

**MUW**  
**FACULTY SENATE**

8 February 2019

Cromwell 240

**Members present:** Ashley Chisolm, Steven McCorkle, Dorothy Berglund, Valentin Bogdan, Ian Childers, Nora Corrigan, Chrystal Hodges, Jonathon Hooks, Youn Mi Lee, Nicole Welch, Mary Helen Hawkins, Bobby Fugitt, Terry Todd, Hunter Manasco, Shonda Phelon, Adrian Sligh, Thomas Haffey

President Ashley Chisolm called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm.

1. University Counsel—Karen Clay
  - a. Came to discuss proposed revisions to the new employee political activity policy; the policy that was proposed in November will be revised based on campus feedback.
  - b. The proposed policy was too vague and was based on an old IHL policy based on MS statute. The bottom line is that endorsing a candidate in our official capacity as a university employee, in such a way that would appear that the university is endorsing a candidate, will not be allowed.
    - i. We can endorse a candidate if we are doing so personally and not as a representative of the W.
    - ii. This policy will not impact employees' social media postings, placement of yard signs, and/or bumper stickers on private vehicles regarding a particular candidate or policy issue.
    - iii. In classes, issues and/or candidate viewpoints can be critiqued as long as no endorsement of a specific candidate or viewpoint is made.
    - iv. Time spent in political activities cannot interfere with work.
    - v. A revised PS will be released soon.
2. Approval of minutes—November minutes were reviewed. Nicole Welch moved to approve (pending correction of her name spelling); seconded by Steven McCorkle
3. Committee reports:
  - a. Administrative Council (President Chisolm)
    - i. December meeting
      1. Legislative budget was released with drop in funding for IHL, but there is an undesignated portion of the state budget that could be used for IHL funding. Raises and morale are important, but there is no guarantee of an increase in salary.
      2. The flex model for staff will be in place for summer; it is up to individual staff members to choose to participate. Once a staff person has chosen a four-day/week schedule, they will stick with that schedule. These plans may make recording and following leave plans harder to follow.
      3. The portal and W-connect app were updated.

4. VoIP—no set date for changeover.
    - ii. January meeting
      1. More guidance was provided on the flex schedule for staff; schedules will be submitted by staff by 3 May.
  - b. Meeting w/President Miller (December/January)
    - i. Issues of morale for faculty and staff covered in both meetings; the issue will be revisited and the committee for morale will begin meeting following investiture of President Miller
  - c. Expanded President's Cabinet (did not meet)
  - d. Academic Council (Vice President McCorkle)
    - i. Revised attendance policy will be presented at later date for review by Senate
  - e. PIE Council (Secretary Berglund)—did not meet
4. Unfinished business
  - a. PS 1310 Review committee
    - i. No meeting since fall term
    - ii. Committee will meet before 1 March to provide new policy for our discussion
    - iii. Pending Senate approval, our revised PS 1310 will be sent to other campus committees for comments and approval.
5. New business
  - a. Fund B has been depleted; Fund A has \$3014.73 total with two pending requests
    - i. We are to remind our faculty to submit requests using the online forms from now on.
  - b. A new policy regarding employee political activity will be developed and submitted for review by the next meeting.
6. Closing comment—next meeting had been planned for 8 March, which is the day before spring break starts; other conflicts were noted as well. Thus, a vote was taken to hold our next meeting on 1 March at 12:15. The meeting was adjourned at 12:51 pm.