

## **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON FACULTY COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS**

The Faculty Council on Student Affairs met at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, **April 28, 2004**, in 36 Gerberding Hall. Co-chair Jeffrey Schwartz presided.

### **Introductory comments – Jeffrey Schwartz**

Schwartz encouraged council members to look at the article that he and Clark Pace co-authored, entitled “All About Students,” in the April 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of University Week. The article concludes: “A diversity of issues and solutions characterizes the work of the FCSA. Our goal, like all the other faculty councils, is to contribute to creating the best environment for academic and social development in the Northwest.”

Schwartz also distributed a “Council Issue Update: April 5, 2004,” for council members to peruse. The update contains brief summaries of issues being discussed in all the faculty councils.

### **Approval of minutes**

The minutes of March 10, 2004 were approved as written.

### **ASUW Report – Sam Castic, ASUW representative**

Castic said the new course fees [a Class “C” Resolution objecting to the new course fees was passed at the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Faculty Senate Meeting] “were suspended over the past break.” He said Acting Provost Thorud “received our recommendations, and accepted most of them.” Castic said, “We’re glad; we wanted more transparency.” He said the Student Senate “is trying to meet the new president,” and is looking forward to that discussion. As for Spring activities, “We’re gearing up for new elections,” said Castic.

Regarding the controversy involving sororities and fraternities, Castic said, “There is a plan to restructure the Student Senate, which currently contains a disproportionate representation from the ‘Greek’ population. Fraternities and Sororities make up approximately 9-10% of the undergraduate student population, but they comprise 40-50% of the Student Senate.” The proposal for restructuring would more equitably balance the representation from the different student populations. “But so far, there has been no compromise,” said Castic. “One reason is that there are so many ‘Greeks’ on the Board.” He said efforts will continue to affect an equitable compromise.

### **Athletic Director Search – Kathleen Fearn-Banks**

Fearn-Banks said the Athletic Director Search Committee “is collecting names of candidates. If you have suggestions, please email the Search Committee. We have spoken with groups on campus, including the Tyee Board and the Advisory Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics. Most of the groups are seeking similar attributes in the new Athletic Director. They want someone who will balance academics and athletics.”

Fearn-Banks said some people feel the emphasis on “winning within the rules” accents too zealously the factor of “winning.” There is some difficulty in that area within the Athletic Department, she pointed out, because of the extreme importance *placed* on winning, particularly in the major, high-profile sports. “But that is *not* a problem the Search Committee must solve,” she stressed. She noted that student athletes often feel they’re not as included as they might be, in regular student life on campus. Though lack of time available to student athletes plays a significant role in that disparity.

Fearn-Banks said the Search Committee will meet with President-elect Emmert next week. She said Emmert has “no orders about who to get” as the new Athletic Director.” She added: “We hope to have five candidates [to recommend to Emmert].”

As to the issue of compliance, Pace said, “We *were* meeting compliance, *before*, when all these problems arose. Why not raise the bar *above* the basic compliance?” He said that when he asked about this, he was told that raising the bar would make the University *not competitive enough*. Fearn-Banks asked Pace to email the Search Committee with that information.

Schwartz said, “Remind your colleagues to email any suggestions they may have.” Fearn-Banks reminded council members: “We’ll need all comments within the next couple weeks.” Dr. Morris observed, “There’s a coalition of institutions like the University of Washington moving to enhance faculty governance involvement in intercollegiate athletics.” Pace added, “The piece the coalition put together raises interesting issues. Jeffrey Schwartz and I met with Pete Dukes, chair of the Advisory Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics. Dukes agreed that we should work with his committee. Focusing strictly on compliance won’t help, but raising the bar above the basic compliance *would* be useful.”

Schwartz said, “The Search Committee told me that student athlete concerns *are* important to them.” Pace urged: “We should ask candidates what their criteria for excellence will be for student athletes, and athletic programs. And we should know their attitude to academic achievement.” Almgren said, “We – that is: faculty – are sometimes perceived as a threat to the Athletic Department.”

