

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
FACULTY COUNCIL ON INSTRUCTIONAL QUALITY
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2010
36 GERBERDING

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Announcements
4. Setting time for Spring meetings- day of week, dates.- please bring your Spring calendar to meeting
5. Institutional accreditation and assessment of student learning-- Nana Lowell, Office of Educational Assessment
6. Continued discussion of ABB
 Defining quality request from Bruce Balick
7. Adjournment

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wenderoth at 3:07 P.M.

Approval of the minutes from the February 3, 2010 meeting

The minutes of the February 3, 2010 meeting were approved.

ITEMS DISCUSSED

1. Spring meetings

Chair Wenderoth and Alex Bolton will work to schedule FCIQ meetings in April and May.

2. Institutional accreditation and assessment of student learning (Nana Lowell)

Chair Wenderoth started the discussion by asking the question, “how do we monitor quality,” and framed accreditation as looking at that. Lowell explained how accreditation is changing dramatically and distributed a handout to the Council. These changes are due to decisions made by the Bush administration in approaching accreditation. Lowell explained that accreditation used to look mainly at infrastructure, but is now shifting to a focus on learning. The cycle is also changing because there used to be 10 year reviews, which were mainly worked on the last few years of that cycle. There will now be seven year review cycle, but in the converting from 10 to seven, many schools will have less time this cycle to create the new system. Because of this, UW’s first seven year review

will actually be three. The standards are also changing from eight focused on infrastructure to five focused on learning.

The Council discussed the changes and seemed to like them. Chair Wenderoth summed it up by saying it makes accreditation a useful process instead of an onerous one.

3. ABB and Defining Quality

The Council discussed the difficulty of defining quality and how to make sure it is a consideration and standard when the University begins budgeting according to ABB principles. Currently there one proxy used to measure quality such as course evaluations. The strengths and weakness of using course evaluations to measure instructional quality were discussed. There was also discussion of student access to the classes they want being a priority. The Council discussed the need to incentivize quality comes from a need to balance the fact that ABB will likely reward efficiency, which would likely mean more large classes.

Adjournment

Chair Wenderoth adjourned the meeting at 4:32 p.m.

Minutes by Alex Bolton
Council Support Analyst
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Present: Faculty: Wenderoth (Chair), Edgar, Henry, Janssen, Merati
Ex-Officio Reps: Hornby, Padvorac
Guests: Lewis, Lowell, Sugatan, Lenz

Absent: Faculty: Allen, Nelson, Salehi-Esfahani
President's Designee: Taylor
Ex Officio Rep: Nkeze