

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON  
FACULTY COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC STANDARDS  
FRIDAY, November 16, 2007, 1:30-3:00 p.m.  
224 Mary Gates Hall

The meeting was called to order at a 1:34 p.m.

**Meeting Synopsis:**

1. Chair's Remarks

- Follow up: Tri-campus accreditation issue
- To come: Cross Campus registration
- Possible FCAS rep on 10 year review committees in Grad School
- Awards Subcommittee

2. Approval of minutes

3. Subcommittee Reports:

- SCAP—Jay Johnson
- Admissions and Graduation—Suzanne Cunningham

4. Old Business

5. New Business

6. Adjournment

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**1. Chair's Remarks**

Chair George Dillon told council members that he spoke with Dan Luchtel, Chair of the Faculty Senate, concerning accreditation issues across the three campuses. He noted that he would meet with Luchtel early next week. Council member John Schaufelberger suggested inviting former Faculty Senate Chair Doug Wadden.

Concerning the cross-campus registration issue, Dillon noted that he will meet with a Tacoma representative next week on the issues raised in their previous meeting with the Tacoma Academic Program Council.

Dillon addressed the proposal to have a FCAS representative on the Graduate School's Ten Year Review Committee. He noted that the council is facing resource issues in regards to staffing another council. It was said that about 20 reviews are completed a year. Dillon said that he will meet on the issue next week.

Last, the Chair reported that former FCAS member, Don Janssen, will sit on the Awards Subcommittee.

**2. Approval of minutes**

With one small correction, council members approved the November 2, 2007 minutes.

**3. Subcommittee Reports:**

## **SCAP—Jay Johnson**

SCAP Chair Jay Johnson told the council there were three “routine” items.

1. Urban Design and Planning – Three courses, URBDP 460, 461, and 471 are being removed from the list of required courses for minors because they are no longer offered.
2. Applied Mathematics – Johnson described the changes as a sequence change in courses required for minors. MATH 307 has been problematic as a course substitute so now they are offering four 300 level courses for students to select from instead.
3. Aeronautics and Astronautics – This was a revision in the program and admission requirements for the major. Course CSE 142 is being dropped and replaced with AMATH 301. Johnson noted the use of advising language in the catalogue and requested that they remove most of it.

### Other Business:

Johnson explained changes made to the 1503 form. SCAP is asking that a statement be added to the form that requires departments to list the departments they have consulted with that will be affected by the changes.

The last bit of business was a request for Debbie Wiegand or Robert Corbett to notify John Sahr if FCAS approves changes to admission requirements for programs with major ready pathways at the community colleges. A question was raised about who communicates changes made at the UW to the community colleges.

## **Admissions and Graduation – Suzanna Cunningham**

Subcommittee Chair Susanna Cunningham gave the council an overview of the subcommittee’s first meeting. She handed out a rough draft of her own notes and provided highlights of the report. She noted that the goal of the meeting was to gather information about the UW Admissions Policy relating to English Language Proficiency, especially the history and implication of the admissions side of the policy. Two guests were at the meeting, Emily Leggio, Senior Associate Director for Policy, Admissions, and Virjean Edwards, Associate Registrar, Registration & Records/Residence Classification Office. Cunningham explained that in the meeting they raised a lot of questions. The group will collect data on the number of students taking the courses and how many are left unable to graduate because of their inability to pass the exam. Council member Philip Ballinger provided some context for the introduction of English language proficiency courses and their use at other universities.

Council members discussed the issues and problems associated with the English language course requirement. Some of the issue and questions raised were:

- Why don’t they use the Graduate School rule which requires a degree (as evidence of English language proficiency), a TOEFL exam score, or an English language test?

- Is the notion of “first language” well defined? The issue here was that English is the official language of many countries, but that often students from those countries are not considered proficient in it.
- Questions were raised regarding who approves the courses and their necessary outcomes. It was noted that the courses are listed in the catalogue and offered through Educational Outreach because they are remedial English courses. It was also suggested that the history of the course could be tracked to see if it has been FCAS approved.
- The next question was, if we can’t use State funds could the course be funded using other means?
- Data collection will help the subcommittee understand the scope of the problem and whether the system is broken or not.
- Is there a difference in policy between International students and resident non-citizen students?

Dillon briefly addressed the history of curricular changes made to the courses by the English department. In discussion, it was noted that it basically falls to academic advisors to alert students that they need to take the courses in order to graduate. In addition, students must sign up for these remedial courses before they sign up for other classes. Council member John Sahr raised a philosophical discussion around the question, why is it important to speak English proficiently. Cunningham invited all council members to the next meeting, scheduled for November 29, 2007 from 3:30-5:00 p.m. in Schmitz 209.

#### **4. Old Business**

There was no old business today.

#### **5. New Business**

Council members had no new business.

#### **6. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

*Minutes by Melissa Kane, Faculty Senate, mmkane@u.washington.edu, or 543-2884*

**Present: Faculty:** Cunningham, Dillon (Chair), Fitzpatrick, Holt, Johnson, Keil, Schaufelberger

**President’s Designee:** Mildon

**Ex-Officio:** Fugate

**Regularly Invited Guests:** Ballinger, Corbett, Sahr, Wiegand

**Invited Guests:** Haag Day, McManaway

**Absent: Faculty:** Breitner (excused), Simpson

**Ex-Officio:** Rocha (excused)

**Regularly Invited Guests:** Winslow