McKinstry said, “The faculty *do* sit on boards at some universities [affecting athletic programs].” Dr. Morris, who is a member of the Advisory Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics, said the committee “is faculty controlled in the sense that a great many of its members are faculty. There are also two student athletes from the ICA, and an ASUW member on the committee. The committee is appointed by the president and the chair of the Faculty Senate [Doug Wadden is the current chair]. Norm Arkans represents the President’s Office; George Bridges, Undergraduate Education; Dick Thompson and Marie Tuite, the ICA; and I represent Student Affairs.”

Dr. Morris said, “Our Advisory Committee is the closest thing to the faculty governance group that you’re talking about. The Advisory Committee has an open-ended charge, and serves as advisory to the president and the chair of the Faculty Senate.” Pace said, “This council put together the coalition statement; so we *should* work together [with the Advisory Committee].” Schwartz said, “Doug Wadden has acknowledged that the Faculty Senate has been out of touch with Athletics at the University, and these efforts are part of an attempt to redress that oversight.” Pace said, “Dukes asked us to direct a survey of student athletes: the survey that has been part of our fact-finding investigation on Intercollegiate Athletics.

Dr. Morris said, “The ratio of tutors to student athletes is not nearly what it needs to be. Student athletes feel disadvantaged [because of this lack of tutorship]. Efforts could be made to involve student athletes more in upper campus student activities. A major problem, of course, is time. Student athletes, in many instances, do not have much time for enhanced activities.” Schwartz said, “The class model of student athletes working with other students is a good one, *if* it can be implemented.”

### **Federal Financial Aid Changes – S. Kay Lewis**

Lewis, Director of Student Financial Aid, distributed a chart displaying the “Projected 2003-2004 Financial Aid and Scholarship Programs.” She informed the council that “the campus-based federal financial aid programs serve high-need students. We spread out the financial aid as much as we can.” She noted that “the campus-based programs are direct allocations from the federal government to the school, unlike the other federal aid programs that are allocated to the school for individual students.”

Lewis said, “Congress is looking at phasing out base guarantees and using the fair-share allocation formula only. We would prefer to see more money in the general pool. A new proposal currently in the

House would phase out the base guarantee completely in ten years.” Lewis said, “The University is required to match what we receive in campus-based funds.” With respect to the Perkins loans [\$12,200,000 for an estimated 4,000 recipients], she noted that “we receive about \$700,000 in new campus-based Perkins Loan funds each year; the rest is the University’s match and loan collections from previous borrowers.”

Lewis said of the change to fair-share allotments, “This would be a significant cut, though it would not cripple us.” She noted: “We’re talking with different people about this. We want to preserve as much as we can.” And she stressed that “this is just a proposal now. It’s a bad-budget year, as well as an election year, so they may wait to gain authorization for this change.” She said, “Much [of the fair-share allotments] would go to two-year schools, and *away* from four-year schools. We’d like to see the base guarantee remain.”

Lewis said, “One concern about distributing solely on a fair-share basis is the inability to predict availability of funds year to year. A major problem is that schools don’t know ahead of time just how many students they’ll have who will *need* this financial aid in relation to the other schools in the nation and their needy students.” Pace said, “To *me*, the proposal sounds fair. But the University of Washington will not do well by it.” Lewis said that, *de facto*, “This change would just take money from *one* needy student and give it to *another* needy student.” And low-income students, she said, “need predictability.”

#### **Relations with University of Washington Neighbors – Dr. Ernest Morris**

Dr. Ernest Morris, Vice President for Student Affairs, began his remarks on the University’s relations with its neighbors with a brief background.

