

AGENDA

UW-GREEN BAY FACULTY SENATE MEETING NO. 10 (Special meeting)

Wednesday, May 11, 2016

Phoenix C, 3:00 p.m.

Presiding Officer: Patricia Terry, Speaker

Parliamentarian: Steve Meyer

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Resolution on actions by UW System and Board of Regents (page 2)
Presented by Andrew Austin

3. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution on actions by UW System and Board of Regents

WHEREAS faculty are responsible for ensuring a quality education for students, serving regional needs and the state of Wisconsin, and contributing to knowledge through research so that a state of average size and wealth can enjoy a university system of worldwide renown at unparalleled cost effectiveness;

WHEREAS fulfillment of these responsibilities has long been guided and enabled by the University's traditions of the Wisconsin Idea, robust academic freedom and shared governance;

WHEREAS program changes based on non-educational considerations, the erosion of academic due process, the circumventing of faculty governance, and budget cuts jeopardize the quality of students' education; diminishes access, affordability, and educational resources for our students; limits support for scholarship and associated benefits; and diminishes outreach and services to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin;

WHEREAS UW-Green Bay Chancellor Gary Miller, in two memos addressing the campus community on August 3 and August 17, 2015, affirmed his commitment to upholding robust tenure standards and reaffirmed the decades-long tradition of active shared governance that has made the UW System unique among universities of its stature and fostered a deep sense of loyalty and commitment to its mission;

WHEREAS the UW-Green Bay Faculty Senate previously called upon UW System Chancellors and the Regents to "affirm and practice" the principles regarding academic freedom and shared governance in a resolution unanimously passed by the Faculty Senate on December 9, 2015;

WHEREAS in March 2016 the Board of Regents adopted new UW System policies based on the report from the UW System Tenure Policy Task Force without adopting any of the modifications requested by UW System faculty, thereby controverting the high standards set by the American Association of University Professors and weakening professional standards of academic due process beyond what Act 55 required;

WHEREAS UW System President Ray Cross and Regents by their actions have overseen a weakening of these traditions and engaged in practices that fall short of principles of responsible governance in their stewardship of the University;

WHEREAS the failure of the UW System President and the Board of Regents adequately to protect academic due process and shared governance has damaged the reputation of UW-Green Bay as a great state university that encourages continual and fearless sifting and winnowing by which alone the truth can be found.

It is hereby RESOLVED that the actions of President Ray Cross and the Board of Regents give the UW-Green Bay Faculty Senate no confidence in their commitment to defending the Wisconsin Idea, extending the benefits of the University to every citizen in the state;

It is further RESOLVED that the UW-Green Bay Faculty Senate calls on System President Ray Cross and the Board of Regents to recommit themselves to the Wisconsin Idea by carrying out their responsibilities and working with us to strengthen the quality of our state universities, in particular by working with the state legislature to make a positive case for improved access, affordability, and educational resources for our students; for additional support for scholarship and its associated benefits; for greater resources for outreach and services to citizens of the State; and by truly respecting, advancing, and participating in shared governance at the UW System.