Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to order
2. Review of the minutes from April 7, 2020
3. Student Aid/CARES – Kay Lewis, Executive Director, Financial Aid and Scholarships
4. Proctorio Concerns/GPSS Issues – Giuliana Conti, GPSS President
5. Mental Health Task Force Update – Ann Culligan
6. Chair’s Report
7. Good of the order
8. Adjourn

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m.

2. Review of the minutes from April 7, 2020

The minutes from April 7, 2020 were approved as written.

3. Student Aid/CARES – Kay Lewis, Executive Director, Financial Aid and Scholarships

Kay Lewis gave an update on student aid from the CARES Act.

Funds from the CARES Act can be used for undergraduate and graduate students, but not international or undocumented students. Around $12 million has been provided for 9,600 students. Standard grants total $1,200 per eligible student or $1,700 with dependents. Students with the greatest need were determined using the financial aid form. UW used emergency funds to help cover some undocumented students. Emergency aid applications are online for domestic students while international students would need to apply for private funds.

Communication with students about available aid programs has been done via e-mail and through online resources. Faculty are encouraged to direct students in need to the emergency aid webpage. The funds are being utilized by students and there are still more requests that need to be addressed. It is hard to tell when UW will run out of CARES Act money for student aid, but there should be enough for Spring Quarter. UW Bothell and Tacoma students go through the same process as Seattle students to receive funds. Students in financial need are often in need of other resources and Lewis noted students are being connected to sources for wellness concerns.

There will still be the same amount of money for student aid in Fall Quarter, but Congress will likely have to pass another funding bill for UW to fully meet student needs.

4. Proctorio Concerns/GPSS Issues – Giuliana Conti, GPSS President

Giuliana Conti gave a report on GPSS concerns with Proctorio.

Proctorio is the current supplier for UW online testing. It allows Teaching Assistants (TA) or Faculty members to “lock down the student’s computer during the quiz to prevent web browsing, copying and pasting, and so on; Record students’ webcam, web browsing, keyboard and mousing activity; Flag
student submissions that indicate suspicious behavior, based on instructor settings (UW IT website). TA’s have noted concerns on Proctorio’s “invasiveness”.

There have been issues around campus with academic misconduct during online exams. A council member noted that admitted academic misconduct has reached 20% in some departments. Proctorio does not solve these issues, but it is viewed as a resource for faculty who have no other options.

Going forward, student government would like to be involved in discussions around the use of Proctorio.

5. Mental Health Task Force Update – Ann Culligan

Ann Culligan gave an update on the Mental Health Task Force.

The Task Force presented their report to the President and Provost, but most of their recommendations were not adopted. There was agreement to consolidate mental health services in Hall Health and there will be centralized reporting to the Office of Student Life. There are financial issues with implementing the other recommendations and also staffing issues in the Office of Student Life with enacting them.

A council member noted incremental increases to student fees would be a solid foundation for mental health funding and that students should have access to adequate health care insurance. Culligan remarked there is strong student support for a separate health fee, different than the current student fee. FCSA will continue to advocate for the recommendations of the Task Force and to prioritize mental health issues.

6. Chair’s Report

Chair Laws gave an update on Class B legislation regarding Satisfactory/Non-Satisfactory grading that the Senate Executive Committee passed at its meeting on May 4, 2020 (Exhibit 1). The legislation only effects undergraduate students.

7. Good of the order

Nothing was stated.

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

Minutes by Alexandra Portillo, xanport@uw.edu, council analyst

Present: Faculty Code Section 21-61 A: Ann Culligan, Chris Laws (chair), Dean Heerwagen, Andrea Carroll, Kivanc Dincer, Clark Musselman, Christopher Campbell, Selma Powell, Bruce Hevly
Faculty Code Section 21-61 B: Erin Conor, Sam Akeyo, Matthew Emery, Kat Eli
Guests: Kay Lewis, Giuliana Conti, Robin Angotti
President’s designee: Lincoln Johnson

Absent: Faculty Code Section 21-61 A: Gail Joseph

Exhibits

Exhibit 1 – Class B Legislation S/NS
Background and Rationale

This legislation, reviewed by the Faculty Council on Academic Standards, amends Scholastic Regulations Chapter 110.1.A.6 (S/NS) to provide students with greater grading flexibility in the case of campus-wide extraordinary circumstances, such as the current COVID-19 health emergency.

Students have the option to register for courses on a satisfactory/non-satisfactory (S/NS) basis, but current regulations limit such courses to elective credits, and limit the number of such courses that a student may register for and count towards graduation.

The proposed section e) of the legislation provides a means by which the campus Registrar can, in consultation with appropriate faculty governance bodies, allow all S/NS credits to count toward the credits required for degrees and graduation.

Chapter 110
Grades, Honors, and Scholarship

1. The Grading System

A. System of Grades

6) S/NS

a) An undergraduate may earn up to 25 elective credits of the 180 minimum credits required for graduation on a satisfactory/non-satisfactory (S/NS) basis. Each instructor shall report numeric grades to the Registrar, who shall convert satisfactory grades (2.0 or greater) to S, and non-satisfactory grades (less than 2.0) to NS for the student's transcript. S/NS shall not be considered in computation of the grade-point average.

b) An undergraduate student may register for up to a maximum of 20 credits under the satisfactory/non-satisfactory basis, with exceptions possible by approval of the campus Registrar.

c) Subject to the maximum credit limitation above, the student may indicate at the time of registration if she or he elects to take a course on an S/NS basis. The student can change to and from an S/NS option through the seventh week of the quarter through electronic registration. There is no limit to the number of S/NS credits that a student can register for in a given quarter. Withdrawal from an S/NS course is subject to the same regulations as for any other course.

d) An instructor may not submit an S or NS in a course. S/NS grades shall appear on the transcript only in the event that the student is registered on an S/NS basis.

e) Under campus-wide extraordinary circumstances, the campus Registrar, in consultation with the appropriate campus faculty body, may waive the restrictions in sections (a)-(c) above so that undergraduate students may opt for S/NS grading for elective or required courses without a maximum credit limitation. S/NS grading for campus-wide extraordinary circumstances deemed-quarters will meet graduation and degree requirements.
Temporary modifications to the S/NS policies will be clearly communicated to the campus community by the campus Registrar.

Approved by:
Senate Executive Committee
May 4, 2020