“Prior to 1992, the relations between the University and the fraternities and sororities on Greek Row and environs was informal at best. The University’s position was that what occurred in the Greek houses ‘was their private concern.’ Then, in 1992, a young woman was hit in the face by a bottle, and lost an eye. This incident brought into sharp relief the concern about the ‘Greek’ relation to the University,” Dr. Morris said. “President Gerberding appointed a committee in 1992 to look into this. I chaired that committee. The FCSA chair was also on the committee, as was the chief of UW Police. The ASUW and GPSS presidents were members. The Alumni was represented. And fraternities and sororities were represented. It was a broad representation of campus bodies bearing an interest in the University’s relations with its neighbors.”

Dr. Morris said the committee “came up with recommendations, and the University entered into ‘Recognition Agreements’ with the fraternities and sororities in the ‘Greek’ community. The sororities were more responsive than the fraternities. The conditions of the agreements necessitated that the Greek organizations abide by all applicable state and city laws. The police could not enter fraternity parties, except on the basis of probable cause. (However, since the Greek organizations are getting banquet permits, officers *are* allowed to enter the premises and make certain that proper control is being maintained, and that sober security people are monitoring who enters the houses.) Educational programs on alcohol, date and date rape issues were inaugurated during the first six weeks of Autumn Quarter. It is thought that incoming freshmen are more vulnerable at that time. These programs are taught by outsiders.”

Dr. Morris said, “There was a vacuum in leadership in the national organizations of the Greek system. The Recognition Agreements were meant to hold the organizations accountable for their members generally, and for members individually as well. Those agreements were developed, and they *achieved* the agreement they were after.” Dr. Morris noted that “there was interest on the part of the University community and the state legislature.” The agreements “have had growing pains, but they “have been in effect.” The Seattle Police Department says the agreements “have made a huge difference.”

Dr. Morris noted, “There has been a lot of interaction between us and the organizations [the fraternities and sororities]. The organizations require new students to sustain themselves. To get new students, they must have a positive image, and represent the right values. We want the organizations to ask: Are their values what they should be? But it’s up to them.”

Dr. Morris told the council, “We did withdraw recognition from one fraternity organization in 1998 because of a hazing incident in which the fraternity engaged. That fraternity was removed from the IOC. That organization is now in economic trouble. They are now seeking re-consideration. Overall, we are now very much involved in these organizations, with respect to their relations with the University.”

“The fraternities have improved,” said Dr. Morris, “but there is still ‘nuisance behavior.’ In September 2003, there was a disturbance that resulted in \$6,000 damage and an overturned car. There was an outpouring of outrage, insisting that students need to be held accountable. But, significantly, of the 19 individuals involved in the incident – the ‘main bad actors’ – seven were posted on Websites, and none of them turned out to be a student. However, 300 to 400 students were milling about. The ‘main bad actors’ were given encouragement and cover by the students. Students were minor players, but did not disperse. *Had* they dispersed, the matter would not have been as severe as it was.”

Dr. Morris said, “The mayor called on us to extend the Conduct Code, as did the state legislature. We did not consider extending the Conduct Code a viable response to the issue. We looked at 34 institutions across the nation, and few of those institutions invoked their Conduct Code in response to ‘nuisance behavior’ (alcohol- and noise-related incidences, and the like). The cost to us would have been \$325,000-\$350,000 per year, to deal with that on the basis of extending the Conduct Code. And It would have been extremely labor-intensive. It would be very difficult to manage administratively.”

“So where do we draw the line?” asked Dr. Morris. “North of N.E. 50<sup>th</sup> Street? We thought: What *can* we do that would make a tangible difference? On September 28<sup>th</sup>, the day after the incident, we met with the fraternity and sorority organizations. It became clear that students not dispersing during such an incident needs to *not* happen again. The organizations are developing plans to have students get away from crowd situations, to go back inside their houses. Sororities and fraternities have embraced this plan.”

