

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
FACULTY COUNCIL ON INSTRUCTIONAL QUALITY
THURSDAY, October 11, 2007, 9:00-10:30 a.m.
36 Gerberding Hall

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to order.
 2. Approve minutes from last meeting.
 3. Introduction of members.
 4. Topics for this year:
 - Ad hoc committee on Academic Quality and Rigor – joint with FCAS
 - Follow-up on assessment work of 06-07
 - Peer review process for teaching
 - Working with 10 year review process- OEA- department assessment
 - Summer quarter length and pay
 - Graduate Students –professional development (preparing for life in academia: teaching research service)
 - Scholarship of Teaching and Learning—larger role
 - Alternative ways to recognize good teaching
 - Teaching and Learning Consortium-
 - Campus wide teaching and learning initiatives
 - Ways to recognize and highlight innovations in the classroom
 5. Adjourn
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1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Mary Pat Wenderoth at 9:06 a.m.

2. Approval of minutes from last meeting.

A motion was made to approve the May 17, 2007 minutes. The motion was seconded, and approved unanimously by the council.

3. Introduction of members.

The Chair invited council members to introduce themselves.

4. Topics for this year:

- **Ad hoc committee on Academic Quality & Rigor—joint with FCAS**
Council member Don Janssen provided an overview of the ad hoc committee on Academic Quality and Rigor that was formed out of a subcommittee of the Faculty Council on Academic Standards (FCAS). He addressed the history of the subcommittee's formation and the subsequent report that came out of its work. He noted that the focus of

the committee will be on course rigor. The committee will comprise two members from FCAS, two members from FCIQ, and one Chair. Wenderoth invited council members to sign up for the committee. Council members Don Janssen and Nana Lowell will be on the committee.

Council members discussed the idea of merging an analysis of course rigor with the Ten Year review process. Wenderoth noted that they do not need a new set of tools for everything. Council member Lowell informed the council that it was possible to recreate the data from past course evaluation forms to find the number of hours students said they worked in a class per week. Janssen commented that the committee will focus on undergraduate programs, but that graduate programs could be analyzed in the future.

When asked if the interest is still on athletes, Janssen replied that they provide an easy database to pick out and have a great network. He noted that Pat Dobel, who oversees academic integrity and governance of the athletic program, wants to know.

- **Follow-up assessment work of 06-07**
- **Peer review process for teaching**
- **Working with 10 year review process—OEA—department assessment**

The Chair briefly spoke about these issues. She remarked that the peer review process for teaching needs to be more relevant.

- **Summer quarter length and pay**

Council members discussed the inequity in the summer quarter teaching and pay schedule. Lecturers who teach in summer get a two month versus a three month pay period. In addition, final exams are always held on the last day of class. Council members discussed the importance of having an exam week, more like the regular year, which would enhance the quality of learning for students. President's Designee John Sahr noted that there will be an increase in summer credit hours offered, so that there are good reasons for taking a look at this issue.

Action: Council members discussed creating a small subcommittee to examine this issue.

- **Graduate Students – professional development**

Council members discussed the professional development of graduate students which includes teaching but also research. The Center for Instructional Development and Research (CIDR) wants to compile a list of all available resources for graduate students. Council guest Wayne Jacobsen from CIDR will be involved in the project and will report back to FCIQ.

- **Scholarship of Teaching and Learning—larger role**

Jacobsen spoke about the symposium held every autumn in which faculty present their teaching innovations in poster sessions and develop networks with other teachers. The program comes out of the Office of Academic Affairs but the logistical side of it is run by CIDR. Wenderoth noted that FCIQ would like to take the symposium to the next level. She explained how they could track the history of the symposium, offering a forum on

innovations in UW classrooms. This could involve graduate student teachers who comprise a third of the poster presenters at the symposium. Jacobsen remarked how the symposium is growing in size so that they will soon need a larger space. One idea has been to partner with another university, like Seattle University (which has contacted the UW program), and combine budgets in order to bring in an outside speaker. Another suggestion was to open it up to community colleges and present the educational community of the region. Wenderoth also spoke about the costs associated with creating the posters. The idea of possibly sponsoring scholarships for poster sessions was introduced.

