

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Educational Outreach (FCEO)
Friday, February, 27, 2009 10:00 a.m.
36 Gerberding Hall

Council Chair Leslie Breitner called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Approval of minutes from November 7, 2008 and January 23, 2009 meetings.
2. Update from the Chair
3. Presentation on current developments on teaching and learning portals by Brian McFarland with update by David Szatmary
4. Legislative update by JW Harrington
5. Discussion on intellectual property and open source
6. Set clear direction for intended accomplishments for the year

1. Approval of the minutes from the November 7, 2008 and January 23, 2009 meetings

The minutes from the November 7, 2008 meeting were approved. The minutes of the January 23, 2009 meeting were amended to reflect the addition of two new members Kyle Albert, ASUW representative and Shannon Marsh, GPSS representative. The minutes of the January meeting were then approved as amended.

2. Update from the Chair

Chair Breitner announced to the Council that yesterday she met with Marcia Killien, Secretary of the Faculty. The purpose of the meeting was to determine the Administration's position on the issue of Educational Outreach (EO) and Distance Learning (DL) and the development of a campus-wide policy with regard to the development of EO and DL courses. Breitner had learned that due to budget cuts the effects may be felt on the Councils and since this Council deals with some issues of learning technology, there is the possibility it may merge with the Faculty Council on Educational Technology. Breitner wanted a signal from the Administration that it would support FCEO's efforts before the Council invests too much effort into the cause. She stated that Killien would investigate and report back her findings.

3. Presentation on current developments on teaching and learning portals by Brian McFarlane with update by David Szatmary

Brian McFarlane, Director of Technology Operations at the UW School of Nursing, began his presentation by telling the Council he was here representing the Computing Directors Group. He stated that the general goals of this group are information sharing and finding out where the UW can be collaborating to save money, increase efficiency,

reduce redundancies campus-wide. He is currently working with UW Technology to collaborate with other schools and colleges. He noted however, that this function is not currently viewed as a central service. McFarlane identified the Business School and the Nursing School as heavy users of technology systems for teaching and learning. With regard to the delivery of academic programs, McFarlane stated that his group is making an effort to utilize Adobe ConnectPro. The group is planning to pilot the program across the UW to create a centralized service from a de-centralized service.

President's Designee David Szatmary, Vice Provost for Educational Outreach, commented that one size does not necessarily fit all with regard to multi-college and university use statewide. His office has studied various Learning Management Systems (LMS) and has identified integration with other technology tools to be the biggest challenge. His office is considering the UW in general and taking into account expense, ease of use, student and teacher preferences, limitations, etc. He believes the implementation of a campus-wide LMS is on the horizon, however it probably would not happen for about a year and a half. Szatmary identified Moodle and Angel as possible LMS solutions. He offered to send the report to the Council.

McFarlane noted that the Provost formed an ad-hoc group to investigate program options and he could send a report of the group's findings to FCEO as well. Discussion among council members followed and generally the group conveyed a feeling of support for pursuing a campus-wide policy.

4. Legislative update by JW Harrington

JW Harrington, Faculty Legislative Representative, began his update by informing Council members that he was pleased to see this discussion taking place. He told the Council that House Bill 1946 is moving along which encourages colleges and universities to use common online teaching platforms. The Bill also mandates an online learning task force for baccalaureate institutions. Harrington felt there would be a lot of outreach coming from this legislation and suggested Cable Green, eLearning Director for the Washington State Board of Community & Technical Colleges (SBCTC), to come and speak to the Council. He would follow up with Chair Breitner with contact information for Mr. Green.

5. Discussion on intellectual property and open source

McFarlane informed the Council that the programming that created open source is available. With it, the author has the ability to put content on the site and control access. Szatmary stated that there is no UW policy regarding the use of open source. He noted however that if an author uses state money to fund a course, then the caveat is that the author must use open source. He stated that his office offered to have their free courses on open source but it didn't work out. Council members engaged in a brief discussion surrounding intellectual property and open source.

Szatmary stated that he went in front the Board of Regents where he discussed an online learning experiment. The Regents approved a seven course pilot program with the caveat that he returns to them to discuss DL strategy at the UW. The Regents would like to meet again in May and Szatmary would like to bring to them recommendations from the Council. He noted that the issue is complex but will address the issues of access and classroom shortages.

Harrington asked how much discussion has occurred within this Council with regard to intellectual property and online learning environments. Zierler stated that the School of Nursing has dealt with the issue for a long time. Her understanding is that if you are hired on state funds to teach a course online you are able to take the course with you when you leave the UW, but a version of the course will remain here as well. Szatmary stated that the subject of intellectual property is a tricky and ambiguous area. EO pays faculty for developing courses, so the UW owns that iteration of the product. However if the faculty or author is on state funds or on a grant and they leave the UW it is unclear who owns the product. He noted that the University used to give royalties to faculty for course development, but it has gotten away from that practice. Chair Breitner suggested that the Council should recognize there is a concern regarding intellectual property and it should be noted in the resolution they draft.

6. Discussion on drafting resolution

Chair Breitner stated that she felt the Council should propose by the end of the year a strategy related to creating access and dealing with space issue, create distance learning model that can be used university wide. She feels that distance learning is a hot topic because it addresses both access and lack of space at the University. Council members engaged in a discussion around the charge. It was agreed that the resolution should focus on faculty rather than the technical tools needed to support DL.

There was further discussion about the challenges faculty face when they would like to be able to deliver a course in the online format. Chair Breitner feels that good things can come from this Council's work if they can come up with a solution that can be applied University-wide. She would like the Council to be able to identify the barriers faculty encounter when moving a traditional course to the DL format. She also suggested the Council make a specific recommendation to the UW for faculty to gain support and overcome those barriers. Chair Breitner identified member Meijer-Irons as the RA to the Council. She stated Meijer-Irons could work with a small subcommittee to assist in gathering and compiling the data. Marsh stated the Council should think about what the deliverables will be and to be able to identify those at the next meeting. Harrington suggested the Council generate a list by the end of the quarter have composed of an organized statement of potential barriers. He suggested that beginning next year the Council identify four of these barriers which are relevant to new legislation the Council would like to take on. Wilkes volunteered to start a list of barriers and send the list to Chair Breitner.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

*Minutes by Kelly Baker, Council Support Specialist
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Present: **Faculty:** Breitner, Erdly, Meijer-Irons, Marsh, Olavarria, Wells,
Wilkes, Zierler

President's Designee: Szatmary

Ex Officio Reps: Albert, Brown, Ray

Absent: **Faculty:** Harrison, Kyes, Yeh

Ex Officio Reps: Allen