

**University of Washington**  
**Faculty Council on Educational Technology**

The Faculty Council on Educational Technology met Thursday, April 7, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. in 36 Gerberding. Co-chair James Kitts called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m..

**Synopsis:**

1. Agenda, announcements, minutes
2. Subcommittee reports
  - a. Electronic Plagiarism Checking – report and discuss proposal
  - b. Core Priorities Task Force
3. Attendance: What to do about FCET members who do not attend meetings
4. Nominate 2005-2006 FCET Chair

**Approve agenda, announcements, minutes**

The agenda was approved, the minutes were approved.

A Catalyst Sparks Session is scheduled for April 15 in Mary Gates Hall Commons. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

**Core Priorities Task Force**

Task Force members Kay Pilcher and Nancy McMurrer looked at the FCET Core Priorities developed by last year's council members and written by Kimberlee Gillis-Bridges. They suggested revisions as follows:

- Faculty access to classrooms and equipment that permit the use of educational technology
- Training and support for faculty who wish to integrate technology into their courses
- Incentives for faculty to incorporate educational technology into their courses
- Assessments of the impact of educational technology on teaching and learning
- Innovative and successful use of educational technology

The Task Force recommended that the core priorities be added to the FCET Web page. It was decided that an introductory statement should preface the list of priorities. The list of Core Priorities was approved in principle, subject to the drafting of an introduction and minor wording changes. The final draft will be circulated for approval.

**Electronic Plagiarism Subcommittee**

Arnie Berger presented a recommendation that FCET officially suggest a pilot study on the use of electronic plagiarism detection software/services, as follows:

- Use multiple plagiarism detection services
- Use a diverse group of faculty from a broad range of disciplines
- Conduct a study that is anonymous and blind
- Secure Human Subjects approval for the study

The subcommittee further recommended that FCET advise the pilot study on technology matters, and help serve as liaison with faculty governance in interpreting and using the results of the survey. No punitive action is to be taken toward students who participate in the study.

Of concern are regulations under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA regulations cannot be ignored.

Berger would like FCET to work on a process road map before it adjourns this year, so that many unanswered questions (who will partner with FCET to do the study, who will fund it, legal ramifications, privacy issues, Human Subjects concerns, etc.) can be addressed and the project can move forward in Fall 2005. Also to be addressed is FCET's response if the study shows that plagiarism is rampant on the UW campus – a report to the administration or the Faculty Senate?

The study would attempt to answer two questions:

- Is plagiarism widespread among UW students?
- Are electronic tools helpful in identifying plagiarism?

Another important goal of the study might be to let the students see the plagiarism checking tools, see how effective they are, and see that they are being used. This might have a major influence on behavior.

Arnie Berger, Werner Kaminsky, Cara Lane, Penny Leggott, and James Kitts formed a task group to workout the process, and write a proposal that can be posted on the Website.

It was moved, seconded and passed to proceed ahead with the proposal for a pilot study on plagiarism and the use of electronic plagiarism checking tools.

#### **Nominate 2005-2006 FCET Chair**

After discussion, it was decided to submit Kalpana Kanal's name to SEC as FCET Chair, with the understanding that she will be well-supported by others in the group for attendance and reporting on the various meetings the Chair is required to attend. Werner Kaminsky will assume the duties of Vice Chair.

#### **Attendance Issue**

There is no official Senate policy on attendance at meetings, so it will be up to the Council to come up with creative ideas to boost attendance. Perhaps a letter from the Chair to members who are habitually absent would be useful.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.. *Minutes by Linda Fullerton, Recorder, from notes by Tasha Taylor.*

**Present:** Berger, Kaminsky, Kanal, Kitts, Leggott, McMurrer, Lane, Pilcher

**Absent:** Brixey, Gravlee, Rojas, Roth, Sinanan, Albrecht, Lewis