

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON  
FACULTY COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC STANDARDS  
Friday, October 9, 2009, 1:30-3:00 p.m.  
224 Mary Gates Hall

Chair John Schaufelberger called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

**Meeting Synopsis:**

1. Chair's Report
    - Introductions
    - Subcommittee Assignments
    - Vote for Ex-Officio Members
    - Approval of the June 5, 2009 minutes
    - Summary of Last Year's Annual Report
    - Preview of Issues for this Year
  2. Old Business
    - Undergraduate Academic Advising Council Recommendations on Academic Progress
  3. New Business
    - Academic Program Review of School of Art
    - College of the Environment pre-majors
  4. Adjourn
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**1. Chair's Report**

Chair Schaufelberger welcomed members to the meeting and asked for a round of introductions. He provided an overview of the Council's three subcommittees (SCAP, Subcommittee on Admissions and Graduation, and Honors) and described their work. He asked Council members to sign up for one of the subcommittees.

Voting council members unanimously voted to extend voting rights to all ex-officio members. Schaufelberger announced that the June 5, 2009 minutes were approved electronically over the summer.

Schaufelberger provided a summary of the 2008-2009 FCAS Annual Report and a preview of the upcoming issues for 2009-2010. Issues on the Council's agenda for this year include reviewing the medical professional program, cross-campus enrollment, a review of the holistic admissions policy, the metrics used to assess Special Admits, a

presentation on the new student administrative system Quali Student from Debbie Wiegand, the separation of degrees between the campuses, open majors becoming competitive majors, the mathematics preparation of students transferring from community colleges to the UW, and various “Handbook cleanup” projects that will be handled by the subcommittees this year.

FCAS also discussed upcoming proposed edits to the Handbook, one regarding guests in the classroom and the other regarding changes to the guidelines on double majors, double degrees, and minors.

John Sahr initiated a discussion on the mathematics requirements at the community colleges, new mathematics graduation requirements in the high schools, and the UW’s mathematics admissions requirement. The group looking at this right now is the Joint Access Oversight Group. Chair Schaufelberger asked Sahr to make a presentation on this subject at a future meeting or bring a colleague to a future meeting to provide insight on this issue.

## **2. Old Business**

Chair Schaufelberger provided a brief overview of Debbie Wiegand’s presentation at the June meeting regarding the Undergraduate Academic Advising Council Recommendations on Academic Progress. The issue concerns proposed changes to the Handbook language on “two bachelor’s degrees.” This issue has come to the fore partly as a result of the Program on the Environment moving into the College of the Environment, a change that is expected to result in more students pursuing double degrees. Schaufelberger stated that FCAS has committed to “fix” the Handbook. The Council discussed current policy on dual degrees and double majors, how advisors handle this issue, and which students and degree programs could be affected by changes to this policy.

Haag Day distributed a handout titled “Undergraduate Academic Advising Council Recommendations on Academic Progress of UW—Seattle Undergraduates” to the Council. She said that a request has come from the College of Arts and Sciences for the colleges to differentiate between when a double major is appropriate and when a double bachelor’s is appropriate. She gave an overview of the UAAC’s proposed changes, reading from the handout. She asked the Council to make the final recommendation on this issue.

The Council engaged in a wide-ranging discussion of how students earn a degree with two majors versus how they earn double degrees. They also discussed how accreditation

and interdisciplinary considerations influence this proposed policy change and some examples of this kind of situation, such as when a double degree in Oceanography and Music is pursued.

Holt reiterated the idea he introduced at the last meeting, saying that he thinks the University should prohibit students from getting double degrees with the same title, instead of offering guidelines for double degrees.

Schaufelberger announced that he would try to weave these ideas together, write some preliminary language, and bring the topic back to the Council for further review this year.

### **3. New Business**

Schaufelberger introduced the topic of the School of Art's Academic Program Review and asked FCAS for input.

Keil announced that the College of the Environment is creating a pre-major program within the college. He asked whether any of its decisions need to come through FCAS. Schaufelberger replied that he thinks a 1503 approval will be required. The Council engaged in a general discussion of pre-majors, coding issues, and resource implications. They discussed how or whether pre-majors are part of the college and whether pre-majors will be seen in a different light once Activity Based Budgeting changes the budget process. They discussed the College of Engineering's relationship with its pre-majors and the implications of Engineering pre-major status to both students and administrators.

### **4. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

*Minutes by Kristy Carter, Council Support Staff, [kcarter4@u.washington.edu](mailto:kcarter4@u.washington.edu)*

**Present: Faculty:** Cunningham, Holman, Kramer, Holt, Keil, Taggart, Pengra, Schaufelberger (Chair)

**President's Designee:** Virjean Edwards for Mildon

**Ex Officio Reps:** Fugate, Allen, Padvorac, Haag Day

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

**Absent: Faculty:** Almgren, Stroup,

**Ex Officio Reps:** Blume