

University of Washington  
Faculty Council on Teaching and Learning  
October 2, 2014  
10:30am – noon  
Gerberding 142

**Meeting Synopsis:**

1. Call to Order
  2. Introductions
  3. Approval of the minutes from May 1<sup>st</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup>
  4. Report from the chair
  5. Discussion of proposed goals and subcommittees
  6. Agenda items for future meetings
  7. Update on university accreditation
  8. Good of the order
  9. Adjourn
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**1) Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Wilkes at 10:30am.

**2) Introductions**

Members introduced themselves to the council.

**3) Review of minutes from May 1<sup>st</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup>**

The minutes from May 1<sup>st</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup> were approved as written.

**4) Report from the chair**

Wilkes reported on the retirement of Vice Provost for Educational Outreach David Szatmary, whose replacement will be Rovy Branon from the University of Wisconsin-Madison where he served as associate dean and chief technology officer. Wilkes will meet with Branon later this month to discuss work between his office and FCTL. Wilkes explained that Branon's background is primarily in IT and its application to educational outreach.

Wilkes reported that he will begin meeting with chairs of other faculty councils that have overlapping areas of interest with FCTL.

**5) Discussion of proposed goals and subcommittees**

Wilkes mentioned that as part of submitting an annual report at the end of the academic year FCTL may also want to create reports or white papers on policy issues that fall under the charge of the council. Examples of policy issues include:

- Online/hybrid courses or online degree programs
- Textbook costs and the move to e-textbooks
- Standardization of hardware (student-owned media devices or classroom equipment)
- Intellectual property rights of faculty for instructional materials

Wilkes explained that in order to effectively achieve its goals FCTL should develop subcommittee that can address the subject areas previously mentioned. He suggested the following subcommittees, as a starting point for discussion, and asked members for their insight and suggestions:

- Instructional software
- Online classes/degrees
- Facilities/infrastructure
- Faculty wellness

A comment was raised stressing the importance of a systematic approach to faculty development and faculty have an ongoing need to be innovative and use new technologies. Baldasty mentioned that there are two university committees already launched that are addressing learning spaces with representatives from FCTL (Turner and Nelson). Wilkes suggested that Baldasty, Turner and Nelson could act as the FCTL subcommittee on learning spaces once it becomes formalized. Tom Lewis stated that he would like to have a small informal group of FCTL that can consult with him and his office regarding IT issues which impact faculty.

Questions were raised about how the subcommittee structure would work under FCTL. Wilkes explained that each subcommittee would have a chair who organizes meetings and reports to the full council each month, or when pertinent issue arise. Additionally, the council would set milestone dates and specific deliverables such as a brief report of activities each month, a draft report on a topic by the end of winter quarter, and a final report/analysis for council review by the May meeting. This final report would be combined together with the reports of other committees and will make up the council's annual report to the Faculty Senate. A question was raised about the status of last year's Online Education Joint Task Force and if there would be an FCTL subcommittee to oversee implementation. Discussion ensued about the role of the subcommittees. Subcommittees would be able to bring attention to issues that are important to the council and provide support for faculty. One example of a faculty issue would be the implementation of the diversity graduation requirement which could be addressed by a subcommittee and the Center for Teaching and Learning.

Possible subcommittee topics that were discussed included:

- Learning spaces
- Needs and resources
- Support for faculty development
- Implementation of online education initiatives
- Implementation of the diversity graduation requirement
- Enhancing teaching effectiveness

Zierler commented about the need for enhancing teaching and effectiveness, and the possibility to use available resources provided by the Center for Teaching and Learning. Wilkes noted that the intent of the subcommittees is to capture the energy of these discussions and channel it into a product that FCTL

can deliver to the university community. Wilkes will send out an email to propose subcommittees after completing the discussion today, then propose to formalize them at the following meeting.

## **6) Agenda items for future meetings**

Wilkes asked members to notify him of any agenda items that should be discussed by the council.

