

University Of Washington  
Faculty Council on Academic Standards  
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., September 27, 2013  
Gerberding 142

**Meeting Synopsis:**

1. Call to Order
  2. Review of the Minutes from May 31, 2013
  3. Introductions
  4. Subcommittee Choices
  5. Chair's Report
  6. Adjourn
- 

**1) Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kramer at 1:30 p.m.

**2) Review of the Minutes from May 31, 2013**

Minutes from May 31, 2013 were approved as written.

**3) Introductions**

Kramer explained that all council meetings will end promptly at 3:00. Any issues that are still in discussion and require a vote will not be voted on by the council until the next meeting. Additionally, if an agenda item is not submitted the Wednesday prior to the upcoming meeting it will not be voted on until the following meeting. This is to prevent last-minute voting on issues the council has not prepared for in advance.

Members introduced themselves and explained their special roles on the council.

**4) Subcommittee Choices**

Subcommittee on Academic Programs (SCAP). SCAP reviews all 1503s submitted by schools and colleges that address new degrees/majors/minors, along with any changes that are proposed throughout the year. SCAP meets every other Friday and needs more volunteers from FCAS.

Subcommittee on Admissions and Graduations. This subcommittee addresses any issues pertaining to rules and regulations associated with graduation. Topics include student petitions and the holistic review process in response to new diversity rules. Additionally, the subcommittee addresses other issues that arise such as community college/transfer agreements and entrance exams taken in other countries.

Honors Subcommittee. This subcommittee meets once in Fall Quarter and twice in early May. This committee establishes cut-offs for honors at the university level and chooses medalists.

**5) Chair's Report**

*New diversity requirements*

Kramer provided an update on the recently-passed Class B legislation creating a diversity graduation requirement for undergraduates. The legislation was approved by the faculty as a whole and the requirements are now enforced for students who enrolled in Fall Quarter. In discussions over the summer questions have been raised asking for clarification of Di courses and FCAS oversight. Kramer asked the council for feedback on how FCAS should provide oversight. For example, should FCAS review the policies that different schools and colleges are using?

A suggestion was made that FCAS should ensure consistency from college to college. Discussion ensued. A process should be put in place for professors to have access to the regulations in order to ensure they understand how to apply to Di course designation when they develop their courses. It was clarified that individual faculty members do not actually determine the Di designation but can make recommendations to their college curriculum committee which will make the decision.

A question was raised if there was a process for students to petition Di designation for courses they take. Students have the option to petition for anything, including courses they believe fall under the diversity requirement. However, since this is a college issue, FCAS does not need to oversee this process. It was argued again that people would feel more comfortable if there was greater oversight of the process. Discussion ensued. Colleges need to make their policies explicit and the role of FCAS is to review those policies.

It was explained that undergraduates only need to take 3 credits in order meet the diversity requirement and a large fraction of students are already meeting it. Discussion ensued regarding the legislation. A concern was raised that students entering this Fall Quarter are affected by the diversity requirements but still do not know which courses fall under the Di course designation.

It was mentioned that FCAS does not oversee implementation with any other course requirements. Kramer explained FCAS's oversight would just be the initial round of reviewing the procedures set by each school and college, nothing else. In the future Di course designation would simply go through the department's own curriculum committee, removing FCAS from any oversight responsibilities.

#### *Integrated Social Science (ISS) Online Degree Completion Program*

The ISS online degree program is moving forward and a draft proposal is currently being reviewed. It has not been officially submitted and is waiting for feedback in order to identify any problems and concerns. Kramer met with ISS several times over the summer in hopes to shape the process as it moves forward. The proposal initially came from the administration resulting from investigations of online degree completion programs. The understanding at the time was that the evening degree program would address this topic, but after further review it was apparent that it could not meet the demands of such a program. Faculty members, lecturers and even a director have been hired for this program which expects to enroll 300 students next year. Kramer clarified that this is the second online program proposal; ECFS was approved last year and social sciences is on its way.

