

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
FACULTY COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC STANDARDS
FRIDAY, January 16, 2009, 1:30-3:00 p.m.
224 Mary Gates Hall

Chair John Schaufelberger called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Meeting Synopsis:

- 1. Chair's Report**
 - 2. Approval of Minutes of December 12, 2008**
 - 3. SCAP Report (Jay Johnson)**
 - 4. New Business**
 - **Academic Program Review Process**
 - 5. Adjourn**
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1. Chair's Report

Chair Schaufelberger reported that January 12th a memorandum was sent to the Provost recommending approval of the request to transfer oversight of the curriculum for the University Honors Program (UHP). The UHP curriculum oversight would move from the College of Arts and Sciences to that of the office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs. FCAS recommended that the approval include a stipulation that members of the curriculum review committee established for the UHP be selected from the curriculum committees of the represented schools and colleges. He noted that James Clauss, Director of the University Honors Program (UHP), had accepted the recommended stipulation.

Schaufelberger also reported that the working group on English Language Proficiency has sent an interim report to the Provost, and is set to meet with her February 25th. Schaufelberger explained the recommendations for testing and the use of the DELNA exam. He noted that the funding issue is beyond the scope of this council, but raised the difficulty they face in not knowing what group or individual was responsible for establishing a testing policy. Schaufelberger called for establishing an electronic paper trail of the policy change. A discussion began about how to institutionalize changes, how to respond if students simply refused to abide by the rules, and whether the policy changes would become requirements for either admissions or graduation. Schaufelberger noted that the Admissions and Graduation subcommittee will look at the report and bring their recommendations, as graduation requirements, to FCAS. He clarified that issues related to students taking exams, or to exempting transfer students, belong to this council. The subcommittee will meet next in February.

2. Approval of the minutes of December 12, 2008

Schaufelberger thanked Robert Corbett for taking the minutes for December's meeting. He called for any corrections or changes to the minutes. Hearing none, the minutes were approved as submitted.

3. SCAP—(Jay Johnson)

SCAP chair Jay Johnson reported on six items:

- Music (MUSIC-20080527B) had requested a new option in Music History within the Bachelor of Arts. Johnson noted that SCAP had approved the change and sent it on to Tri-campus review.
- Laboratory Medicine (LABM-20081022) had requested moving BIOL 118 from a recommended admissions course to a required admissions course. Johnson reported that SCAP approved the change as routine after the department explained how they would deal with transfer students and what impact the required course would have on the Biology department.
- Germanics (GERMAN-20080919) requested a name change in its program, revisions to its admissions and program requirements, and revisions to the minor in Germanics and the option in Linguistics within the minor. Johnson explained that the Germanics department was essentially looking to consolidate its program and SCAP approved the revisions as routine.
- Bioethics and Humanities (BH-20081103/MHE-20081103) requested a name change of its program from Medical History and Ethics to Bioethics and Humanities, and a revision of its minor in BH. Johnson reported that SCAP expressed some concern with the use of humanities in the name change and, because the comment period elicited only two remarks, decided to put off a vote on it.
- English (ENGL-20080923B) made a routine request for revisions to its admissions requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree. SCAP approved the changes as routine.
- Physics (PHYS-20081027) requested a revision to its program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in Geography. Johnson explained concerns SCAP raised about the department's efforts to drop, move around, and add courses, while pushing up against the 90 credit limit. He noted that SCAP sent back the request and has asked to see all the requested changes at one time.

By consent agenda Johnson called for approval of the three routine items. A motion was made for approval, and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. New Business

- Academic Program Review Process

Chair Schaufelberger announced that a member from both FCAS and the Faculty Council on Instructional Quality have been invited to attend the charge meetings for Academic Program Reviews. Schaufelberger distributed the schedule and noted that it was something members want to be involved in. Someone from University Academic Advising will also be attending. As members looked at the review schedule a discussion began about which schools and colleges had undergraduate programs, what role an FCAS member would play in the review process, and whether program minors are reviewed along with majors. It was felt that FCAS could inquire about including minors as part of the program review process. Rick Keil suggested that they pair down the list of scheduled academic units to those with undergraduate programs and formalize the council's role in the review, by creating a list of criteria that FCAS would always use. It was pointed out that a large change was made to the review process and FCAS is being invited to attend charge meetings this year, which will help set the self-study for each academic unit that will undergo a review next year. Also clarified was the understanding that FCAS is invited to attend the exit interview part of the site visit. There was some discussion about programs that had made changes, such as the School of Art. Schaufelberger asked council members to consider what issues they are interested in so that he can create a list.

Phil Ballinger asked for clarification on a recent issue in which the College of Arts and Sciences has proposed to change its foreign language requirements. He explained the proposed change, which would give students entering in the fall 2009 with a grade point of 3.0 or better in their third year (or later) foreign language study, a waiver to the 103 proficiency requirement for graduation. Ballinger asked whether it is a SCAP issue, or simple belongs to A & S. Questions were raised about who gave the approval for it, how it effects graduation, and why A & S will need to fill out a 1503 for the proposed change. As a program change the issue will come to SCAP for review. Ballinger spoke about the complicated nature of the proposal and how he hopes to avoid confusion. Registrar Todd Mildon was asked to speak to Kevin Mihata, Assistant Dean for Educational Programs in the College of Arts and Sciences. Council members spoke at length about how the foreign language changes might be implemented, the need for clear communication, and how the rule change might be applied in other areas of the university. Brad Holt raised the issue of how college-wide changes are implemented through a 1503 form.

5. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Minutes by Melissa Kane, Faculty Senate, mmkane@u.washington.edu

Present: **Faculty:** Fitzpatrick, Holt, Johnson, Keil, Schaufelberger (Chair), Taggart
President's Designee: Mildon
Ex Officio Reps: Fugate, Phuong, Haag Day
Regularly Invited Guests: Ballinger, Corbett, Sahr (for Wiegand), Sayrs

Absent: **Faculty:** Almgren, Cunningham, Stroup
Ex Officio Reps: Jespersen, Meske
Regularly Invited Guests: Winslow