

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

The Faculty Council on Student Affairs met at 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday, **October 11, 2001**, in 36 Gerberding Hall. Chair Lee Nelson presided.

Welcome to and introduction of new and returning FCSA members

New and returning FCSA members introduced themselves and identified their departments and units in the University.

Approval of minutes

Due to a lack of quorum, the vote for approval of the minutes of May 1, 2001 could not be conducted.

Report on the first 2001 meeting of the Senate Executive Meeting (SEC) – Lee Nelson

Nelson said that, as the minutes of the first Senate Executive Committee meeting have yet to be sent to committee members, she could only sketch out the main issues addressed in the meeting, held on Monday, October 8, 2001.

The proposed changes in distance learning legislation passed by a margin of one vote, and will now go before the Faculty Senate at its first meeting of the 2001-2002 academic year on Thursday, October 25. The proposal was drawn up and finalized by a subcommittee co-chaired by 2000-2001 and current FCAS (Academic Standards) chair Doug Wadden and 2000-2001 FCEO (Educational Outreach) chair Roger Simpson. Current FCEO chair Steve Buck has also played a major role in the drafting and completion of the proposal.

The GSEAC/TA strike will most likely begin in November. President McCormick asked SEC members “to be as cooperative as they can be,” and to support his efforts to find an effective compromise in strike negotiations. He emphasized the dire straits financially in which the University finds itself, and the University’s ongoing efforts to cope with, and to overcome, this dilemma.

One way the University has chosen to address this dilemma is to ask certain departments and units to become self-sustaining programs (under the overall umbrella of UW Extension). Not only is this extraordinarily difficult for many departments to do; it will create enormous hardships for many students, who will lose many of their benefits. Bennett said there will still be some benefits available to students, but Nelson said students would not have many of the health benefits they presently enjoy.

Nelson said the campus community needs to be better informed on these important issues. A great many faculty know little or nothing about them.

FCFA discussion on possible agenda items for the 2001-2002 academic year

1) *Campus Climate*. Nelson said the council “learned a lot about campus climate last year,” and believes this knowledge could profitably be expanded this year.

Godfrey said, with respect to campus climate, that George Bridges, Acting Dean of Undergraduate Education, is deeply engaged in efforts to enhance the “Freshman Year Experience.” Also, Dean of Arts and Sciences David Hodge is committed to enhancing the undergraduate experience generally and the freshman year in particular. He appointed a committee on the freshman year last year and it would be well worth the council’s time to hear from Dean Hodge (or a member of his committee) and Dean Bridges.

Clark said the campus climate is indeed an important issue. “We lose a lot of students after the sophomore year,” she noted, adding that campus climate contributes significantly to a student’s decision to stay at or leave the University. (About 90% of the Freshman class complete their first year; 70% of the Freshman class will complete their baccalaureate degree at the University.)

Bennett corroborated Clark’s observation, and said the question, “Why do students stay here on campus?” needs to be discussed. He said Nana Lowell, Director of the Office of Educational Assessment (OEA), would be an excellent choice as guest speaker on this issue.

2) *Academic misconduct.* Bennett said that, over the last four years, he has encountered eight cases of academic misconduct. All of them involved Internet use, and most of the misconduct involved plagiarism. Bennett wonders if this is an educational process about which students may need to know much more than they do now. For it is by no means easy to determine when plagiarism occurs on the Internet. It frequently occurs inadvertently. Students simply do not realize they are plagiarizing.

Rusty Barcelo, new Vice President for Minority Affairs

Baker said Rusty Barcelo, the new Vice President for Minority Affairs, will have a major positive impact on the graduation rates of undergraduate minority students. Barcelo is widely considered to be a brilliant choice for this position, and brings exceptional character and commitment to her work. She would be an excellent guest speaker at an FCSA meeting.

Workplace violence

Godfrey said an effective process is now in place campus-wide to address workplace violence stemming from threatening behavior on the part of any member of the University community. He said workplace violence is addressed by the Office of Human Resources or by Student Affairs if a student is involved.

If a student is involved, the process of response can include Student Affairs, the department in which the incident occurs, the campus police, mental health practitioners, representatives from the Attorney General’s Division, and other offices or agencies if necessary. Each case establishes its own parameters for appropriate response from the University.

Clark said the Libraries has its own effective means of dealing with and forestalling workplace violence, but this does not involve students as much as it does general patrons of the libraries, which may of course include students or former students, but most often does not. “This is more a security issue with us,” she noted.

FCSA legislation to be sent to SEC and the Faculty Senate

Nelson reminded the council that one of its prerogatives is to bring proposed legislation to the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) and, if it passes there, to the Faculty Senate. The council, however, should not feel compelled to do so. The chief *raison d’être* for faculty councils is their rôle as significant voices in the overall dialogue of faculty governance. Those voices are multifarious and multicultural, composed as they are of faculty from every discipline on campus. If, however, a particular council discussion leads to a proposal for Class A, Class B, or Class C legislation, the council should proceed accordingly. (One consideration with any proposal is deciding which class of legislation best accommodates it, and gives it the greatest chance of success).

Stan Chernicoff, Director, Student Athlete Academic Services

Stan Chernicoff, Director, Student Athlete Academic Services, was highly recommended as a guest speaker at a future council meeting. Chernicoff, from Geological Sciences, is a beloved figure on campus, a “superb speaker,” and has been immensely successful in setting up and sustaining innovative

academic programs for student athletes. One such program is a course entitled “Rocks for Jocks,” a class in geology hugely popular with students.

Educational Intervention Process – Gus Kravas

FCSA ex officio member Gus Kravas, Vice Provost and Special Assistant to the President for Student Relations, said he is helping to create a “centralized/decentralized academic integrity process.” He is currently collecting information about national efforts in this area.

He has also met with a number of the college associate deans to discuss the feasibility of developing such a program. The “central” aspect of the process provides for investigations to be conducted centrally (Office of the Provost), while the “decentralized” part calls for faculty conduct committees in each of the colleges to “hear” the cases and determine level of responsibility.

Kravas said “Some of our students would never dream of breaking rules.” Or at the most, they would be “in the middle,” capable of imagining breaking rules, but not inclined to do so.

He said focus groups on educational intervention could be conducted on campus, some of which could specifically target faculty. He has contacted colleagues elsewhere about the use of “honor codes,” and the question could be raised as to whether honor codes would be appropriate at the UW.

Bennett said someone in each department should be informed about this. Kravas, referring to his discussions with associate deans, said “they all think there needs to be greater coordination in the effort to address plagiarism and other ethical issues,” especially the burgeoning ethical issues related to the use of the Internet.

Future guest speakers at FCSA meetings

Nelson thanked council members for their suggestions for future guest speakers at FCSA meetings. “We will try to get these people into council meetings as soon as possible,” she said.

Next meeting

The next FCSA meeting is set for Thursday, November 8, 2001, at 10:30-12:00 noon, in 36 Gerberding Hall.

Brian Taylor
Recorder

PRESENT: *Professors* Nelson (chair), , Carlyle, and Williams;
Ex officio members Baker, Bennett, Clark, Godfrey and Kravas.
ABSENT: *Professors* Karmy-Jones, O’Neill, Nicholson and Schwartz;
ex officio members Feetham and Hatlen.