

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

The Faculty Council on Educational Technology met Monday, March 12, 2001, **2001** at 10:00 a.m. in 36 Gerberding. Chair William Zoller presided.

PRESENT: *Professors* Diaz, Leggott, Sarikaya, Zoller. *Ex officio* *Beach, *Jordan (*with vote). *Special Guest:* Laura Schubert, Education Technology Development Group

ABSENT: *Professors* Aldea, DeYoung, Liu, Mizokawa, Porter. *Ex officio* Bjorkstam, Schmitt, Szatmary.

Discussion of How to Collect More Responses from Faculty on Technology Use Survey

Laura Schubert, from the Educational Technology Development Group, reported to FCET on Scott Macklin's data from the Faculty Technology Use Survey. She announced that there has been roughly a 20% response rate on the survey. 850 hard-copies and 250 on-line responses were returned. Schubert stated that Macklin and the Program for Educational Transformation Through Technology (PETTT) would like to try to get more responses.

Many suggestions were made as to how to increase the number of responses. They include: 1.) Hire undergraduate students to telephone faculty who have not yet returned their surveys. 2.) Ask the computing and communications support people to post a reminder on the splash-screen, shown on PINE before faculty can read their email. (Diaz said he would ask if they could do this.) 3.) Ask departmental administrators to remind faculty in their individual departments about the survey and to bring it up in departmental faculty meetings.

Beach suggested another approach: generate a random sample of 100 faculty who have not responded to the survey and have members of FCET query them individually. This would be dependent on being able to identify which faculty have not replied. Schubert said she thought that would be possible and said she would try to compile a list of faculty which could be divided among FCET members to call.

Beach also suggested conducting a different survey: a survey of faculty who teach in UW Bellevue's Evening Degree Program. Beach told the Council that all classrooms at UW Bellevue are equipped with advanced technology for teaching and suggested that the faculty who use those classrooms could be asked about how often they use the equipment, for what purpose, and what impact they believe it has on learning.

No matter which approach is adopted, all agreed that a personal approach to collecting more responses would be best.

UWired Report

Schubert presented a report from UWired on the state of the Catalyst Initiative, a website and consulting center that provides faculty and other instructors with tools and skills to use technology in academic instruction. The report showed that the Catalyst Initiative has reached instructors in 87% of UW departments and has approximately 2000 registered Catalyst Toolkit owners. Members of the Council wondered how many faculty were taking advantage of the Catalyst Initiative versus how many total faculty teach at UW.

FCET's Role

Regardless of the numbers, Diaz pointed out that there is a need among faculty for tools and skills like the Catalyst Initiative provides, that the need is growing, and the Council should serve to fill this need. As long as the University is not providing the faculty with technological tools that they need in order to do the jobs that they were hired to do, Diaz suggested that the Council should provide a voice for faculty to tell the administration what they need. The members expressed their own frustration that the Council cannot serve this role as long as the Council's input continues to be ignored by members of the administration at times when key decisions are made (e.g. decisions on technology usage in new buildings). The Council reiterated their desire to have representatives from the office of the Dean of Undergraduate Education and Computing and Communications attend FCET meetings.

Report on Last SEC Meeting

Diaz reported that he was informed about the following issues at the last Senate Executive Committee (SEC) meeting (Feb. 12, 2001):

The Budget. The state of this year's UW budget is, as Diaz reported, "beyond bleak." It is the "worst biennial budget in recent memory." Therefore, Diaz said, funding for expensive, high-tech items will likely be very limited. A better view of how much of the budget could be apportioned for technology will be possible in the next few months.

Proposed Changes to University Copyright Policy. Diaz announced that he has learned that the University is considering changes to the UW Copyright Policy that may greatly impact faculty. He considers this an important issue to faculty who use technology; as Sarikaya stated, if faculty feel more secure with their intellectual property rights they will probably be more likely to utilize technology. Diaz cited the copyright policy issue as another example of the administration making key decisions that affect faculty without faculty input. The recorder informed the Council that a joint Sub-Committee of the Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs and the Faculty Council on Research had already drafted a memo in opposition to the proposed revision, which has now been forwarded to Zoller and Diaz. Zoller indicated his desire for FCET to sign-on to this memo to voice FCET's opposition.

The members noted that FCET had passed a resolution concerning intellectual property rights approximately one year ago. *The recorder was asked to find this resolution in the archived minutes. It was in the minutes from February 2, 2001* (<http://www.washington.edu/faculty/facsenate/councils/fcet/FCET-minutes/0202mins.htm>) *and was discussed again at the April 27, 2001 meeting* (<http://www.washington.edu/faculty/facsenate/councils/fcet/FCET-minutes/0427mins.htm>).

Online Quizzes

Zoller reported that in the last meeting of his class (Chem 142) he asked his 275 students how many of them had not yet visited the class website and completed their online quizzes. Only five students raised their hands; 30 are shown not to have completed quizzes online by website records. He noted that the average number of correct answers on the quizzes has increased from one at the beginning of the quarter to four at the end of the quarter. According to Zoller, this stems from the students' access to practice quizzes that are posted on the website and subsequent increased understanding of the material. Zoller said he would bring a report to the next FCET meeting showing the correlation between student's use of the website and their final grades in the course. Next quarter he will also be testing the placement, use, and grading of homework online.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m. Minutes by Katherine Wimble, Recorder.