

Faculty Council on Tri-Campus Policy (FCTCP)

Annual Report 2013/2014

Introduction: FCTCP is in the unique position of identifying and discussing the impact of various strategies that each campus uses as to tackle such issues as reduced state support, increased student demand, new technologies/course delivery mechanisms, increased competition, scarce research funding, shifts in the economy, perceived/real differences in the mission of each campus, faculty salaries and P&T issues, and the ever-changing political environment. In our discussions and reviews this past year, we focused on how these strategies might differentially affect faculty, students and staff across all three campuses – and their impact on our ability to provide an effective and high quality learning environment for all.

The three-campus are all changing in many ways – and FCTCP finds that policies, procedures and strategies taken must: 1) be highly integrated and beneficial across all three campuses – where practical and appropriate; 2) provide leeway to address the unique and specific needs of each campus; and 3) create early awareness and opportunity for input from faculty across all campuses.

We are also finding that there are opportunities missed – and new challenges created – across the campuses due to a variety of factors. These include competition for resources, communication issues, varied levels of inclusiveness in decision-making processes, and time constraints that force decisions to be made quickly – and when it is “too late” for critical input. FCTCP continues to focus on ways to identify, inform, involve and resolve issues of importance as they impact each campus – and looks for ways to create opportunities for faculty engagement and voice in decision-making in a responsive and timely manner.

2103/2014 FCTCP Activities:

In our efforts to inform faculty and seek input about upcoming issues, our meetings covered over twenty different issues that have important tri-campus implications. Some of our more critical examples include:

- 1) Review of policies and decisions related to the use of the Common Application at UW.
- 2) Detailed review of the criminal history question on student applications – FCTCP discussion resulted in amendments to Faculty Senate legislation.
- 3) Review of proposed faculty salary policy – this information has significant implications for UWT/B due to potential campus-level differences in budgeting processes, salary recaptures from retirements/resignations, differences in campus cultures/operations and many other factors.
- 4) On-line degrees – Issues related to impact to each campus when providing these degrees including use of facilities & services such as libraries, technology, meeting spaces, faculty, overlap in degree offerings/competition with existing on-site degrees or planned degrees, budget processes, etc.
- 5) Intellectual Property – Involvement in this discussion is essential as faculty engage in community-based research and learning activities, industry partnerships, rights to course content, C4C involvement and access to resources for patents, start-ups, and other endeavors that have IP considerations.
- 6) Lecturers – Given the high proportion of full- and part-time lecturers at UWB/T, involvement in these discussions and implications for equitable treatment and support are critical to the culture of UW. Involvement by lecturers (all ranks and full/part-time) in partnership with tenure-line

faculty is critical as changes in policies, workload requirements and hiring/reappointment/promotion procedures are evaluated.

- 7) New degree coordination – FCTCP will be drafting new legislation to support a more formal “early notification” and comment period for faculty, staff, and student representatives that is intended to provide awareness and proactive discussion during the formation and finalization of new degree programs. Our initial focus may be on new on-line degrees; however, we hope to extend this process for all-degrees. This process is intended to streamline our current process so that issues and opportunities are explored at a time when actual changes can be made to new curricula. This work will be in coordination with other Faculty Councils such as FCAS. We will also be reviewing our current tri-campus, post comment review process.
- 8) Reviews of representation on faculty councils – All faculty councils and committees are working on critical issues that oftentimes have direct impact on UWB/T. Working together to identify issues that are important/have impact on what is happening at UWT and UWB is critical. We have made great strides in coordination with Faculty Senate leadership to ensure identification of such issues early on so that review and discussion can occur with FCTCP, the UWB General Faculty Organization (GFO) and UWT Faculty Assembly (FA). Additional meetings with Faculty Senate, GFO and FA leadership is also helping to improve communication regarding these issues.
- 9) There are still issues related to roles and responsibilities related to approval and responsibilities for curricula. While FCTCP has reviewed the processes – and they appear to be consistent with the philosophy that the faculty of each campus is responsible and has authority over its own curricula – there are still occasions of potential role ambiguity/responsibilities of specific committees. We have been working together to monitor and resolve such issues.

Opportunities for the coming year:

- 1) Improve awareness of the unique needs of each campus, facilitate communication/discussion of issues from a tri-campus perspective, and involve faculty early-on in discussion and policy-making decisions.
- 2) Identify and clarify roles and responsibilities for faculty governance across the three campuses – especially as UWB and UWT have grown and are now in their 25th year of operation.
- 3) Develop effective synergies that will further strengthen the overall UW brand – and ensure collaboration among faculty.
- 4) Ensure representation on critical governance committees. Is it time/is there a need for UWS representation in GFO and FA?
- 5) Host governance meetings/events at each of the three campuses – there are many discussions and opinions about each of the campuses that may benefit from conversations and on-site experiences.
- 6) Improve access to FCTCP meetings using video conferencing technologies. FCTCP members must travel during peak traffic times from UWB/UWT – it would be a great if the Faculty Senate would have access to, and support for, such tools.

As with any organization, its true strength and long-term impact is the result of how the different units are integrated, positioned and supported to achieve the overall mission and goals of the University of Washington. FCTCP will continue to work along these lines.