

**University of Washington**  
**Faculty Council on Instructional Quality**  
Thursday, 20 April 2006  
301 Gerberding Hall

Chair Carline called the meeting to order at 2:35.

**Meeting Synopsis:**

1. Approval of minutes, announcements
2. Proposal for Additional Testing Services
3. University Vision Statement

**1. Announcements, Agenda, Minutes**

16 February 2006, minutes approved, Motioned by JL; Seconded by HS-E, with the correction of Martin-Morris was absent, and Kasonic attended.

**2. Pick-a-Prof Request for Information (Nana Lowell)**

Nana Lowell has received a request for information from Pick-a-Prof for course evaluation information. OEA met with Public Records Office and with the Assistant Attorney General to see if information can be copyrighted, and it cannot. There is general concern with using information paid by the tax payer, for commercial use. To generate a course evaluation report every quarter is \$.15 a page, 3000 pages. The request was for UW-Seattle, not UW-Bothell or UW-Tacoma. In addition to commercial use, there are also concerns about accuracy, and the counsel discussed whether we can file an injunction against incorrect data. Moreover, there is also concern about faculty reactions. While there is concern, there is also a general consensus that UW must do a better job of providing course feedback, while also ensuring that graduate student course information is not included in these reports, since that information is not allowed to be made public: if this becomes an issue, the Attorney General's office will need to be contacted. In conclusion, the group discussed the possibility of this request for information affecting the external clients that OEA services.

**3. College of Education Climate Survey (Nana Lowell)**

Nana Lowell was approached by the College of Education Climate Survey, which tries to look at the environment in the classroom. Last fall, the College of Education tried to start this survey, but first had to receive proper approval from the Board of Deans. These 27 questions were chosen because they might have a lot of differences between groups. The data will be linked to an instructor, but not to another report. The group responded with several concerns. First, whether students would be willing to fill out a second survey: already the evaluation process is time consuming, and students are complaining of "bubble sheet fatigue." Second, they wondered if these questions, which are fundamental questions, could be merged with the other evaluation. Nana responded that space is always the concern. Nana will keep the group updated as this project moves forward.

**4. Test Facility Update (Nana Lowell)**

Nana Lowell updated the group on the testing center for the University of Washington. Ideally, it would require a 17,000 sq/ft space. She spoke on the Brigham Young University model, which she has visited. She discussed the benefits of incorporating a similar system at the University of Washington. She highlighted several benefits: one, it frees up classroom time for instruction (gave back one million hours to instruction time); two, it allows the student greater flexibility; three, the center allows for all types of tests, written and electronic, calculators and open-book, along with providing appropriate proctoring; four, teachers would be able to bank questions; five, it would be more flexible for commuter students and athletes. The Student Senate provided mixed feedback.

They complained of the extra day of material they would have to learn, but they liked the flexibility of a central testing center. The counsel responded with concern over teacher's showing adequate ability to write tests: an in-class test allows for teachers to resolve concerns right there. This discussion will continue after Nana's meeting with Christine Ingebritsen and Ana Mari.

The meeting was adjourned at 4 pm. *Minutes* by (I. Whitney Thompson, Administrative Specialist, Undergraduate Education, iwt@u.washington.edu)

**Present:**        ***Faculty members:*** Carline, Martin-Morris, Kemp, Selehi-EsFahani, Gillis-Bridges, Kim, McManus, Kasonic  
                  ***Exofficio members:*** Jacobson, Lee, Lowell, Mildon  
                  ***President's designee:*** Ingebritsen (excused)

**Absent:**        ***Faculty members:*** Wenderoth (excused), Holmes, Greenwald, Mai  
                  ***Exofficio members:*** Trudeau, Lewis