Dr. Morris said a “Night walk” through the “Greek” neighborhood revealed some possible contributors to the attractiveness of that neighborhood for non-students looking for parties. “They tend to come up from the 47<sup>th</sup> street corridors,” he observed. He said the excess branches and the dim lighting in these streets contribute to the atmosphere that lures these people to the neighborhood. (These branches have been cut, and better lighting has been installed.) Police officers on foot, so-called “incident prevention teams,” patrol the neighborhood from Thursday through Saturday – aided by UW police – and the noise has dramatically decreased. Dr. Morris said the Seattle Police Department was upset by the incident in September, as was the mayor. They were somewhat placated when they learned that the perpetrators were not students.

Dr. Morris said, “At first, there was some tension in the neighborhood, but now the focus is on ‘nuisance behavior’: vandalism, noise, and the like. The SPD left after the Apple Cup weekend. But we kept the UW police in the neighborhood. They continue to patrol and to give us regular reports. Criminal behavior is down; nuisance behavior also is down. We’ve gotten a very direct response to what was going on.”

Dr. Morris distributed a brochure entitled “Hold It Down, Please!”, a “guide to off-campus living (and being a good neighbor).” The brochure [published by the Office of the Vice President for Student

Affairs] was distributed to fraternities and sororities. It encourages students “to be good neighbors,” and offers practical advice on communication within the neighborhood, tips on recycling and general neighborhood cleanliness, acceptable noise levels, suggested parking strategies, avoidance of walking alone at night, and many other features of neighborhood life.

To assist in maintaining a clean neighborhood, extra dumpsters are being placed in the neighborhood at the end of the school year, which is when they are most needed. “One problem in the area is the density,” said Dr. Morris. “The City is responsible for enforcing zoning; but the City can’t go in there without probable cause. We have said to the community that we do what we can. But again, we don’t think extending the Conduct Code would be a proper response. We’ll continue to sustain the prevention teams.”

In response to a question from a council member, Dr. Morris said the Conduct Code “is not applied beyond the campus.” He said, “SPD teams will be re-emphasizing the importance of security in the area where the Sand Point knifing took place.” He also said, “I believe our Office of Regional Affairs has done something in the neighborhood, with a brochure, or some other advisory material.” Pace, who lives in that area, said he is not certain that residents have received the material. Dr. Morris said he would double-check to see that they do receive it, if they have not already.

Pace asked Dr. Morris what FCSA can do to help. He said the council could assist in sending notice to residents about what the University is doing to improve relations with surrounding neighborhoods. Dr. Morris emphasized: “The council can continue to raise questions, as it did today. That is of great assistance. The quality of life in our neighborhoods is at stake.” Wood suggested, as part of the fraternity agreement, that “the University and fraternities ought to consider tracking legal violations levied against individual fraternities. This will do two things. First, it will provide a means by which students and parents can pass judgment on reputable fraternities. More importantly, by maintaining a record of infractions, fraternities themselves will be able to discern whether illegal behavior was caused by their own members or members outside of their organization.”

Dr. Morris said, “We are bringing in trained facilitators and national experts to speak to the organizations about the challenges they face, and to suggest possible ways of meeting those challenges.”

McKinstry told Dr. Morris that the Libraries can help distribute information to students, and student organizations, and would be glad to help in any way it can.”

Asked if he has spoken with state legislators, Dr. Morris said, “I have testified in Olympia, and I have communicated with state senators on the issues I have discussed with you today.”

#### **Next meeting**

The next FCSA meeting is set for Wednesday, May 26, 2004, at 12:00 noon, in 36 Gerberding Hall.

Brian Taylor  
Recorder

**PRESENT:** *Professors* Pace and Schwartz (Co-chairs), Almgren, Fearn-Banks and Wood;  
*Ex officio members* Castic, Gething, Lewis and McKinstry;  
*Guest* Dr. Ernest Morris, Vice President for Student Affairs.

**ABSENT:** *Professors* Fridley and Herwig;  
*ex officio members* Hatlen, Kravas, Morales, Perrin, Mortel and Stygall.