

**University of Washington**  
**Faculty Council on Academic Standards**

Friday, January 5, 2007  
224 Mary Gates Hall

Chair George Dillon called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm.

**Meeting Synopsis:**

1. Announcements
2. Approval of December 8, 2006 FCAS Minutes
3. Admissions and Graduation Subcommittee Update
4. SCAP Update
5. Definition of Interdisciplinary Minors

**1. Announcements**

Previous note-taker Whitney Thompson, has take a position in the Graduate School. Monica Banks is currently filling in.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

FCAS approved the December 8, 2006, with the following changes:

Item 5, *Legislation to clarify new program approval process with public announcement*, was amended to read as follows:

The committee discussed programs that announcement of new (replace courses with programs and delete “minor”) or degrees that have not yet undergone even ~~HECB~~ FCAS approval (i.e. Ethics minor in Philosophy, Interdisciplinary Early Childhood and Family Studies Major).

**Chair George Dillon will draft a letter by the next meeting on January 19, 2007.**

**3. Subcommittee Business:**

***Admissions and Graduation***

The committee will request information on special admits and revisit the issue.

***SCAP:***

The following proposal was reviewed by the committee and approved as routine:

1. **Social Work** – (SOCWF-20061115) Revised program requirements for the major in Social Welfare within the Bachelor of Arts.

Background: Changing the credit allocations for core courses, switching courses between junior and senior years, and change 3 courses from electives to core requirements.

Justification: Saw a need for revisions when creating new major.

**Action Taken: 12/15/2006 – Approve routine with catalog edits and forward to FCAS.**

The committee also reviewed a proposal for a BA in Biochemistry, including comments from the tricampus review process. It was determined that there were no concerns about the program and that it could be forwarded for review by the HECB.

1. **Biochemistry** — (BIOC-20060109). New Program Leading to a Bachelor of Arts in Biochemistry degree.

Background/Justification: The enrollment growth for the biochemistry degree has created two primary issues that this new degree proposal addresses. The first of these is that there are a significant number of students who wish to obtain a deep understanding of the field of biochemistry, who are seeking a broader educational experience than is practical given the extensive coursework requirements of the existing B.S. degree. To meet this need, we believe the UW should offer the proposed B. A. in Biochemistry, a degree that is less extensive in coursework compared to the B.S. thus providing students with the flexibility to study biochemistry while pursuing other interests.

**Action Taken: 12/15/2006 –\*\*FINAL REVIEW\*\* Approve Routine and forward to FCAS**

The committee also discussed whether programs offered as BA degrees are counted as “high demand” by the Office of Financial Management (OFM) and the HECB. Corbett said that the definition of what is “high demand” is set by the legislature and is driven by perceptions of workforce need. He said that the production of high-demand degrees was given prominence in the last budget for the university and the most recent accountability measures. An additional question is how students receiving two majors or two degrees is reported to OFM.

**Action Items: Todd will work with Phil Hoffman’s office to find out how to count tri-campus students.  
Robert will check with HECB on the process.**

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

The committee discussed the definition of interdisciplinary minors. Some questions that arose were should this topic go before the faculty and become a resolution and is “guideline” appropriate. The committee discussed the complexity of these guidelines as well as the benefits.

**Action Items: George and Robert will revise the guidelines with more advisory language.**

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

SCAP will meet with the School of Social Work on their unanswered.  
SCAP minutes were approved.

The meeting adjourned at 3:02. Minutes by Monica Banks, with additions by R. Corbett.

#### **Present:**

##### ***Faculty members:***

Brixy, S.; Dillon, G.; Janssen, D.; Johnson, J.; Cunningham, S.; Newell, L.

##### ***Ex officio members:***

McManaway, D. (for E. Shields); Nobles, R.; Navin, M.; Rickerson, C.

Sahr, J. (for E. Taylor)

##### ***Regularly invited guests:***

Corbett, R.; Mildon, T.; Trudeau, M.; Wiegand, D.

#### **Absent:**

##### ***Faculty Members***

Keil, R. (with excuse); Keith, S. (with excuse)