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**The University of Washington
Faculty Council on Instructional Quality**

The Faculty Council on Instructional Quality met **Monday, May 7, 2001** at 11:00 a.m. in 142 Gerberding. Chair Linda Chalker-Scott presided.

PRESENT: Professors Carline, Chalker-Scott, Wells. *Ex officio* Bridges, Conquest, Cook, Evans, McCracken (with vote) **Regular Guests:** Wayne Jacobson, Center for Instructional Development (CIDR), Tom Lewis, Educational Technology Development Group.

ABSENT: Professors Bierne, Coutu (excused), Hoffer, Mulligan, Wiegand. *Ex officio* Chong, Kyes (with vote), Pitre, Stromberg.

Rewards for Outstanding Teaching - Class-C Resolution

Chalker-Scott reported that the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) would be reviewing the final draft of FCIQ's proposed Class-C resolution on Rewards for Outstanding Teaching in the afternoon (May 7). If approved, the resolution would then go on to the Faculty Senate for a full vote. Carline pointed out a minor wording change to the previously approved draft; the Council approved the change via email prior to this meeting. (*The resolution was later passed by the SEC; it will be voted on by the Faculty Senate on May 24, 2001.*)

Update on Teaching Website

Tom Lewis of the Education Technology Development Group and Wayne Jacobson of the Center for Instructional Development and Research (CIDR) asked FCIQ members for feedback on the new teaching website (in draft stage) that they created. Overall, the Council members were very pleased with the content and organization of the site.

Some members suggested minor, cosmetic changes. Carline suggested that somehow it be made clearer that the site functions as a link to other sites. Cook reiterated one of the Council's original ideas for the website: that it be useful to instructors who do not know where to begin looking for certain information; therefore, she asked if a search function could be added to help instructors find answers to specific questions. Lewis said that natural language searches might not be possible for this website, but that he could add a site map and also a list of FAQ's. Wells suggested that the site tie into the UW HealthLinks database in the interest of those involved with the Health Sciences.

Lewis will send a representative from his office to the FCIQ meeting on June 4 to demonstrate the webpage on a laptop computer and get more feedback from the group. FCIQ members were asked to send comments related to the content of the site to Wayne Jacobson via email (jacobson@cidr.washington.edu). Jacobson also reminded the Council that there still remain questions on who will take ownership of the website and maintain it in the future. Chalker-Scott suggested the Office of Undergraduate Education seemed like its natural home.

Faculty Course-Load Measurements

Chalker-Scott told the Council that she had just learned that the methods used by the Office for Institutional Studies to determine particular Colleges' faculty course-loads do not take interdisciplinary courses into account. For example, the College of Forest Resources (CFR), does not get "credit" for teaching at least one third of the courses taught by CFR faculty because they teach interdisciplinary courses in Quantitative Science and other fields. She noted that this equates to a form of punishment to Colleges whose faculty teach interdisciplinary courses because calculations on student credit hours and faculty course-loads are used to determine budgets for Colleges.

According to Chalker-Scott, and the Council members agreed, there must be a way to reward faculty for teaching innovative, interdisciplinary courses that are so important to the undergraduate experience. Bridges advised Chalker-Scott to set up a meeting with Phillip Hoffman of the Office of Institutional Studies to inform him of this problem. *(Hoffman was later invited to attend the next FCIQ meeting on June 4 to discuss this issue. He could not attend on that date, but arranged a separate meeting with Chalker-Scott, Bridges, and Conquest.)*

Announcements

Bridges and Conquest announced that the third and final forum of Regent William Gates, Sr.'s series on rigor titled, "Pathways for Raising Expectations and Enhancing Quality," will take place on Thursday May 10, from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. in 389 Mary Gates Hall. Bridges explained that Gates' opinion is that the "bottom level" of instruction needs to be raised to meet the challenging courses currently being offered at the "top". There is also a student consensus that some large, 100-level courses at UW are not challenging.

Faculty will have the opportunity to speak about this issue at this town-meeting style forum. President McCormick will be in attendance, as well as an expected standing-room-only sized crowd. Carline and Cook said they would be attending the meeting and could serve as FCIQ representatives.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m. Minutes by Katherine Wimble, Recorder.