

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Student Affairs
5 April 2016, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm
26 Gerberding Hall

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to Order
 2. Approval of the Agenda
 3. Approval of the Minutes from 1 March 2016
 4. GPSS Report
 5. Student Affairs
 6. Subcommittee Reports
 - Student Conduct Code
 - DRS/Mental Health
 - Student Debt
 7. New Business
 - Class C Resolution regarding competitive majors
 - Class C Resolution regarding college affordability
 - International Students
 8. Adjourn
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1) Call to Order

Treser called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2) Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as written.

3) Approval of the Minutes from 1 March 2016

The minutes from March 1st, 2016 were approved as written.

4) GPSS Report

Yasmeen Hussain introduced herself and noted she is looking forward to learning about and working with the council. She then gave an update on the current activities of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS).

Hussain explained the GPSS has asked the UW Office of the Ombud what graduate student issues are reported most frequently. They learned that communication issues between graduate students and their academic mentors are prevalent and a common point of frustration for graduate students at the UW. Hussain explained that in response, the GPSS has begun developing guidelines and additional resources of which students will be able bring with them to their advisor meetings, so that they have some clear direction as to what they should be discussing, planning, and the like. After question, Hussain explained that these guidelines apply to the academic realm of a graduate student's career, and less so

the professional realm (e.g. acting as a teaching assistant, resident assistant). She explained the goal of the initiative is to set the expectation that all students have the same discussion with their advisors, and know what to inquire into/discuss. She asked for council feedback.

Bryant suggested working with the UW Faculty Fellows Program in order to target new faculty and provide information on working with and advising graduate students. Treser suggested that a written form in the style of a checklist might be useful to students meeting with advisors, as one could be sure they are covering all the necessary points during those discussions. It was suggested that dissemination of this problem/initiative to faculty might be most effective if conducted individually in departments. Tran explained the online university module “U 501” might be a useful tool in this effort.

Hussain thanked members for their input.

5) Student Affairs

Suite noted the university sustained a tragedy over spring break, as a female student was the victim of domestic violence and passed away from her injuries. He explained a university memorial was held for the young woman.

Suite noted a protest is expected to occur against the President’s Race and Equity Initiative meeting to be held today. He explained the protestors believe that more immediate action should be carried out to respond to racism around campus.

Suite noted the ASUW and GPSS are conducting elections for next year’s leadership this quarter. He remarked both organizations have displayed excellent student leadership for several years now.

6) Subcommittee Reports

Student Conduct Code revisions

Laws noted, to his knowledge, no progress concerning revisions to the Student Conduct Code Phase II has been made since the last FCSA meeting. He noted all future Faculty Appeal Board (FAB)/Community Standards and Student Conduct (CSSC) process meetings have been cancelled. Laws explained the university is working with outside consultants on revising the UW’s student conduct process, and a great deal of outside recommendations relating to the conduct process are currently being considered.

Student debt

Treser noted Barker has a class conflict this quarter, and may not attend FCSA meetings for the rest of the academic year.

7) New Business (Exhibit 1) (Exhibit 2) (Exhibit 3)

Class C resolution regarding competitive majors

Patricia Kramer (Chair, Faculty Council on Academic Standards) explained she has joined the council to present a FCAS Class C resolution on Holistic Review for Majors and request the FCSA’s endorsement of the resolution (Exhibit 1).

Kramer gave some background into the resolution, explaining that a holistic review process includes evaluating an applicant not only on their academic performance and achievements, but also on their personal profile, socio-economic background, first-generation status, two written essays, and other factors. She explained all students applying for admission to the University of Washington undergo a holistic review. Individual departments of the university currently have no requirement that they review students holistically for entry to majors. This is especially an issue within “competitive majors,” as in these majors there are more academically-qualified applicants to the program than the department has the capacity to admit, and so a selection of qualified students occurs.

Kramer noted that approximately 70% of UW’s undergraduate majors are currently competitive. She explained the FCAS Class C resolution, if approved, would express the view of the faculty that departments should be using holistic review in the review of applicants to competitive majors.

It was noted the two faculty councils (currently meeting jointly) Faculty Council on Multicultural Affairs and Faculty Council on Women in Academia (FCMA/FCWA) have given their endorsement to the resolution.

