

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Academic Standards
May 21, 2021
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Zoom

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to order
 2. Consent agenda
 - a. Minutes from May 7, 2021
 - b. SCAP report
 3. Chair's Updates
 4. FCAS letter in support of direct transfer admissions
 5. Discussion: next academic year agenda items
 6. Good of the order
 7. Adjourn
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1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order 1:31 p.m.

2. Consent agenda

- a. Minutes from May 7, 2021**
- b. SCAP report**

Chair Huppert asked the council for a motion to approve the consent agenda. The council voted to approve the consent agenda.

3. Chair's Updates

Chair Huppert noted the 2020-2021 FCAS charges have produced much collaboration with UWCC, Advising, and other important stakeholders. The FCAS Class B legislation on satisfactory progress was passed as the SEC and Faculty Senate. The FCAS legislation on medical excuse notes was also passed.

4. FCAS letter in support of direct transfer admissions

The chair shared a draft letter supporting direct major admission for transfer students (Exhibit 2). Members suggested edits and a motion was made to approve the changes pending a revision to the

last paragraph. Any changes made also need to be reviewed by Undergraduate Academic Advising (UAA). The council voted to approve.

The council continued discussions on the ambiguity of catalog copies regarding transfer students. It was noted that if nothing in the catalog copy prohibits these proposed changes or new transfer admission pathways, the catalog would not need to be edited.

5. Discussion: next academic year agenda items

Members discussed topics of interest for the 2021-2022 academic year. Phil Reid (President's Designee) noted the accreditation visit recommended continued work on general education outcomes. Other council members suggested discussions on DL designation on remote fall classes, revised descriptions of general education requirements, syllabus guidelines for all faculty from the UW Registrar, definition of majors and minors, S/NS grading policy changes for extraordinary quarters available in future quarters, and financial implications to S/NS.

6. Good of the order

Chair Huppert noted the diversity taskforce has 2 more meetings during the Spring quarter. An interim report will be provided in June and a verbal update will be provided at the next meeting for the council.

7. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

Minutes by Alexandra Portillo, council analyst, xanport@uw.edu

Present: **Faculty Code Section 21-61 A:** Ann Huppert (chair), Tom Lee, Zhi Lin, Mike Lockwood, Marjorie Olmstead, Joel Ross, Scott Spaulding, Jennifer Turns, Yusuf Pisan
Faculty Code Section 21-61 B: Luz Iniguez, Jennifer Payne, Susanne Redalje
President's Designee: Phil Reid
Regularly invited guests: Scott Fallgren, Tina Miller, Dan Feetham, Jason Johnson, Dave Sundine, Helen Garrett, LeAnne Jones Wiles

Absent: **Faculty Code Section 21-61 A:** Steve Groening
Faculty Code Section 21-61 B: Clara Coyote, Joe Wilson

Exhibits

Exhibit 1 – SCAP report

Exhibit 2 – FCAS Transfer Support Letter draft

The first three major pathways provide students with a level of certainty around what they will be able to study once at University of Washington. However, the fourth option requires that students commit to the University of Washington without certainty around their path of study. This is problematic because through our admissions practices and our satisfactory progress policy, our University requires transfer students to be “major ready” and to declare a major quickly upon admission, yet for students interested in non-direct, capacity-constrained majors, declaring a major quickly can be challenging.

The University is intending to help every department in the group 4 list move to offer a direct model would ensure a smoother student transition to the University by:

- Bringing more consistency and transparency to the major admissions process
 - Allow for more concrete academic planning before transferring
 - Give newly admitted students information about their major status upon admission so they can make a well-informed decision about enrolling at UW
- Providing an academic home to students from their start at the UW
 - Ensure available time for experiential learning such as faculty-guided research or community engagement
 - Provide the potential space for an international or study abroad experience
 - Allow for career-related preparation and exploration, including student employment and internships
 - Give the possibility of pursuing additional areas of study
- Increasing likelihood of timely graduation and helping to avoid financial aid and other funding challenges.

FCAS is providing guidance to departments by sharing the process, including review processes and timelines, that other units have undertaken to provide transfer student admission directly into their majors. We can provide department-specific data and talk through challenges of shifting admissions processes. We are convening conversations with advisers and undergraduate faculty directors and committees, and can help connect departments across colleges. If your department is in the 4th pathway above and you would like to initiate the conversation specific to your department, please contact [Ann Huppert](#) or [Michaelann Jundt](#).