#### *UW-Tacoma Online Criminal Justice Degree Program*

UW – Tacoma has put forth a proposal for an online criminal justice degree which is currently in tri-campus review. Students enrolled in the program are regular UW-Tacoma students, not “limited admitted” like students in the ECFS online degree program. Kramer explained that FCAS does not have

oversight of programs that go through UW Bothell and Tacoma because each campus has its own internal approval process for changes/additions to academic programs.

### **Faculty Committee on Tri-campus Policy (FCTCP)**

Kramer and the chair of FCTCP, Bill Erdly, have discussed ways to improve communication between councils on issues related to Class B legislation. This came up last year because FCTCP was not involved with the discussions regarding the diversity graduation requirement and the ECFS online degree program. Erdly was provided a copy of the ISS draft proposal to be reviewed by FCTCP.

Robert Corbett added that FCTCP is working on updating the tri-campus review process to include an internal notification process within the college/school which would occur prior to full tri-campus review.

### **Limited Admission Students**

In addition to the undergraduate diversity graduation requirement, FCAS also developed Class B legislation regarding “limited admission students” which created a new “class” of students. Kramer worked with the provost’s committee during the summer focusing on implementation issues and explained that the changes will require lots of follow-up work. FCAS will be faced with another set of Class B changes to the student regulations. Kramer also explained that these changes must be put into place before the ISS online degree completion program can be approved this Fall Quarter.

Kramer provided a brief overview of the Class B legislation from last year. After assessing the impacts of the legislation the provost’s committee recommended changes to the newly-defined student categories to reduce confusion, including changing the names to “program specific” and “generally admitted”. One change that the provost’s committee wanted to see was allowing “program specific” students to enroll in regular courses based on space availability, similar to non-matriculated students, while receiving credit.

Kramer had mixed feelings about this issue and questioned if this is a door that should be opened. Discussion ensued. This will be a big problem for the Registrar’s Office to implement. A question was raised if FCAS should be involved with this discussion. It was pointed out that the Class B legislation was supposed to have clearly defined the “limited admission” student category. The changes recommended by the provost’s committee would alter the intent of the newly-defined categories.

Kramer discussed other changes resulting from the provost’s committee and will send out a “cheat sheet” for councilmembers to review in order to approve at the next meeting. There are 100-level chapters of student regulations and policies that will require Class B legislation and 200-level chapters that will require changes without undergoing the legislative process. The changes would also affect the issuance of medals, awards, eligibility for the dean’s list.

Discussion ensued about students who transfer between “limited admitted” and “regularly admitted” categories. If a “limited admission” student from an online program applies to the UW they are a transfer student. Additionally, if a “regularly admitted” student applies to a program-specific degree, then wants to move back to “regular” admittance, they are not simultaneously enrolled in both the specific program and the university.

Discussion ensued about the process in defining university courses. FCAS has been recently hit with complicated questions regarding the definition of “courses” and a thorough process needs to be created to clarify its meaning. A comment was made that work also needs to be done to clarify the definition of

majors. There are many contradictory definitions of majors since each department wants to use their own definition and this should be another issue to look at throughout the year.

### **Good of the order**

A question was raised asking if FCAS would be addressing the increasing number of competitive majors offered throughout the university. Competitive majors are approved in FCAS but the council only reviews majors on an individual basis. Faculty have the lead role in deciding curriculum taught throughout the university but the total number of competitive majors is considered a funding issue which goes through a separate process. Discussion ensued. FCAS can play a limited role by speaking for the faculty, but the council would need more support in order to have more influence in those discussions.

### **6) Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Kramer at 3:00 p.m.

---

*Minutes by Grayson Court, Faculty Council Support Analyst. [gcourt@uw.edu](mailto:gcourt@uw.edu)*

**Present:**           **Faculty:** Kramer (Chair), Brock, Cunningham, Hoff, Janssen, Melin, Pengra, Salehi-Esfahani, Taggart

**Ex-Officio Reps:** Wensel, McNerney

**Guests:** Robert Corbett, Emily Leggio

**Absent:**           **Faculty:** Keil (sabbatical), Harrison

**President's Designee:** Ballinger

**Ex-Officio Reps:** Kollet