

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Student Affairs
2 June 2015, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm
Gerberding 26

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to Order
 2. Approval of the agenda
 3. Approval of the minutes from 5 May 2015
 4. Student Conduct Code
 5. Subcommittee Reports
 6. Tentative agenda items for next year
 7. 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 5 May 2015

The minutes of the May 5th, 2015 meeting were not available for a vote in this meeting; the council agreed that either an electronic vote, or a regular vote at the beginning of the next academic year would be taken for their approval once they have been made available by the council support analyst.

4) Student Conduct Code

The council continued its discussion on revisions to be made the Student Conduct Code (SCC) from the last council meeting.

Treser explained that he has been in contact with Gautham Reddy and Lorna Hardin (co-chairs, Faculty Appeal Board, 2014-2015) who have raised concerns associated with the appeals process outlined in the Student Conduct Code. He noted he doubts the council will take concrete action on the SCC in today's meeting, though he would like the FCSA to come up with any proposed SCC recommendations after having read through the revised code language.

Treser reminded the council that as a part of the SCC finalization process, the document must be vetted by several stakeholders including the Faculty Senate, Community Standards and Student Conduct (CSSC), Student Life, and the UW branch Attorney General's office.

After question, Elizabeth Lewis (Director, CSSC) noted some timeline issues are important to consider. She explained that the faculty senate meets twice in the fall and winter in the 2015-16 academic year, and the emergency rule will be in place until October 28th (with the potential to be extended once more

if necessary). She noted the faculty senate needs to approve the SCC at the onset of the next academic year, so it may be forwarded to the UW Board of Regents in November for their approval.

Council and stakeholder feedback

A council member questioned why the council could not simply pass a resolution in support of the SCC, and work during the summer to refine operational pieces and resolve areas of controversy. Treser explained his concern is that the council does not have the code language in writing, and there are still discrepancies between a few stakeholders that have yet to be resolved.

After continued discussion, council members expressed interest in expediting the council's approval of the SCC by way of electronic vote, if need be. There was agreement that many of the concerns expressed in the last meeting were the result of the implementation of "old strategies" in the conduct process. Further discussion revealed that some council members felt that deeper consideration of the concerns were warranted, specifically surrounding if the known issues surrounding the SCC and conduct process would be remedied within the code or through an administrative policy.

Treser explained that he is most worried about questions over separating the conduct process into two tracks (one for Title IX related cases, and one for all other cases). Discussion ensued, with a near-consensus that two tracks are necessary given the special attention and resources required for Title IX cases. Lewis explained that in the current proposed code language, there was an intention to provide clear guidelines for everyone involved with conduct boards to follow, which was not included previously.

The council noted that one large question to be considered is the inclusion of professional staff on the conduct boards. One advantage to including professional staff is a larger swathe of potentially viable candidates for populating boards. The options for the FCSA to consider were noted as:

1. Appoint only Faculty to the University Conduct Board.
2. Appoint Faculty and Staff to the University Conduct Board.
3. Appoint Faculty, Staff, and Students to the Campus Conduct Board.
4. Appoint Faculty and Students to the Campus Conduct Board.

** It was noted the proposed code appoints students to the Campus Conduct Board but not the University Conduct Board, as the U.S. Office of Civil Rights suggests that students are not appropriate on boards adjudicating sexual harassment allegations.*

It was noted that the council had gone over the question previously last November, and had found it appropriate to include professional staff on one or both of the boards, at that time.

The council discussed limiting faculty appointment to boards only to tenured faculty. It was noted regardless of the point of view agreed on in the council, a limitation of this kind will ultimately be formalized outside of the Student Conduct Code.

Suite reminded the council that there is a plan to hire an outside consultant to assess the UW student conduct process and judge its appropriateness by drawing comparison with the U.S. national standard.

Council members asked that any substantive emails on the topic be archived in its Catalyst webpage, which was agreed upon.

A motion was put forth to draft a resolution in support of the proposed Student Conduct Code, and hold a vote of the council electronically to approve or reject this resolution, with a deadline to have done so by June 12th. It was noted if between now and the point of the vote, voting council members have reservations or additional questions (verbatim: “see major flags”) with the proposed Student Conduct Code, those may be forwarded electronically, and a vote may be halted.

The motion was approved by majority vote: six in favor, and one abstention.

Treser noted if there is anything in written into code which puts “handcuffs” on the council and other stakeholders in effecting change in policy, rather than providing flexibility, careful attention should be paid to that.

The council thanked the guests for attending, and they left the meeting.

5) Subcommittee Reports

Subcommittee on Student Experience

Hevly noted some efforts underway on behalf of the subcommittee:

- Work is currently in progress to bolster a sense of student “attachment” (aka. belonging) to the University of Washington
 - Increasing faculty participation in this effort, possibly by way of “faculty sponsored summer festivals,” which had been piloted in the past
 - Possibly put forth faculty senate legislation encouraging faculty to take up some responsibility for students’ sense of attachment to the university

There was some discussion centered on roadblocks for this initiative, some things mentioned were that today’s students are much less homogenous than student bodies of the past; it was cited that only 28% of students are housed by the university – many less than decades ago.

The council expressed support for the subcommittee’s efforts. Anthony Gill asked to be added to the subcommittee. Suite mentioned that SERU (Student Experience in the Research University) survey results may be useful in this work.

ASUW activities / 2014-2015

- On-campus housing: as the north campus dorms are replaced with new buildings, concern has grown for increased pricing of housing on campus, with worries students may be “priced out.” Badger noted ASUW has worked with HFS (UW Housing & Food Services) closely, and now, more triple rooms and quad rooms have been added within building designs to maximize affordability.
- International Student Advisory Committee – successfully piloted in the 2014-15 academic year, composed of 12 student members hailing from around the globe - one topic the

committee has addressed is domestic student opinion of international students. Other topics were listed as health insurance, laws surrounding jobs and visas, and elevating the committee to talk to administration about their issues within the university.

- SAFF: looking more into funding support for student veterans

ASUW activities / 2015-2016

- Expecting protests and activism to continue. It was noted it is good that students are caring about protecting their rights and improving their situation
- Addressing student minimum wage
- Addressing student debt
- GPSS efforts to improve childcare services

6) Tentative agenda of items for next year

Treser asked the council to consider items to be address in the next year (2015-2016). A complete list of all items mentioned and agreed upon can be found below:

- Student Conduct Code – operational issues
- Aiding special populations on campus
- Student debt
- Childcare
- On-campus housing / off-campus housing
- Desire to speak with member of UW Student Financial Aid
- Minimum wage increase for students: request to invite SAFF member to present over this
- Direct admissions to UW schools and colleges
- Student Health and Wellness Program: request to invite the ASUW Disability Resource Director for that conversation (funding is provided by donation, not university)
- Paths to various majors, possible options

7) Adjourn

Treser adjourned the meeting at 2:46 p.m.

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

Present: **Faculty:** Mabel Ezeonwu, Anthony Gill, Bruce Hevly, Chris Laws, Sara Lopez, Chuck Treser (chair)
Ex-Officio reps: Hailey Badger, Martha Tran
President’s designee: Denzil Suite
Guests: Elizabeth Lewis

Absent: **Faculty:** Brian Fabien, Jelena Svircev
Ex-Officio reps: Christine Tawatao, Jewell Evenson