Hussain questioned if UW’s administration would be able to support holistic review in departments with the providing of an applicant’s high school data and the like. Kramer noted because students traditionally declare during their sophomore year, high school data would probably not be used in the department’s review. Kramer explained she would like trainings for departments and units in conducting holistic review and an understanding of best practices. She explained this is the bigger picture for which the resolution will provide a baseline. After question, Kramer explained the resolution was purposely kept simple to express the universal view of the faculty urging holistic for competitive majors, and to prevent the resolution from failing in the faculty senate.

Treser explained his department has had competitive majors for years, and it has been found that the students with the most stellar academic performance are not always the most suitable applicants to those programs.

Laws questioned why the resolution does not request that a major’s applicant review process be transparent. Kramer explained that FCAS approves all undergraduate program changes as part of its responsibility for university academic standards, and in the future will use this process to urge transparency in review processes.

After question, Kramer explained a UW major has to accept all students that meet the program’s minimum requirements unless the major has competitive status, and only “capacity-constrained” (competitive) majors may disallow students entry who have met the minimum requirements for admission. After question, she noted the resolution was intended to apply also to direct freshman admits to majors.

Laws moved that the council formally give its endorsement to the FCAS Class C resolution on holistic review for majors. The motion passed by a majority vote.

Kramer thanked the council for its input and endorsement, and left the meeting.

Class C resolution regarding college affordability

Taylor noted he is requesting the FCSA vote to approve a student Class C resolution regarding college affordability (Exhibit 2). He noted he has met with various student stakeholders and others, and the content of the resolution (drafted in 2014-2015 academic year) remains accurate and pertinent to students. Taylor asked the council to endorse and move the resolution through the faculty senate process on the ASUW's behalf.

It was noted "workability" is not defined in the resolution, presenting a problem as the term is the basis of the argument within the document. There was some discussion. Taylor explained an ASUW college-affordability report titled "Meet Us in the Middle" provided the basis for some of terms/arguments presented in the resolution, and he did not believe that it could/need be incorporated with the resolution. One member noted she does not agree that workability is a reasonable model to define affordability for students at the UW, and would not support the resolution. Discussion ensued, with some members noting the lack of definition of terms in the resolution is a potential area for revision; other members posed that the resolution would be stronger without relying on the ASUW report at all.

After a question, Taylor explained the ASUW has explored the option of "cutting" agencies and programs around the university to lower costs of attendance for students, though it was found to be difficult work identifying which university programs/agencies the university could do without.

Treser noted that given the concerns, he would suggest the resolution be amended to take into consideration the concerns noted during discussion, and be brought back once a consensus is reached.

Treser noted he would like members to meet and discuss/amend the resolution for consensus.

ISSC Vision statement

Suite noted the International Student Success Committee (ISSC), whose membership is composed of students in a variety of fields, has drafted a vision statement "Philosophy for International Education" (Exhibit 3). He noted Provost has asked that the statement be reviewed and endorsed by the FCSA before being posted publically.

After question, Suite explained this is an UW internal document, which will be publically posted. He noted the university invites a thousand or more international students to study here each year, and this document represents the vision for those students. Suite clarified the ISSC works all over the campus both in academic departments and administrative units. Treser noted the document, if approved, will denote it was reviewed and endorsed by the FCSA.

A motion was made by a member that the FCSA endorse the vision statement. The council voted to approve the motion.

Suite thanked the council for its feedback.

8) Adjourn

Treser adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Present: **Faculty:** Jasmine Bryant, Mabel Ezeonwu, Bruce Hevly, Chris Laws, Chuck Treser (chair)

Ex-officio reps: Kathleen Collins, Roy Taylor, Yasmeen Hussain, Martha Tran

President's designee: Denzil Suite

Absent: **Faculty:** Holly Barker, Christopher Campbell, Anthony Gill, Sara Lopez

Ex-officio reps: Zynia Chapman

Exhibits

Exhibit 1 – Class C on holistic review for majors v2_fcas_winter2016.pdf

Exhibit 2 – FCSA Faculty Senate Affordability Legislation.doc

Exhibit 3 – University of Washington-ISSC Vision-Philosophy for International Education.doc

