

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON  
FACULTY COUNCIL ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS  
FRIDAY, February 6, 2009, 3:30-5:00 p.m.  
36 Gerberding

Chair Mary Ann Odegaard called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

**Meeting Synopsis:**

1. Approval of minutes from January
  2. Honorary Degrees
    - a. Review submissions from Tacoma campus
    - b. Strategies for increasing number of submissions
  3. UW Update from Norm Arkans
  4. New Business
  5. Adjourn
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**1. Approval of minutes from January**

Chair Odegaard asked for a motion to approve the minutes from January. A motion was made, and seconded. The minutes were approved as submitted.

**2. Honorary Degrees**

**Review submissions from Tacoma campus**

Odegaard asked members to take turns commenting on the nomination for honorary degree from the Tacoma campus. She read comments emailed to her from a council member. Council members went around the table and shared their views, weighing both the merit and stature of the proposed nominee. Arendt Speser asked for clarification on the qualifications for honorary degree nomination.

Council members raised some issues concerning the materials presented to the nomination review. President's Designee Norm Arkans advised members to look beyond the nominators so as not to penalize the candidate. He also suggested that they don't have to vote today, but could look into it more. Stuart Sutton suggested that they might lower the bar on the initial submission, and accept something on a web form with links on it. A discussion began about the difficulty in getting a nomination together, and how the council's expectations might need to change. A motion was made to approve postponing the vote for the following reasons:

- FCUR is not ready to vote on the UW Tacoma nomination
- Members feel the need for a statement to stand behind before supporting it.
- Members feel that they need more information

The motion was seconded, and approved unanimously.

After some discussion, council members decided to draft a letter to the Tacoma nominating committee, informing them of the need to provide more evidence of the nominee's leadership and accomplishments.

### **Strategies for increasing number of submissions**

Kathy Gill described her efforts in garnering support for an honorary nominee, noting that she will be writing a first draft of a letter soon. Chair Odegaard spoke about her efforts in her department to find support for a nominee. She encouraged the student council representatives to submit names through faculty members they knew.

Sutton suggested that it might be better if council members looked for the information rather than asking UW Tacoma to do so again. He agreed to help Arkans draft the letter. Council members agreed to research the candidate and send their materials to the recorder, who would then forward them to the whole council.

### **3. UW Update from Norm Arkans**

Arkans gave an update to the current budget crisis affecting the state, which he described as "very serious."

### **4. New Business**

There was no new business

### **5. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

*Minutes by Melissa Kane, Faculty Senate, mmkane@u.washington.edu*

**Present:**   **Faculty:**   Conroy, Gill, Odegaard (Chair), Sutton

**President's Designee:**   Arkans

**Ex Officio Reps:**   Snyder, Speser

**Absent:**   **Faculty:**   Hevly, Mayer

**Ex Officio Reps:**   Bolcer, Guss