- **Alternative ways to recognize good teaching**

Council members discussed ways of recognizing good teaching beyond the Distinguished Teaching Awards. Council member Gerald Baldasty briefed council members on the letter campaign mentioned last spring. He noted that the idea to have Department Chairs send letters to faculty was presented to the Board of Deans. The idea that the Deans would then collect best practices from their departments is not currently happening. Baldasty added that there is some talk of opening up the Distinguished Teaching Awards to part-time lecturers and thus broadening the eligibility, which would go a long way to help this problem. Another idea was to pursue finding best practices as a way to find out how departments are rewarding faculty. Jacobsen noted that CIDR has some electronic files on Teaching Awards.

- **Teaching and Learning Consortium**

Council members briefly discussed the Teaching and Learning Consortium. UW's Access Teaching @UW was described as a "teaching portal" and "one stop shopping" for faculty and graduate students. Council guest Tom Lewis inquired whether the Academic Technology Advisory Committee had been made aware of the teaching page. Baldasty stated that he would work on the consortium and address peer review.

- **Campus wide teaching and learning initiatives**

Council members discussed ways to foster teaching innovations. One idea was to find small grants for teachers to use in classrooms and then present that in the teaching and learning initiative. Council members talked about where to find such grants. The office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs was mentioned, as even smaller amounts, like \$500, would help teachers in the classroom. Another consideration was to work with someone in the UW Development office.

- **Ways to recognize and highlight innovations in the classroom**

Council members discussed using the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Symposium, or even a small pamphlet or publication sent out once a year. Another idea was to publish something on the web. Council guest Lewis suggested pursuing a connection with University Week, which relies upon "evergreen articles," articles that the newspaper draws upon when needed. Sahr suggested using faculty meetings as a place to talk about educational innovations. He noted that the department Chair would reserve time at the meetings for presentation of ideas, effectively using the "push model." Janssen remarked that a statement from the Provost would help since teaching is important in the merit

review process. Council member Eugene Edgar added the idea of using 5 minute video clips on teaching innovations. Lewis suggested the possibility of using UWTV for highlighting teaching innovations. He noted that if the materials presented could be potentially used outside of the university, they might be able to get funding.

Action: Lewis will follow up on this and look into it.

- **Other ideas**

The Chair opened the discussion up to council member's ideas. Lewis introduced the idea of developing "courseware," on-line courses for facilitating teaching. They cover ways to assemble text, tools, files, etc., as "context-builders" for courses. Lewis told the council he could demonstrate it to them. He also noted the construction of an on-line grade book (to be finished in January) for teachers. He noted that it is safe for students to use, and allows students and teachers to see everything in one place. Computer Science has been using it for the last seven years. Lewis asked the council if they would have any policies or advise on this issue. Council member Namura Nkeze inquired about getting access to the on-line grade book for those students she works with who are on academic probation as a way to convey to them they need help. Action: Lewis will inquire with the Registrar, Todd Mildon, and get back to her.

The second idea introduced by Lewis was the Learning & Scholarly Technologies Survey. He handed out a copy of the survey to council members. In short, the survey seeks to find out what support faculty and students would like that they don't have now. Lewis noted that the survey will be available in the spring. One question raised concerned whether the survey would make College specific questions in its data entry.

Action: Lewis replied that he will check the lead time to Colleges and how "granular" the questions will be. He said he would then contact CIDR's Director, Don Wulff.

Council member Nana Lowell raised the issue of updating the 10 year review process and why nothing has happened even though the conversation about it began over a year ago. Council members discussed the possible reasons that the process is not moving forward.

5. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Minutes by Melissa Kane, Faculty Senate, mmkane@u.washington.edu, or 543-2884.

Present:

Faculty: Allen, Baldasty, Edgar, Janssen, Salehi-Esfahani, Wenderoth (Chair)

Ex-officio: Sahr (in for Ed Taylor), Nkeze

Regularly Invited Guests: Lewis, Lowell, Jacobsen

Absent:

Faculty: Martin-Morris, Underwood, Ward (excused)

Ex-officio: Holmes, Hahn (excused)

Regularly Invited Guests: Arora (excused)