

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee
College of Nursing
Black & Gold Committee
Minutes
April 10, 2006

Present: Andrea Altmann, Nina Bendre, Audrey Hale, Catherine Lageson, Sara Kroenke, Julie Snethen, Lisa Mihlbauer, Sue Dean-Baar, Emily Allred, Rachel Kannass, Ryan Smith, Jennifer Daood, Melody Escoto, Melanie Bloedorn,

Excused: Amanda Faile

1. Call to order –

Meeting was called to order at 12:02pm.

2. Review and approve minutes of March 13, 2006 meeting –

Meeting minutes were approved – thank you to Deatra Holloway for completed March minutes.

3. Tuition differential update -

- Dean Dean-Baar explained that the UWM Student Senate approved the formation of the Commission on Tuition Differentials. The commission has been formed since students outside of the differential programs are questioning the tuition differential system. Sara added that some students feel that their voice is not heard regarding the differentials. Currently, the Colleges of Nursing, Arts, Engineering, Business and possibly Architecture have tuition differentials.
- It is unclear who is eligible for membership on the commission. Originally the commission was to be open to all students, but may be modified to have voting members from each College. Colleges with a current tuition differential program will have more votes. Sara mentioned that at the most recent Senate meeting it was announced that the commission would tentatively be composed of one Senator plus one at-large member from each College. The Senate also said at this meeting that they are still brainstorming ideas for the commission and no official plan has been determined.
- Dean Dean-Baar expressed stated that the Senate and the Commission on Tuition Differentials have not been providing adequate notice of these meetings, therefore College of Nursing representative have not been able to attend all of the meetings.
- Another thought either in place of or in addition to the Commission on Tuition Differentials is to have an annual forum open to all students imbedded in a Senate meeting to review the tuition differentials. Dean Dean-Baar suggested to the Senate that they attempt to pick a time ideal for all interested students to attend.
- Dean Dean-Baar gave a history of the tuition differential program. Differentials began two years ago following UW Regent approval. Each College submitted a separate proposal and structured their program differently. For example, some Colleges are able to use the differential money for anything they wish. The College of Nursing program is structured so that our differential money is only used for the NLRC, advising/student services, and on clinical faculty salaries. These areas were chosen based on student survey responses. The first semester the program was implemented, only 3A students paid differentials. The next semester 3A and 3B students paid differentials, etc. The College of Nursing program is also unique in that we only apply tuition differentials to courses in the clinical major.

- It is very important that we are able to use tuition differentials on clinical faculty salaries. There is a large gap between UWM and other nursing local nursing programs regarding clinical faculty salaries. With the tuition differential support, UWM has ensured that this gap has not increased over the past two years.
- The money used towards advising and student services has been used to fund an additional staff person so that advisors are able to spend the majority of their time assisting students.
- Numerous improvements to the NLRC have been made in the past two years with the tuition differential money such as the purchase of SimMan and new IV arms. In addition to the differential money, the NLRC receives \$25,000 of state money each year. This year that money was used to update the respiratory equipment.
- Decisions on what to improve in the NLRC are made through generating a “wish list” that is reviewed by the Black and Gold committee. “Wish list” suggestions are taken from faculty and students and prioritized. The priorities for next year are to replace any outdated computers and increase the total number of computers, address patient/staff safety issues by updating the lifting equipment and installing track ceiling equipment commonly used, and to update the medication administration with a bar code system.
- To provide nursing students more opportunities to voice opinions regarding the tuition differential program and what improvement should be made in the NLRC, it was suggested to create a focus group at the end of each semester, incorporate a question into the end-of-semester evaluations, and have a comment box added to the NLRC. Dean Dean-Baar emphasized that the College of Nursing welcomes all student feedback and wants to give students multiple chances to share ideas with the administration.

4. Implementation of the Evolve product for required texts in the major starting the Fall 2006 semester update -

- Tabled until the May meeting.

5. Peer support group update -

- It was mentioned that the newly elected NSA president Tiffany Voss has been invited to attend the May Black and Gold committee meeting.
- Dean Sue Dean-Baar confirmed that a student-led open panel discussion has been organized to assist current 3A, 3B, and 4A students registering for Fall 2006 classes. The meeting schedule is posted on D2L and on fliers throughout the College of Nursing. No faculty or advisors will be present during the sessions. Dean Dean-Barr requested that the panel members keep a record of attendance and questions that are asked by students.
- Andrea Altmann asked if panel members should prepare any material or only plan to answer questions. Dean Dean-Baar replied to see how the sessions progress, but if students do not ask many questions begin a general discussion of what to expect in the upcoming semester.
- All other discussion regarding the peer support group program was tabled until the May meeting.

6. Other Updates –

- Carpooling bulletin board – tabled until the May meeting.
- Review of survey draft – tabled until the May meeting.
- Stress Management project – tabled until the May meeting.

7. Adjournment –

Meeting was adjourned at 12:55pm.

Respectfully submitted: Audrey Hale; April 14, 2006