

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Tri-Campus Policy
January 30, 2014, 9:00 am – 10:30 am
Gerberding 36

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to Order
 2. Approval of the Minutes from November 21, 2013
 3. Chair's Report
 4. Report on FCTCP Tri-campus Reviews
 5. Response from Provost's Office regarding Criminal History Question Discussion
 6. Tri-campus Review "Pre-Proposal Process" & Distance Learning Degrees
 7. Acknowledgement of Deborah Freidman
 8. Good of the Order
 9. Proposal for an On-site FCTCP Council Meeting at UWT/UWB
 10. Future Agenda Items
 11. Adjourn
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1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Erdly at 9:00 a.m.

2. Review of the Minutes from November 21, 2013

The minutes from November 21, 2013 were approved as amended.

3. Chair's Report

Erdly encouraged members to review the online Integrated Social Sciences (ISS) degree proposal which is currently in tri-campus review. Once the review period is over the initiating unit will respond to questions which will be reviewed by the subcommittee on tri-campus review to determine if the questions/concerns were adequately answered. Erdly clarified that the review is intended to answer concerns from all 3 campuses on the impact it will have on programs offered at UW. The 1503 process is unique for each specific campus and there is an understanding that one campus cannot veto a program on another campus.

A question was raised asking if the review process has a checklist for commenters to review in order to properly assess and communicate the likely impacts on their programs. A suggestion was made to develop guidelines for commenters in order to provide constructive feedback on program proposals. Another suggestion was made that all new online degree programs first run through the council before approval. Discussion ensued. The ISS degree proposal was an agenda item at last meeting which generated a long conversation about the specifics of the degree. There are some procedural issues that still need to be made clear which will be a challenge for the subcommittee.

At this time there are two types of undergraduate online degree programs proposed by UW. Enrollment in the online ISS degree would be program-specific which is different to UW-Tacoma's online degree in Criminal Justice where students are enrolled as UW-Tacoma students.

4. Report on FCTCP Tri-campus Reviews

The subcommittee recently processed 6 new proposals which came primarily from UW Tacoma and Bothell.

5. Response from Provost's Office Regarding Criminal History Question Discussion

Erdly provided the council with the response from the Provost's office regarding FCTCP's concerns towards the criminal history question. The Provost provided examples of the questions that all applicants are required to answer, including:

Have you ever been convicted of a violent felony offense, are such charges pending against you at this time, or have you been required to register as a sex offender by a legal authority in the U.S. or any other country?

Please describe the nature of the criminal matter(s). If you wish, you may also explain why this information should not be a cause for concern to the safety of the university community.

Each campus makes its own choice on how to handle the information. Currently, UW-Seattle deals with the questions on a case-by-case basis. Additionally, the Provost confirmed that the holistic reviewers do not see this information when reviewing applications. A question was raised asking why the solution must be localized to individual campuses without a general UW policy. This is concerning since students move across campuses. Discussion ensued. Part of the process is sharing information across campuses as well as Cascadia Community College which is located next to UW-Bothell.

A question was raised asking if there is a process in identifying other students if a violent offender is in their class. Concern was raised that while faculty will be notified that a sexual offender is taking their class students do not receive the same notification. UW-Seattle works to protect the confidentiality of the individual rather than communicating with other students about having the violent offender in the classroom. One reason for this is to prevent the individual from the negative stigma of being labeled as a violent offender. If there is a problem then an off-duty officer could escort the individual. Essentially, UW-Seattle's policy is based on a security model instead of a notification model.

A question was raised asking about the notification requirements of sexual offenders. Notifications are required for living situations but there are no requirements for course enrollment. In the past UW sent out universal notifications which did not go over very well. Members discussed their personal experiences and stated their preference with knowing if a sexual offender is enrolled in their course. This is incredibly important because some faculty members lead community-based projects where students are directly involved with local elementary schools. This is also problematic if there are overnight field trips and a sexual offender has not disclosed their criminal history to the instructor. Members stressed the importance of having access to this information. Discussion ensued.

A comment was raised that there are opportunities to get this information since it is publicly available. There is a high level of attention towards student privacy which has been addressed through the public reporting of sexual offenders. Additionally, this moves the reporting requirements into the hands of police which is ultimately their responsibility to report and communicate with the public. Concern was raised that this still creates an ad-hoc process in which faculty are not prepared to deal with students who have been convicted as violent offenders. There needs to be a structured process to address concerns rather than creating a system that relies on reactionary solutions when a student discloses their criminal history. A suggestion was made to create a consistent policy across all campuses that balance safety with civil rights. O’Neill volunteered to pass on the message to faculty leadership which may be able to communicate directly with the Provost.

