

**UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
FACULTY COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH**

The Faculty Council on Educational Outreach met at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, **October 21, 2003**, in 36 Gerberding Hall. In the absence of a chair, Secretary of the Faculty Lea Vaughn presided.

Welcome and Introductions – Lea Vaughn, Secretary of the Faculty

Lea Vaughn, Secretary of the Faculty, welcomed members to the 2003-2004 Faculty Council on Educational Outreach. Council members introduced themselves and identified their home department or unit.

Approval of minutes

The minutes of the March 12 and May 21, 2003 FCEO meetings were approved as written.

FCEO Chair for 2003-2004

Vaughn asked if anyone attending today's meeting would volunteer to serve as council chair or vice chair for the 2003-2004 academic year. Hearing no volunteers, she asked FCEO members to suggest others whom they think would make a good chair, and whom she could contact. A couple council members suggested faculty (not currently on FCEO) that they thought would make good chairs. Other members were encouraged to E-mail Secretary Vaughn (secfac@u) if names occurred to them.

FCEO Agenda for 2003-2004

Vaughn expressed the hope that the group, even without a chair, could begin discussion of possible agenda items for the coming year. In this regard, she mentioned last year's May 21st joint meeting of the FCEO and the Faculty Council on Educational Technology (FCET), and the discussion in that meeting about future joint meetings, or a possible merger, between the two councils. The consensus at the joint meeting was that the two councils do share similar concerns, though FCET Chair Gillis-Bridges did aver that certain FCET concerns are starkly different in nature than those of FCEO.

This observation began a wide ranging discussion on the mission of FCEO as well as agenda topics for the upcoming academic year.

Much of the discussion focused on the relationship between FCET and FCEO, especially as it pertained to distance learning programs. Some expressed the view that FCET tends to focus narrowly on technology-based concerns while FCEO is concerned with broader issues of academic standards for these programs. To that end, some suggested that a merger or coordination with the Faculty Council on Academic Standards (FCAS) might be more appropriate, even though it would add to an already heavy workload for that council. Others felt that a merger with FCET would be appropriate. But all present agreed that there needs to be some type of oversight of distance learning programs that focuses on the academic standards, rather than the technology, of such programs.

Another issue that emerged from the discussion was the council's approach to Educational Outreach. David Szatmary, Vice Provost, UW Educational Outreach, pointed out that Educational Outreach, a part of the University's outreach programs, generates about \$60 million annually in fee-based programs. Additionally, upwards of 1700 students are involved in these programs. He expressed his interest in embarking upon some long-range planning on the role of Educational Outreach programs with the Council. As an aside, Vaughn explained to the council the interest and plans of Doug Wadden, Senate Chair, and Ross Heath, Vice Chair, to engage in long range planning over the next two years.

At this point, the discussion shifted to an exploration of council members' interest in undertaking some type of planning project regarding the University's outreach programs. As council members discussed the role of fee based programs in their own units, they noted the tension between good planning and oversight while trying to avoid becoming an obstacle to either distance learning or outreach programs.

Finally, the discussion turned on the relationship between distance learning and the Bothell, Tacoma and Seattle campus structure. For example, asked one member, if a course taught at Seattle is televised at Bothell, does that become a distance learning course? Similar concerns were raised about the distance learning standards if Bothell and Tacoma should move to a collegiate, four year model.

Out of these discussions, the following action plan/agenda emerged:

1. Vaughn will work with members to find a chair for the council.
2. Vaughn will prepare a memo for Senate leadership that emphasizes the need for SCPB and faculty discussion of the impact of fee-based outreach programs on the overall mission and character of the University. This memo will emphasize the need for long range planning relating to this issue especially in light of state budgetary shortfalls and the looming baby boomlet.
3. Szatmary will prepare background information for the council on the growth and current status of fee based programs at the University. Interest was also expressed in having comparative data from other universities, if possible.
4. Vaughn will give the council material from the NASC Accreditation Report regarding tri-campus issues.

Next meeting

The next FCEO meeting is set for Tuesday, November 18, 2003, at 9:00 a.m., in 36 Gerberding Hall.
Brian Taylor, Recorder

PRESENT: *Professors* Berger, Brock, Eberhardt, Goldsmith and Wells;
Ex-officio members Warbington, Johnston and Szatmary;
Guest Lea Vaughn, Secretary of the Faculty.

ABSENT: *Professors* Collins, Kim, Warnick and Wilkes;
Ex-officio member Deardorff.