

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs
June 5th, 2018
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Odegaard Undergraduate Library 320

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to order
 2. Review of the minutes from May 22nd, 2018
 3. Faculty Code rewrite / faculty disciplinary processes – Zoe Barsness (Chair, Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting)
 4. Good of the order
 5. Adjourn
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1) Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.

Janes reminded the council the meeting would end at noon. He noted FCFA's Class A legislation concerning faculty lecturer issues is currently in the process of being voted on by university voting faculty.

2) Review of the minutes from May 22nd, 2018

The minutes from May 22nd, 2018 were approved as amended.

3) Faculty Code rewrite / faculty disciplinary processes – Zoe Barsness (Chair, Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting)

Zoe Barsness (Chair, Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting) was present to discuss an ongoing initiative for revision of the Faculty Code pertaining to university faculty disciplinary processes. She used two handouts as part of her presentation (Exhibit 1) (Exhibit 2). Barsness explained a review of the current faculty disciplinary processes has been launched by Faculty Senate leadership this academic year and will continue into the next. She explained it is likely that legislation that comes out of the initiative to amend the Faculty Code around faculty disciplinary process will be forwarded to FCFA for review when completed, and the council may be asked to sponsor.

Overview

It was noted the last time these sections of the Faculty Code outlining faculty disciplinary processes were seriously overhauled was nearly 30 years ago. Members of the Senate Leadership felt it is an appropriate time to reevaluate and recommend revisions.

Barsness explained a preliminary evaluation showed that while the university's processes for faculty adjudication are well-defined, there is a lack of resolution processes/strategies in place before the adjudication stage. It was noted adjudications are legalistic, complicated, and often drawn-out processes. Exhibit 1 was highlighted. It was noted one idea under deliberation is to encourage parties to exhaust interest-based solutions before more formal adjudication procedures are used.

Initiative committee structure

A Steering Committee for the initiative co-chaired by Barsness and Mike Townsend (Secretary of the Faculty) with membership consisting of administrators from numerous related UW offices/agencies meets regularly each quarter to act as the final sounding board for ideas relating to the initiative. The Values & Principles Committee is made up mainly of faculty members, but also includes deans, the Ombud, and others in its membership. It meets to discuss underlying principles to be reflected in final recommended Code language, and primarily focuses on identifying design questions for reworking of these systems, as well as discovering shortcomings, pain points, and challenges within the current system. The Drafting Committee is responsible for authoring the rewrites to related sections of the Faculty Code, and is made up of members of the Advisory Committee on Faculty Code and Regulations, the Ombud, and other members. It was noted the drafting phase of the initiative is now beginning and will continue through the summer (2018).

An aggressive timeline will see the legislation (Class A) move through rounds of review during academic year 2018-2019.

Questions

A member commented that in development of substantive legislation such as this, garnering input/buy-in from populations that are likely to be differently affected is traditionally a best practice. He recommended the initiative be more broadly vetted, even outside of the traditional Senate review processes. Barsness agreed and noted the initiative is attempting to do this. She urged members to contact her if additional stakeholder groups are identified.

A member recommended that RCW Chapter 18.130 Regulation of Health Professions —Uniform Disciplinary Act be considered during development of changes. He also noted that agencies that sponsor UW research may have their own set of misconduct rules that might also be considered.

A member noted he believes the timeline is optimistic, and urged that the work be carried out carefully, with timeline as an afterthought. He asked that the initiative's committees consider steps to educate chairs, deans, and other dual faculty-administrators and account for the preparation of faculty in understanding these processes.

Barsness was thanked for presenting and she left the meeting.

4) Good of the order

Members were thanked for their work during the academic year.

Janes explained a search is currently on for the chair of FCFA for the next year (2018-19); he noted he will be leaving to act as Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate.

5) Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at noon.

Minutes by Joey Burgess, jmbg@uw.edu, council support analyst

Present: **Faculty:** Steve Buck, Joseph Janes (chair), Aaron Katz, Purnima Dhavan, Dan Jacoby, Tom Hazlet, Miceal Vaughan, Jacob Vigdor, Kurt Johnson
Ex-officio reps: Judith Henchy, Bryan Crockett
President's designee: Cheryl Cameron
Guests: Mike Townsend, George Sandison

Absent: **Faculty:** Eric Bugyis, Gordon Watts, Kamran Nemati, Margaret Adam
Ex-officio reps: Ziyang Bai, Bryan Crockett

Exhibits

Exhibit 1 – facultydisciplinaryprocesses_1.pdf

Exhibit 2 – facultydisciplinaryprocesses_2.pdf