Class C Resolution

WHEREAS, the University of Washington admits “...those students deemed best able to contribute to and benefit from the educational programs and opportunities offered at the University”¹; and

WHEREAS, some units are capacity constrained in that they receive more applications from qualified students than the unit can accommodate in their major course(s) of study; and

WHEREAS, the University of Washington recognizes that an “...important and essential component of any educational program is the exchange of information and life experiences through a diverse student body, with representatives from all cultural backgrounds given opportunity at participation”¹; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate recommends that units that are capacity constrained use a holistic review process that includes “...personal factors such as school and community service, leadership, overcoming adversity, and family educational and socioeconomic background”² and academic qualifications in the selection of students who are to be admitted to study in the unit.

¹ Board of Regents Governance, Policy No. 4, Policy on Admission.

² University of Washington Student Regulations Chapter 101.2.A.

submitted by:

Patricia Ann Kramer, Chair
On behalf of
Faculty Council on Academic Standards

With concurrence of:
Faculty Council on Multicultural Affairs
Faculty Council on Women in Academia

WHEREAS: Universities across the state have seen a significant decline in state investment since the economic recession in 2008,¹ and

WHEREAS: Students have taken on increasing levels of work and debt to maintain our public institutions in light of state disinvestment,² and

WHEREAS: Washington state higher education policy does not have a standardized definition for “college affordability,” and

WHEREAS: The Washington State Legislature has endorsed the use of metrics for evaluating success in higher education policy; and

WHEREAS, The Washington State Legislature should clarify the ideal balance between state and local support for higher education; and

WHEREAS: Affordability, as defined in the ASUW report titled Meet us in the Middle, is achieved when students can pay their college costs without incurring debt by working twenty hours per week during the academic year and forty hours per week during the summer; and,

WHEREAS: In this calculation, “college costs” shall be defined as the total cost of attendance, minus grants and scholarships, minus expected parent contribution; and,

WHEREAS: A student would currently have to work 54 hours a week at minimum wage to cover the full cost of attendance estimated at \$27,000 for a University of Washington student, and

WHEREAS: “Workability” is a student centered definition of affordability that emphasizes how individual students experience tuition increases and funding decreases; now,

¹ “Statewide Expenditure History - Operating Total State.” Washington State Fiscal Information. Accessed Nov. 8th, 2014. <http://fiscal.wa.gov/SpendHist.aspx>

² Kutz, Michael, Jeffrey McNerney, Hailey Badger, et al. “Meet us in the Middle: Affordability for the Working Student.” Pg 7.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON FACULTY SENATE

THAT: The faculty supports efforts to pursue a clearly defined definition of college affordability for undergraduate students of Washington State, and

THAT: The faculty endorses “workability” as a measure of affordability as defined in the above clauses.

The University of Washington is committed to cultivating cultural and global awareness, knowledge exchange, innovative research across national borders, and cross-cultural relationships. Central to this commitment is the value of international education, including but not limited to the enrollment of international students and encouragement of study abroad, as a means to foster a critically informed and responsible student population prepared to engage in an increasingly globalized world. Our international students bring diverse perspectives, knowledge, and experiences that strengthen our classrooms, research, and cross-cultural competencies of every UW student, faculty, and staff member. Their presence creates a deeper learning environment and generates innovative research that addresses local and global challenges.

Through our education and campus programming, the University of Washington aims to:

- Promote inclusive engagement and create spaces where all students, including international students, feel welcomed and accepted into the UW community
- Develop intentional programming that connects and encourages students from diverse backgrounds to build relationships and learn from one another
- Support open-minded learning and campus engagement for international and all students
- Help students navigate the challenging demands of academics, mental health, self-care, interpersonal relationships, and professional development
- Inspire all students to contribute new perspectives, knowledge, and skills to the classroom, research and campus environment
- Encourage all students to develop and practice a wide range of skills for global employment, including inclusive leadership, problem-solving, and independent thinking
- Foster opportunities to build communication skills and interpersonal connections
- Cultivate opportunities for all UW students and alumni to become effective participants on a global scale