

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
FACULTY COUNCIL ON INSTRUCTIONAL QUALITY
THURSDAY, November 8, 2007, 9:00-10:30 a.m.
36 Gerberding

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Approval of minutes
 2. Discussion of 10 year review process with Dean Ortega
 - Review current process
http://www.grad.washington.edu/Acad/existing_prog_review.htm
 - Discuss organizational change submitted by Nana Lowell
In Friday's (11/2) e-mail
 3. Ad hoc committee on Academic Quality and Rigor- joint with FCAS
Nana Lowell and Don Janssen
 4. Peer review process (update) —Jerry Baldasty and Gene Edgar
 5. Summer quarter subcommittee
issues: length of quarter, separate exam period? Faculty pay
 6. UW-SOTL (Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Symposium)
subcommittee to develop strategy to grow project
 7. Ways to recognize excellent teaching
compile best practices from departments and schools at UW
subcommittee
 8. Innovations in classroom fund
 9. Adjourn
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1. Approval of minutes

Council members approved the minutes with no comment.

2. Discussion of 10 year review process

- **Dean Ortega--Current Review**

Dean Ortega commented on the self-study portion of the current 10 year review process. She began by describing her background and experience. Ortega provided a context for understanding the 10 year review process, noting that it was originally designed by the Washington State Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) for graduate program review, so that the graduate program review is better developed than the undergraduate program review.

Dean Ortega identified some departmental complaints with the 10 year review process:

- It takes too long from the self-study to the final review to getting it to the Provost
- Departments are very frustrated by the process when there appears to be no apparent benefits; they want feedback from deans within the review process

She suggested that institutional responses should include giving maximum flexibility to departments. She suggested that a discussion around common indicators is needed; individual departments need to pick and choose what is relevant for them.

The council discussed placing more emphasis on undergraduate learning in the review process. President's Designee Ed Taylor noted the need to address what is relevant to the public in terms of what and how students are learning.

Dean Ortega mentioned a new section in the graduate program review that requires measures for assessment. She remarked that by February 2008 they want to have guidelines out for the self-study, and that these reports must speak to the data suggested in the appendices. Chair Mary Pat Wenderoth asked if there is any help available to departments for self-study assessment. Ortega noted that all self-study documents become public records and good ones could be used as models. There are also resources to which departments can be directed.

Council members discussed the difficulty in comparing departments and programs across time when their review schedules are different. Currently, programs reviews are scheduled based upon the program start date. They discussed why changing the schedule to allow all programs within a department to be reviewed at the same time would benefit departments.

- **Nana Lowell—Organizational Changes**

Council member Nana Lowell next spoke about making organizational changes to the 10 year review process that would clarify the process and standardize the responses to it. She emphasized that the paper was her own personal work on the self-study review process. She recommended inserting page lengths for each question to denote its importance, and in each section there should be resources to help find the data needed to answer the questions. Lowell spoke about the 10 year review as a cornerstone of an institutional approach and that everything else we do needs to relate back to this. She noted the importance of adding learning goals to the review process.

Council member Wayne Jacobsen suggested responding to a question like, “what is the value of this?” rather than simply doing it because the HECB requires it. The discussion turned to starting the evaluation process at the course level where it would be possible to measure outcomes, rigor, and appropriateness. Council member Doug Underwood noted that his department, Communication, is already doing it. He described the process as lengthy and challenging and involving a lot of leadership and commitment.

An alternate view was offered by council member Eugene Edgar in which he suggested that program review is different from program improvement and perhaps the two should be separated. He suggested a review of the entire process. Council members discussed the process of assessment and how to build feedback into it. They suggested framing the review process to connect with how and what they teach and its relationship to student learning.

Council member Tom Lewis suggested bringing Registrar Todd Mildon to FCIQ to explain the process. The Chair asked Dean Ortega what FCIQ could do to help. She replied that they are seeking strategies to get continuity between reviewers and would like to get more involvement from council members.

Council members thanked Dean Ortega for her visit.

3. & 4. There was no time to discuss these agenda items.

5. Summer Quarter Subcommittee

The Chair asked for a couple of council members to collect information, like a fact-finding mission, on summer quarter pay issues. Council members Haideh Salehi-Esfahani and Linda Martin-Morris agreed to work on the subcommittee.

6. UW-SOTL (Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Symposium) subcommittee to develop strategy to grow project

Council member Jacobsen spoke briefly about the growth in participation of the SOTL symposium and the need for a subcommittee to help with planning its future. Subcommittee members will be Mary Pat Wenderoth, Wayne Jacobsen, Namura Nkeze, and John Holmes.

7. & 8. There was no time to address these agenda items.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

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

Present: Faculty: Edgar, Jannsen, Salehi-Esfahani, Underwood, Wenderoth (Chair)
President's Designee: Ed Taylor
Ex-Officio: Holmes, Nkeze
Regularly Invited Guests: Lewis, Lowell, Jacobsen

Absent: Faculty: Allen (excused), Baldasty, Martin-Morris, Ward (excused)
Ex-Officio: Hahn