

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs
January 3rd, 2017
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Odegaard Undergraduate Library 320

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to order
 2. Review of the minutes from December 13th, 2016
 3. Lecturer issues
 4. Good of the order
 5. Adjourn
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1) Call to order

Watts called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

2) Review of the minutes from December 13th, 2016

The minutes from December 13th, 2016 were approved as written.

3) Lecturer issues

The council resumed its discussion of lecturer issues at the UW. Watts explained he sent out an email relating to forming a small task force of FCFA members to develop a list of responsibilities for UW lecturers. He noted the idea is this work would be completed and brought back to the council for review, and then possibly disseminated widely to the university community for further feedback. January 31st was mentioned as a date for the first draft to be ready for review.

Watts mentioned the “instructional professor proposal” originally sent to the FCFA for review by former Faculty Senate chair Jack Lee in the 2015-2016 academic year, as it was discussed in the previous meeting of the council. He noted the response to that proposal from the College of Arts & Sciences dean (as well as the college council) is available on the council’s Google Drive file-sharing site for members to view.

Faculty Code Section 21-32

Watts asked that Faculty Code Section 21-32 be displayed. He noted in section 21-32 there was an idea from a member that code changes be implemented in order to grant increased voting privileges to lecturers. Draft revisions were made in the section (Exhibit 1). There was some discussion of annual appointments, and a member clarified that annual appointments do not apply to those hired each quarter at 50% or more time; it must be an appointment of at least nine months. There was some discussion of what specific information relating to lecturer appointments is viewable by the UW Academic HR Office.

A member noted it would be prudent to consider protected classes of lecturers at the university and the susceptibility of people to be moved out of, or not hired into those classes.

Vaughan noted using the language “nine or twelve-month appointment” might make it more clear which lecturers the code revisions are meant to address, and it was noted that language is already utilized in the Faculty Code thus there is precedent for use of the language.

There was some discussion of Artists in Residence, as the title appears in the section. Taricani explained the Artists in Residence title was created in the late 1990s to be an equivalent to lecturer, but for those with expertise in teaching artistry; the title is used in the School of Music as well as other schools, and the appointment may be on a full-time or part-time basis.

A member recommended leaving the Artists in Residence language alone in the section for the time being. Watts noted the reasoning for leaving off Artists in Residence from the draft changes to the section should be explained in legislative rationale (upon instance of forwarding legislation).

Additional discussion of changes

Watts asked if the above changes would present a significant change in various schools of council members and guests present. The council expressed the need for data, specifically on how many lecturers are within individual schools, colleges, and departments in order for this analysis to take place.

Cameron (president’s designee) asked what kind of voting rights are being discussed (i.e. the full range of voting rights or something different). It was noted that years prior, when granting voting rights to research faculty, there were some issues with achieving quorum for important voting decisions. A member asserted that the potential for this instance would vary between units. The current code states more faculty ranks are included to participate in hiring votes than for other decisions, so there are already these types of distinctions in the Faculty Code, and it will be need to be clarified what voting rights are being granted via any code revisions.

It was noted a voting decision is not as informative for a dean if a smaller total percentage of voting personnel have participated. Townsend (Secretary of the Faculty, Faculty Senate & Governance Office) explained the Faculty Senate uses an excused absence quorum policy, which removes those who give notice of their absence from meetings from the official quorum count, thus making it more feasible to achieve quorum.

Dhavan suggested there be some focus on the potential for the code revisions to benefit the university. She also asked the council to consider if 50% time is the right cut-off percentage, as substitution of a higher percentage might make the changes less controversial, given less faculty would be affected.

A member noted legislation designed to extend granting of voting privileges at the UW failed in the past. She also noted the legislation seems symbolic, rather than actually helpful to those it affects. She recommended focusing on other kinds of lecturer issues that may have a greater impact. Council members were encouraged to voice any ideas designed to improve the conditions of lecturers.

Taricani asked that this discussion also be held by the Senate Executive Committee (SEC).

A member explained part-time lecturers often aren't invited to departmental meetings, and do not participate in curriculum decisions. He noted this might be another area to address, rather than a sweeping voting personnel change.

There was some discussion of removing full-time lecturers from the change, and instead only using senior and principal lecturers. Watts noted the career tracks of these lecturers also needs to be thought-through while designing any changes.

Townsend recommended using a different section of the Faculty Code to dictate voting, which lists faculty responsibilities in various subsections (Section 23-43). The council had an interest in investigating the idea, and displayed the section of the Faculty Code for analysis. There was discussion of the section, and a member asked if council members feel any sub point of subsection A should not be granted to some lecturers.

Discussion subsided due to time constraints.

4) Good of the order

It was noted the number of lecturers at the university and their titles (broken out as specifically as possible) should be collected and analyzed before any legislation on the topic is advanced. After a question, Cameron noted she would look into retrieving this data, and report back to the council.

5) Adjourn

Watts adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

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

Present: **Faculty:** Joseph Janes, Kurt Johnson, Gordon Watts (chair), Jacob Vigdor, Kamran Nemati, Purnima Dhavan, David Goldstein, Aaron Katz, Eric Bugyis
Ex-officio reps: Judith Henchy, Julius Doyle, Miceal Vaughan
President's designee: Cheryl Cameron
Guests: JoAnn Taricani, George Sandison, Mike Townsend

Absent: **Faculty:** Alissa Ackerman, Margaret Adam, Steve Buck, Chandan Reddy,
Ex-officio reps: Freddy Mora

Exhibits

Exhibit 1 – section21revisions_draft_fcfa_winter2017

Section 21-32 Voting Membership in the Faculty

- A.** Except as provided in [Subsection B](#) of this section the voting members of the University faculty are those faculty members holding the rank and/or title of:
- principal lecturer, with an annual or multiyear appointment at 50% or greater
 - senior lecturer, with an annual or multiyear appointment at 50% or greater
 - Full-time senior artist in residence,
 - lecturer, with an annual or multiyear appointment at 50% or greater
 - Full-time artist in residence, or
 - A retired assistant professor, associate professor, or professor during the quarter(s) he or she is serving on a part-time basis, or a retired research assistant professor, research associate professor, or research professor during the quarter(s) he or she is serving on a part-time basis.