A comment was raised that police departments have very extensive protocols to handle these situations. Additionally, there is great coordination between local police departments and campus safety officers. However, since UW Tacoma and Bothell are growing so quickly police departments need to ensure safety concerns are being addressed while improving protocols.

6. Tri-campus Review “Pre-proposal Process” & Distance Learning Degrees

Erdly provided an update on the proposed Notification of Intent (NOI) process which would be added to tri-campus review. Robert Corbett is working on this with a small group of people and will have a finalized version shortly. The council discussed drafting a document outlining guidelines for providing feedback in the tri-campus review process. For example, the guidelines could be posted alongside the 1503 proposal to explain how to provide constructive feedback. The intent of the NOI process is to replicate the service previously provided by the HEC board. The NOI would allow departments from all campuses to work together to identify shared resources and create synergies in developing new programs. The NOI would be posted during the development process and will be available for comment. For example, the NOI will be open to students who may want the opportunity to weigh in on new proposals at the early stages of development. In addition to incorporating ideas from other units this process will also allow people working on the same project to improve communication amongst themselves. Erdly clarified this only applies to undergraduate degree since the council does not have jurisdiction over graduate programs.

The initial concern the council must address is the process to change the tri-campus review process. Tri-campus review falls under the Registrar’s Office, not in the Faculty Code. Therefore, any changes would likely require Class B legislation. Erdly will follow up with Marcia Killien (Secretary of the Faculty) to decide how the changes should occur. Deardorff and Erdly volunteered to work on finalizing the changes with Robert Corbett and Ginger O’Donnell.

The council reviewed recently-approved guidelines for distance learning degrees from the Faculty Council on Academic Standards (FCAS). Erdly clarified that the approval is the same but with additional criteria if the degree is offered online. Patricia Kramer (Chair of FCAS) has asked the council to provide comment and advice. A question was raised asking if this refers to 100% online courses or those delivered as hybrid offerings. This is something Erdly will look into. Erdly clarified that FCAS only approves programs at UW-Seattle and each campus has its own academic advisory committee.

Concern was raised that the guidelines should be more explicit in protecting intellectual property (IP). Discussion ensued about recent changes to IP policy between the administration and the Special Committee on Intellectual Property and Commercialization.

Discussion moved to evaluating the effectiveness of online courses. Since the model is different from face-to-face traditional offerings there should be greater review of online degrees. In many cases certain types of programs turn into large-scale offerings like the proposed online ISS degree. Units that are proposing online degrees will still submit a 1503 proposal but provide additional information as described in FCAS' guidelines. A question was raised about language that refers to "providing substantial improvement to current programs". This is to address the issue of equivalency of course content and competitiveness gained through online offerings.

7. Acknowledgement of Deborah Freidman

The council acknowledged Deborah Freidman. Erdly explained that Freidman had a history with the council since she served on the council when it was first formed.

8. Good of the Order

O'Neill reported that she is chairing the university-wide special committee on lecturers. This is the umbrella group which is in addition to the 3 separate committees on each campus. O'Neill asked members to forward her any concerns that are not addressed at their campus-specific committee.

9. Proposal for an On-site FCTCP Council Meeting at UW Tacoma/Bothell

Erdly asked members if they are interested in holding a council meeting at either UW Tacoma or Bothell. This would also be an opportunity to invite outside individuals to participate in the meeting. For example, the meeting could be structured to be open to the public with key faculty and staff. The council will discuss this at a future meeting.

10. Future Agenda Items

The council discussed possible agenda items for future meetings. Topics could include Faculty Senate service at UW Tacoma/Bothell and transit services.

11. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Erdly at 10:30 a.m.

Minutes by Grayson Court, Faculty Council Support Analyst, gcourt@uw.edu

Present: **Faculty:** Erdly (Chair), Dolsak, Endicott-Popovsky, Kucher
President's Designee: Moy, Leadley, Brown
Ex Officio: Deardorff, Leadley, Brown, O'Neill, Resnick, McKinley

Absent: **Faculty:** Crowder, Mobus
Ex Officio: Fridley, Taricani