## **7) Update on university accreditation**

Baldasty reported on the university's accreditation process. After the recent university accreditation campus visit in autumn 2013 UW set up an accreditation steering committee that includes representatives from all three campuses. The committee spent much of winter quarter thinking strategically about how to respond to the evaluation team's recommendations. One recommendation that was included in the Year 1 report was to articulate a number of goals in three core areas: research/scholarship, teaching/learning, and service/engagement. Baldasty's group consulted widely during spring quarter 2014 with the following groups:

- Faculty Senate Executive Committee
- Faculty Council on Teaching and Learning
- Faculty Council on Research
- Board of Deans and Chancellors
- Provost's Advisory Committee for Students
- President's cabinet

Baldasty's group received extensive feedback on the goals and priorities and received consonant feedback on prioritizing goals, such as elevating global-engagement activities that should be a critical part of a 21<sup>st</sup> century education.

Baldasty presented the core themes and objectives:

### *Research and scholarship*

- Increase institutional support for research and creative activity
- Establish strategic partnerships and collaboration to support discovery and solve problems
- Achieve operational and organizational efficiencies to better support the research enterprise and improve productivity

### *Teaching and learning*

- Increase institutional support for student learning
- Enhance the quality and scope of curricular and co-curricular learning experiences
- Enhance the student learning experience through engagement in research

### *Service and engagement*

- Increase collaboration between the university and the community in areas that enhance community development

- Provide the highest-quality healthcare in the region
- Increase the alignment, quality and impact of global-engagement activities

A question was raised asking what FCTL's role will be in the next phase. Baldasty explained that his group will want FCTL to discuss the metrics that UW will need to use to measure progress. A question was raised asking who would be responsible for overseeing whether or not the university is meeting its goals and objectives based on the metrics being used. Baldasty noted that the entire university has the responsibility to ensure progress is being made; the goals being defined now will be part of the accreditation review process in three years. Baldasty noted that the steering committee will provide a document with the goals and metrics listed that can be reviewed in February. Wilkes suggested that FCTL should have this as an agenda item in spring quarter, to review the metrics and make recommendations.

Discussion ensued about the difference between specialized accreditation for schools and departments compared to the university's accreditation process. Baldasty noted that unit-level accreditation is much different because this accreditation will not go into the specifics of each college and school's activities.

## **8) Good of the order**

A question was raised about a summer study comparing online and paper course evaluations. Lowell noted the study is not complete but will report back to the council at a later time. Lowell explained that her office would like guidance from the council, especially around the ability to access evaluations in MyPlan. A suggestion was made to have a presentation on what MyPlan looks like at an upcoming meeting in order to discuss alternatives about the use of course evaluations.

A question was raised about the status of the provost's joint task force on online education. The task force has not met since it submitted its final report in June. A comment was raised by Allen suggesting that online education should be an issue addressed by FCTL, possibly by a subcommittee.

Baldasty reported on the Innovation Awards. Baldasty is reviewing 10 proposals for the award and asked for volunteers to review applications.

Wilkes notified members of the council's new Catalyst site that will host working council documents.

Wilkes will review the possible subcommittees that could be created under FCTL and will develop a plan on addressing the issues brought up during this discussion. A comment was raised that FCTL should review its charge and stressed that the role of each subcommittee should be well defined. Discussion ensued about the UW accreditation themes and objectives, such as enhancing the quality and scope of curricular and co-curricular learning experiences. A suggestion was raised to have a representative from the Center for Teaching and Learning to attend a following meeting to discuss the range of activities and resources that are available, such as evidence-based teaching.

## **9) Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by Wilkes at 12:00pm.

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*Minutes by Grayson Court, council support analyst, gcourt@uw.edu*

**Present:** **Faculty:** Wilkes (chair), Allen, Masuda, McGough, Nelson, Spyridakis, Taggart, Turner, Zierler  
**President's Designee:** Taylor  
**Ex-Officio Reps:** Corbett  
**Guests:** Eli McMeen (ASUW alternate for Badger), Tom Lewis (Director of academic and collaborative applications), Nana Lowell (Director of Office of Educational Assessment), Christine Sugatan (Center for Teaching and Learning), Jerry Baldasty (Senior vice provost for academic and student affairs)

**Absent:** **Faculty:** Olavarria  
**Ex-Officio Reps:** Badger