

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

Faculty Senate

March 2020 REPORT

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March 9, 2020



OVERVIEW OF MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Concluding the Winter Quarter Obviously, the COVID-19 virus has significantly impacted a great many aspects of the university, and our work as well. We in faculty governance have been pleased to be able to participate in the planning and implementation of academic responses to the suspension of in-person classes and bringing the Winter Quarter to a successful conclusion. This includes consultation regarding and discussion of academic and grading policies, instructional and pedagogical plans, messaging and communication, and more.

Teaching Professor Titles Since the Board's last meeting, the legislation to create new ranks and titles for instructional faculty (Teaching Professor, Associate Teaching Professor and Assistant Teaching Professor) passed the Senate unanimously on its second reading and is now out for a vote of the entire faculty. As a reminder, these titles will replace those of Principal Lecturer, Senior Lecturer and Lecturer, effective September 16, 2020. We look forward to working with the Provost's Office, Academic Human Resources, and the faculty to implement these changes in the months to come.

Vice Chair/Chair-Elect We're delighted to announce that Chris Laws, Principal Lecturer in Astronomy in the College of Arts and Sciences and chair of the Faculty Council on Student Affairs for many years, has been elected as the incoming Vice Chair/Chair-Elect of the Faculty Senate for 2020-2021. Chris has served in a number of roles in faculty governance, including service on the Senate, the Senate Executive Committee, the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting, and more. He'll make an excellent addition to our leadership over the next several years.

Academic Policy Process Review/Revision, Dispute Resolution Process Review/Revision These major long-term projects, a revision of the processes by which academic and curricular policies, and program approvals, are approved, and revising our current system of processes and procedures around dispute resolution and adjudication of grievances, both continue to make good progress.

TO COME

In the months to come, we anticipate activity and potential legislation on a number of other important matters regarding procedures around faculty hiring, promotion and tenure, admissions testing, distance learning, the evaluation of teaching, and more. It's been a very successful year already, and we look forward to the opportunity to do even more over the course of the rest of the year. Indeed, so much legislation is being produced by our faculty councils, that we've called a special meeting of the Faculty Senate, the first in many years, to work through it all.

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