

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Teaching and Learning

October 11th, 2018
10:30am – 12:00pm
HUB 238

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to Order
 2. Review of the Minutes from May 31st, 2018
 3. Introductions
 4. Review of 2018-19 FCTL charge letter
 5. Goals & Subcommittees
 6. Good of the order
 7. Adjourn
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1) Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m.

2) Review of the Minutes from May 31st, 2018

The May 31st, 2018 minutes were approved as written.

3) Introductions

The council went around the table with introductions.

4) Review of 2018-19 FCTL charge letter

The council reviewed the charge letter sent from the Senate Chair (Exhibit 1). Halverson (chair) asked that the council review this letter, specifically the following bulleted goals/topics recommended by the Senate Chair:

- Evaluate if more can be done to facilitate religious accommodations be made for students, as requested by the ASUW Student Senate.
- Continue to oversee development of Principles for the use of Learning Analytics at the UW.
- Evaluate if the “Saturday Finals” issue can be remedied or its severity reduced.

The council discussed each item. **Evaluate if more can be done to facilitate religious accommodations for students, as requested by the ASUW student Senate:** The chair read ASUW’s request from last year. The council is supportive of this change recommended by ASUW. The challenge, they agreed, is to think of and negotiate reasonable accommodations. A member asked if the council was charged with

suggesting a resolution or offering a response. Another member suggested that a subcommittee look at the University's calendar of religious holidays. Other members suggested that the faculty be proactive when designing courses. Ellen McGough said the School of Nursing asks their faculty to design courses with religious holidays in mind and recommended it as a potential model. McGough will look this model and report back to the chair. The University of Wisconsin could be another model and was sighted by ASUW.

The chair asked the ASUW representative the intent of the request. The ASUW representative said the intent on this issue was to institutionalize a willingness for faculty to work with students in regards to religious observations.

The chair suggested inviting members of the ASUW to future meetings to discuss further.

Continue to oversee development of goals for the use of learning analytics at the UW: The chair will arrange for Tom Lewis to present at a future council meeting to discuss the goals and principles for learning analytics

Evaluate if the Saturday Finals issue can be remedied or its severity reduced: The chair said that this item may result in legislation that comes out of this council.

5) Goals & Subcommittees

The council discussed work, from the charge letter and new items, they will take on this year.

Hornby recommended that diversity and equity informed pedagogy be highlighted as a goal. The chair asked Hornby to craft a goal (bullet point) and chair will add it to a revised charge letter. The chair also said that there seemed to be traction around identifying metrics around student progress in diversity and equity work.

Jason Johnson (Senior Associate Dean and Associate Vice Provost, Undergraduate Academic Affairs) suggested adding course evaluations to the charge letter. There are different approaches the council could take. The FCTL could focus conversations around bias in course evaluations and how the results are used for the promotion of faculty members. Participation rates (paper to online) might also be reviewed. Course evaluations are the one standardized method to give feedback on a course. FCTL could discuss and work on the function of the evaluations (formative vs. summative). Another member asked how course evaluations are (or could be) used to inform teaching and learning. As they are now, the same member suggested, they do not inform teaching and learning.

The council agreed to have this issue as a subgroup, and wondered if other councils will take up this issue. Joey Burgess (Assistant to the Secretary of the Faculty, Faculty Senate Office) will look into inviting Johnson to the next Faculty Council Chairs meeting as a guest of Halverson. The chair also asked Johnson to formulate a bullet for the revised charge letter.

After discussion, the council revised their subcommittees, and present members selected which they would take on this year. Below are the subcommittees and assigned members:

Goals and Principles of Learning Analytics at the UW
Mark Zachry

Diversity and Equity Informed Pedagogies
Ellen McGough, Katie Malcom, Amanda Hornby, Judy Howard, David Goldstein

Evaluation of Instruction for Improvement of Teaching: Course Evaluations
Timea Tihanyi, Jason Johnson, Angelia Miranda

Educational Policies/Procedures around Teaching and Learning
LeAnne Jones Wiles, Angelia Miranda, Tom Halverson

Members who were not present will be appointed to subcommittees after the next council meeting.

6) Good of the order

Nothing was stated.

7) Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Minutes by Lauren Hatchett, lehatch@uw.edu, council analyst

Present: **Faculty:** Ellen McGough, Thomas Halverson (chair), Mark Zachry,
Timea Tihanyi
Ex-officio reps: Amanda Hornby, Judith Howard, Angelia Miranda
President's designee: LeAnne Jones Wiles
Guests: Jason Johnson, Katie Malcom

Absent: **Faculty:** Fred Bookstein, Sri Devi Duvvuri, David Goldstein,
Amy Howells, David Masuda, Laurianne Mullinax, Kathleen
Peterson,
Ex-officio reps: N/A

Exhibits

Exhibit 1 – fctl_chargeletter_2018-19_draft.pdf

September 16, 2018

Thomas Halverson, Chair
Faculty Council on Teaching and Learning

Dear Professor Halverson:

The Faculty Council on Teaching & Learning is charged with responsibility “for all matters of policy, both academic and non-academic, relating to improvement of teaching and learning in the university; including distance learning, educational outreach, and summer quarter, and the use of educational technology in instruction” (Faculty Code, Section 42-33). Activities historically performed include addressing a prioritized list of student and faculty-related concerns, inquiries, and interests relating to the effectiveness and overall well-being of pedagogy at the UW, especially by way of inviting key administrators and stakeholders to council meetings for providing supplementary information, and for receiving council and student guidance on the topics at-hand.

Our recommendation is that the council identify specific goals that can be accomplished by the end of the 2018-19 academic year.

The Senate office did a background review to help identify goals for your council. This included review of minutes from last year’s meetings, review of discussions at Faculty Senate meetings, and selected outreach for topics. Recommended goals and / or topics for discussion include:

- Evaluate if more can be done to facilitate religious accommodations for students, as requested by the ASUW Student Senate.
- Continue to oversee development of Goals for the use of Learning Analytics at the UW.
- Evaluate if the “Saturday Finals” issue can be remedied or its severity reduced.

After your first council meeting we will be available to discuss the goals your council identified. Thereafter, we will post your council’s goals on the Faculty Senate website to communicate the important work you are doing on their behalf.

Sincerely,

George Sandison
Chair, Faculty Senate

/jmb