

Faculty Council on Tri-Campus Policy (FCTCP)
2012-13 Annual Report
Submitted by Bill Erdly, Chair

Summary

A primary focus of FCTCP in 2012 – 2013 was on issues and processes related to the tri-campus review and approval process. As more and more degrees are being proposed and offered that have elements of distance learning – or at least significant hybrid learning components, it is important that effective communication and strategic alignment occurs as each campus grows and develops. Resources will continue to be limited – and can perhaps leveraged across the campuses – as new ideas for degrees, options, minors or other undergraduate academic offerings are provided. Many faculty members are also involved in research, teaching and service across the three campuses, and further opportunities for collaboration are of interest to all. Libraries, student services, student government, computing/media technologies and so many other units critical to providing a comprehensive and high quality educational experience need to be involved earlier in the planning process. Strategies for how all the stakeholders can be involved in the academic and strategic planning across all three campuses – and our virtual “fourth campus” -- is a priority for FCTCP.

FCTCP also placed emphasis on the effective communication between, and alignment of, the three faculty governance structures – the Faculty Senate (UWS), the General Faculty Organization (UWB) and the Faculty Assembly (UWT). As we face critical issues related to reduced budgets, differential tuition rates, increased emphasis on self-sustaining degrees, competitive salaries, use of the “Common Application” for students, intellectual property/commercialization, and others – it is more important than ever for FCTCP to provide its unique, three-campus perspective on these and many other issues facing the University.

Further details regarding FCTCP 2012-2013 activities are provided below:

1) FCTCP Tri-Campus Review Process

FCTCP performed a careful review of the purpose and value of the current tri-campus review process and determined that it indeed plays an important and useful role for the final approval of the 1503 Forms that are processed via the Registrar’s Office. The complexity of degrees, the delivery formats, the emphasis on self-sustaining degrees, MOOC’s and other on-line learning approaches all pose important and significant issues and opportunities. FCTCP has had significant discussions related to our reviews of tri-campus comments related to a number of proposed degrees – which are growing in volume and complexity.

Since there is no longer an official process or Notification of Intent (NOI) managed by the HECB, it is important that UW develop a visible and transparent process for notification and development of degrees, minors, options – especially those that have implications across the three campuses. FCTCP has embarked on creating a proactive, “NOI-like” process for internal UWS/B/T communication with the

hope of strategically planning for the best approach and heightened faculty, staff and student awareness -- and opportunities for input and involvement (in the development of) in new proposals. Initial work has received favorable reviews by faculty, students, staff and administration. This work will be continued and result in Faculty Senate legislation to be reviewed in 2013-2014.

2) Intellectual Property/Commercialization

Information and discussion was provided by the chair of SCIPBC (Special Committee on Intellectual Property and Commercialization) related to tri-campus involvement and implications of the work of the committee. Discussion emphasized the need to have a representative from UWT/UWB on this committee to represent unique issues related to Bothell and Tacoma.

3) Tri-Campus Governance

Planning activities were completed for having a tri-campus governance summit meeting. This is proposed for Fall 2013.

4) Class A Legislation Regarding Tiered Salary Structure

Discussion about tri-campus perspectives related to the proposed tiered salary structure and modifications for the faculty merit/promotion process were discussed. Issues related to how these processes will affect faculty merit/promotion – particularly in new and growing schools that have a high service requirement for assistant and associate professors – were identified. Additional tiers were recommended at the Associate Professor levels. Also, emphasis was placed on ensuring that the important work of lecturers, senior lecturers and part-time faculty be focused on as they are heavily relied on by the newer campuses and “start-up” programs/degrees. It is important that tri-campus perspectives are included in salary structure discussions. Concerns about how peer institutions will be selected for UWB/UWT as compared to UWS need to be addressed.

5) Student Issues – the “Common Application” and Diversity Requirement

Much review of the Common Application and the proposed Diversity Requirement for completing degrees were reported on and discussed over the year. Student groups provided detailed reports and discussions of the issues and merits related to each of these proposals. FCTCP committee members provided critical feedback that was incorporated into the final proposals and presentations to the Faculty Senate – resulting in very positive outcomes.

Council Members for 2012-2013 Academic Year:

Faculty: Kyle Crowder, Sociology; Nives Dolsak, Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences; Barbara Endicott, Information School; Bill Erdly (Chair), Computing & Software Systems; Michael Kucher, Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences; Johann Reusch, Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences.

Presidential Designees: JW Harrington, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Susan Jeffords, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

Ex-Officio Representatives: Curtis Black, PSO Alternate; Rebecca Deardorff, PSO; Jim Fridley, Faculty Legislative Representative; Sarah Leadley, ALUW; Elise Randall, GPSS; Maxine Sugarman, ASUW.

Faculty Ex-Officio Representatives: John Lee, Faculty Senate Vice Chair; Kari Lerum, UWB General Faculty Organization Vice Chair; Jill Purdy, UWT Faculty Assembly Vice Chair.