

MUW FACULTY SENATE  
September 10, 2021  
Zoom Meeting

In attendance: Kristy Alpe, Kelly Bennett, Jonathon Hooks, Nichole Bonaventure-Larson, Ian Childers, Mary Helen Hawkins, Shyam Heda, Susan Hurley, Holly Krogh, Shana Lenoir, Hunter Manasco, Chad Murphy, Kathy Newman, Amy Pardo, Shonda Phelon, Melissa Smith, Terry Todd, Lestonio Yarbrough, President Nora Miller (guest), Chief Randy Vibrock (guest), Shahara'Tova Dente (visitor)

1. President Manasco called the meeting to order at 12:17 p.m.
2. Welcome - President Miller
  - a. On campus, a few Covid cases are being reported daily, but the situation is manageable. IHL university lawyers do not think President Biden's recent executive order applies to public universities, but further guidance should follow on the 24th. The two medical doctors on IHL board voted to mandate vaccinations for students, faculty, and staff, but other board members voted against. Logistics such as tuition refunds and progress toward degrees now that the semester has started were one likely reason. The issue will be revisited.
  - b. Enrollment is down, the same is likely happening at all institutions. May not see growth for a couple of years. Federal money will help the W avoid negative impact from lower enrollment. State revenue collections look good. The state is considering eliminating income taxes; potential effects on state institutions are not clear yet.
  - c. Hope to address faculty salary compression next year, which is a priority concern for Provost Scott Tollison.
  - d. Responses to concerns and questions included the following:
    - i. President Miller will look into the lack of notice to students for closure of food services over the Labor Day weekend
    - ii. Work on the culinary building should begin next week.
    - iii. Enrollment looks to be down about 10% since last year, but exact numbers are under embargo and may change.
    - iv. There had been a couple of open Zoom meetings, information was circulated, and input was solicited for revision of the university's strategic priorities. Priorities are broad enough to be used effectively by individual departments. Administrative Council will be focusing on individual priorities and facilitating an ongoing conversation about them. Modification may occur.
    - v. President Miller expressed disappointment that the recent executive order regarding vaccination mandates did not include public universities, but the exact language is not out yet.
    - vi. Regarding faculty raises: 2% was given across the board plus an amount for years of service; addressed only some of compression, not enough.
3. Campus Police Overview - Chief Vibrock
  - a. Refocusing the department on personal safety (e.g., students locking their cars). Dispatch is fully staffed, trying to fill one patrol officer position, one officer is at police academy for 2 more weeks. Professional development training is happening (e.g., use of force, mental health first aid, de-escalation). Night Owls program offers escort services Sunday-Thursday 7pm to 2 am.
  - b. Responses to concerns and questions included the following:

- i. They check IDs at the front gate and ask for intended destination on evenings and weekends.
      - ii. Chief Vibrock will check to make sure police are checking for unsecured doors at Shattuck. Department also offers to check buildings before a faculty member enters if they have a safety concern.
      - iii. Reminder to everyone to get parking decals.
- 4. Approval of Minutes from April
  - a. Motion to accept by Shonda Phelon. Seconded by Ian Childers. Motion carried.
- 5. Committee Reports
  - a. Administrative Council Report – Hunter
    - i. President Miller updated the council on the IHL emergency meeting on vaccination mandates. Work is starting on new culinary building. The university mission statement is being revised and shortened.
  - b. Meetings with the President have focused on Covid updates, faculty raises, enrollment, vaccine mandates. Information not covered by President Miller earlier in the meeting: dorms are double-occupancy unless resident pays for single-occupancy, money for raises came from the legislature (1%) and the institution (1%), waste-water testing starts in the residence halls this week; 45% of dorm residents are fully vaccinated; 36% of athletes are fully vaccinated, 8% partially; at least 36% of faculty/staff are at least partially vaccinated.
  - c. Expanded President’s Cabinet – Hunter – did not meet
  - d. Academic Council – Nichole – did not meet
  - e. PIE Report – Holly
    - i. Mission Statement was revised and shortened at the meeting as described by Hunter.
    - ii. SACS—filed for differentiated review means we only have to respond to 42 standards rather than 70+; 10-year self-study kickoff in December; assessment reports for last 6 years for all programs will be generated then new strategic plans/priorities/goals will be input. Mark Ellard will be at the next meeting to talk about how the new strategic plan will be addressed in the budget.
- 6. Unfinished Business
  - a. Emeritus status policy review tabled until the policy statement comes through Academic Council.
- 7. New Business
  - a. Fund A and Faculty Foundation Funds
    - i. Fund A - \$6000 available with a possible addition of \$2000 later in the year (for travel and presentation at conferences)
    - ii. Fund B - \$4000 available (for improvement of classroom teaching)
  - b. Subcommittees
    - i. Faculty Development Committee: Ian, Chad, Kristy, and Kelly
    - ii. Traffic and Parking Committee: Lestonio and Mary Helen
    - iii. Grievance Procedure Committee: Shonda, Melissa, Kathy, Terry, Shyam, Jonathon
      - 1. Question asked about the request for three female and three male volunteers. Holly will inquire about these criteria.
    - iv. Subcommittee on Salary Compression to work with Council of Chairs Subcommittee on same: Shana, Shyam, Lestonio, Kelly
  - c. Motion to form a working group to draft a statement on a vaccination mandate by Ian Childers. Seconded by Susan Hurley. Motion carried. Working group: Shana, Susan, Nichole, Holly, and Amy

Closing Comments/Adjourn – President Manasco adjourned the meeting at 1:20PM

Next meeting: October 8th

Suggested 2021-2022 Meeting Dates: November 12<sup>th</sup> December 10<sup>th</sup> (if needed) January 14<sup>th</sup> February 11<sup>th</sup> March 11<sup>th</sup> April 8<sup>th</sup> (for installation of new Senators and election of executive committee)