/Pellien will bring the list of priorities to an upcoming meeting.

b. Academic Affairs Staff [Ehlen]: Ehlen reviewed updates from the recent Academic Affairs Staff meeting.

c. University Handbook Working Group Updates [Weber]: Weber reported that the working group has been meeting. The group discussed the addition of a topic index/table of contents for the handbook. Weber called for a vote. Naff/Fragola moved to approve the addition of a topic index/table of contents. Approved by unanimous vote.

d. UW System Benefits Working Group [Naff]: Naff reported that he now serves on the benefits working group. Naff will bring updates to the Assembly as/if necessary.

5. Other Business

a. Retirement Resolution of Dianne Witte [Fragola/Naff/Ehlen]: Ehlen solicited the feedback of the Assembly regarding resolutions that do not include much service/information. The Assembly agreed that if more information is needed for the resolution that the Assembly will send it to others on campus that can possibly provide information on the resolution. Fragola will update Witte’s resolution to include more information and send back to Ehlen/Pellien for inclusion on the next agenda.

b. LGBT Taskforce Meeting Minutes [Simes for Ehlen]: Simes reviewed highlights from the meeting.

c. Staff seeking/obtaining voting rights-tied to contract [Ehlen]: Ehlen reviewed the document from UWS handbook.

d. Miscellaneous/Round Robin [Assembly Staff]: Flanagan shared the newsletter “Getting to Know your Colleagues.” Ehlen/Pellien will post to the Assembly website. Naff/Fragola will handle the next newsletter.

Consensus to adjourn at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Casey Pellien, Governance Associate