

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
FACULTY COUNCIL ON INSTRUCTIONAL QUALITY
WEDNESDAY, January 16, 2008, 2:00-3:30 p.m.
36 Gerberding

The Chair, Mary Pat Wenderoth, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Approval of minutes

2. Update on 10 year review issue—Mary Pat Wenderoth and Nana Lowell

**3. Update report on Summer Quarter issues: -- Haideh Salehi-Esfahani
length of quarter, separate exam period? Faculty pay**

4. Update report on ways to recognize excellent teaching—Jerry Baldasty

5. New Topics for discussion

Class photo list program from Biology – Mary Pat Wenderoth

Rotation of Exam dates

Other new business

6. Adjourn

Chair Mary Pat Wenderoth asked council members to mark their availability for spring quarter on one of the council scheduling forms handed out and return it to the recorder.

1. Approval of minutes

The minutes were approved with no comment.

2. Update on 10 Year Review issue—Mary Pat Wenderoth and Nana Lowell

Wenderoth noted that the current 10 year review process produces departmental review reports that range greatly in their quality, and are very labor and time intense activities for departments. The goal of updating the review process is to:

1. produce uniformly high quality departmental reviews
2. decrease the time and efforts departments spend on the review process
3. make the process more forward-looking, and more useful in guiding departmental decisions

Council member Nana Lowell began by reviewing the current 10 year review process. She outlined the self-study portion and visitation by representatives from within and outside of the university. Lowell noted how few resources and support are available for departments in the review process. She explained how she had taken the guidelines from the Graduate School website and added structure to them. She also added some content, specifically, learning goals at the program level. Lowell spoke about a change in personnel in the Graduate School that has interrupted the study guidelines updates. Lowell explained that until she sees the final study guidelines she will not be able to tell the magnitude of the changes made to them. The guidelines should be handed out around the beginning of February.

Council members discussed the impact of few changes being made to the current 10 year review guidelines. Discussion focused on wanting more than a summary, what good assessment means, and what should drive a 10 year review. It was suggested that a push from this council could be helpful in bringing about the desired changes. Lowell reviewed her recommended appendices for the self-study guidelines. She noted that three of the appendices are reports that can be generated and put online on a regular basis. Wenderoth reported that she had spoken with the Director of CIDR who said his center would like to offer help in the process of updating the guidelines.

Council members discussed the area of assessment. Craig Allen described the California State system's Malcolm Baldwin National Quality Award, which breaks down learning assessment from teaching assessment. Lowell noted that learning outcomes are new to the accreditation process and that the Cal State system has a Vice-Provost of Assessment. Allen said that he would send the web link on the Cal State award to the Chair, who would then send it on to FCIQ council members. Lowell agreed to send out to council members the Graduate School guidelines along with final update decision, and the web link to it.

Council members discussed assessment and learning outcomes, student evaluation as it relates to grades and satisfaction, and assessing colleagues as a way to measure student learning.

3. Update report on Summer Quarter issues: -- Haideh Salehi-Esfahani length of quarter, separate exam period? Faculty pay

Subcommittee member Salehi-Esfahani handed out a report that she and Linda Martin-Morris (former FCIQ member) created based upon their fact-finding research on summer quarter teaching at UW. She noted that they spoke with Kei Quinlan from the UW Extension program that administers summer quarter courses. Their research confirmed that during summer quarter faculty are paid for one full month for either term A, B, or full summer term. Council members discussed reasons for the pay discrepancy which included that it has always been done this way, that the overhead for Educational Outreach might account for a difficulty in paying more to faculty, and that since the class size is smaller the pay might be less. It was also suggested that summer classes might be state subsidized which could account for paying faculty less during summer quarter. Salehi-Esfahani agreed to find out if state funds get directed to the Administration during summer quarter. Council members also discussed the need for a final exam period and the issue of student evaluations in summer quarter.

4. Update report on ways to recognize excellent teaching—Jerry Baldasty

Council member Jerry Baldasty was not present to report today.

5. New Topics for discussion

Class photo list program from Biology – Mary Pat Wenderoth

Wenderoth shared with the council her enthusiasm for including class photos on class rosters in Biology. She noted the ease of the Biology set-up for getting students to take their own pictures and the value of student photos in making a large lecture class feel more personal, and holding students more accountable for their learning. Allen noted that class photos are routinely used in the Law School. Wenderoth stated that the University could provide this service to the entire UW teaching faculty but that there was no incentive for them to install the software. She explained that this was not a privacy issue. UCLA, she noted, has decided that it is “necessary to the learning experience of students.” Lowell reported that the UW Roadmap project is seeking priorities and suggested that FCIQ contact someone from their and request it as a priority. Wenderoth asked council members to ask faculty in their departments if they would like this, and then report back at the next meeting.

Rotation of exam dates

Chair Wenderoth raised the issue of the final exam schedule because it is set and never varies and some faculty, out of a concern for fairness, would like to see it rotate. She encouraged council members if have a discussion with the faculty in their departments about rotating the final exam schedule.

6. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

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

Present: **Faculty:** Allen, Salehi-Esfahani, Underwood, Ward, Wenderoth (Chair)
 Ex Officio Reps: Holmes, Nkeze
 Regularly Invited Guests: Lowell

Absent: **Faculty:** Baldasty, Edgar (excused), Janssen (excused)
 President’s Designee: Taylor (excused)
 Ex Officio Reps: Hahn
 Regulary Invited Guests: Lewis, Jacobsen (excused)