

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON FACULTY COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS

The Faculty Council on Student Affairs met at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, **October 13, 2004**, in 36 Gerberding Hall. Chair Jeffrey Schwartz presided.

Welcome and Introductions – Jeffrey Schwartz, Chair

2004-05 FCSA Chair Jeffrey Schwartz welcomed new and returning members to the Faculty Council on Student Affairs to the new academic year of faculty governance. Members introduced themselves and stated their home departments or administrative units, and their positions.

Approval of minutes

The minutes of May 26, 2004 were approved as written.

Voting privileges for ex officio non-administrative FCSA members

The council unanimously approved council voting privileges for all ex officio non-administrative members.

Goals and plans for the 2004-05 FCSA academic year

Schwartz informed council members of the charge given to FCSA: in essence, to address any matters related to non-academic student affairs. It is deliberately a broad mandate, to allow student representatives as well as faculty members on the council to bring forth agenda items and issues of interest.

Schwartz mentioned several council goals:

- 1) to work to improve the integration of different student groups, such as student athletes and the mainstream study body;
- 2) to better understand and to improve the relationship between students, faculty and administration, and the University's relationship with its immediate neighbors to the north;
- 3) to address emergency issues as they arise;
- 4) to sponsor focus groups looking more intensely into particular issues of importance;
- 5) to share the workload on the council; to take the lead on issues and lead council discussions;
- 6) to help in representing FCSA on other committees and groups, and in Faculty Senate Meetings when necessary. Schwartz said Ernest Morris, Vice President for Student Affairs, has a committee on Services and Activities Fees, and that it would be desirable to have an FCSA member on that committee. Kravas said a huge amount of money is allocated by that committee each year, and that it is an exceptionally important committee. All students pay into Services and Activities Fees. The services and activities affected by the allocations of the committee "enhance the campus experience" of all students at the University.

Issues for FCSA in 2004-05

Student Athletes

Schwartz mentioned that the council reviewed a pamphlet last year in which faculty were informed of what comprises the life of a student athlete at the University of Washington.

Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics

Schwartz said there are about 40 universities representing different athletic conferences who endorse the recommendations of the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics. One strong recommendation of the coalition is that faculty should be involved with student athletes. Schwartz said something kindred to this recommendation went to the Senate Executive Committee five years ago, but was voted down. Since that

time, many issues have affected the University regarding intercollegiate athletics and the UW athletic programs. So the recommendations might well be received differently this time around.

As for presenting Class C Legislation to the Senate Executive Committee regarding intercollegiate athletics at the University of Washington, Almgren said it would be helpful to get a sense of whether “this has a chance to be supported [by SEC].” Schwartz said he would take the idea to Pete Dukes, who heads the ICA Advisory Committee, and get his suggestions. He will then take it to SEC. And he will find out why it was rejected the first time around.

Questionnaire of students

Schwartz said he has revised the questionnaire to be sent out to UW students regarding student athletes at the University. The questionnaire was created predominantly “for information purposes.” Schwartz will consult with Pete Dukes on this project as well. McKinstry suggested consulting with the Office of Educational Assessment (OEA). They would be particularly helpful on such a project.

Greek system

Schwartz said there are issues concerning the Greek system’s involvement in student elections. The council could look at its impact on student life. It was noted that fraternities and sororities are isolated groups, in a certain respect. Representatives of the Greek system could be asked to visit the council.

Almgren said he is pleased that students in the Greek system take an interest in elections, but he thinks it unfortunate that commuter students are not involved more than they are. Thus, in some measure, he noted, the Greek system is overrepresented.

Garrett Parks, the ASUW representative on the council, who is both a member of the Greek system and a commuter, agreed there is a need to include more groups of students in student elections and government. Almgren said student officers should broaden the representation of all groups. Brock said some kind of outreach program is needed. Parks said the ASUW is trying to involve commuter students, and is actively helping to organize a commuter students union, which would greatly help in getting commuter students involved in student government. But the Greek system will not change, he pointed out. “We need to get the other groups to organize better.”

Kravas said that, in the last few years, the Greek system has been underrepresented in student government. In last year’s spring elections, however, they were highly organized in a political party and swept their entire ticket into office. “In the future, other student groups will need to be equally organized if they are to successfully compete,” he noted. Parks said that students [in ASUW discussions] are saying that they need to develop alliances, and to pool their assets. He stressed that it “comes back to students having interest and getting involved.”

Schwartz suggested having a council meeting attended by representatives from various student organizations. Parks suggested representatives from the Resident Hall Student Association, the Ethnic Cultural Center, and the Inter-Fraternity Council. Almgren said it would be healthy if “different groups dominated in different years [in elections], as long as there is greater representation.” Parks noted that there were “three different tickets in this past year’s elections (all-Greek, ethnic minorities, and one ticket comprised of both Greek and non-Greek students).” But the non-Greek representations did not “run campaigns as hard or as effective”. Greek students, said Parks, “seem more willing to accept the higher costs of tuition and whatnot in order to receive the quality education we get here at UW. This is a position that is slightly different than those of previous ASUW student government leaders.”

Schwartz asked, “What *are* the goals of ASUW now?” Parks said the main goal is to establish a commuter student union; over half the student body commutes to the University, and they have no

representation now. Course fees are another high priority: the ASUW wants to get the fees streamlined. Performance contracts are seen as something students should be aware of, and be knowledgeable about. There are implications for students in performance contracts. The student senate will study the contracts and support the University's position if it is deemed beneficial to students.

Asked about commuter student representation in the ASUW Senate, Parks said, "As of today, October 13, 2004, there have been 20-30 seats assigned to commuter student representatives in the senate; eventually there will be 56 seats." Kravas said, "We'll have a focus group of commuter students." He could ask questions of the focus group on behalf of the council. The focus group will convene in about three weeks.

Schwartz said the December FCSA meeting could be devoted to commuter students. He would ask ASUW President Kelsey Knowles to visit the council. Kravas, corroborated Parks, saying that performance contracting is an important issue affecting students. "Are we meeting needs? What impact will the contracts have on students? It's a political issue."

Brock recommended casting a broad net by conducting a survey of students to see where they stand on issues. Kravas said, "We'll be looking to survey students who have to travel to get here, by bus, etc." Brock commended the idea of the commuter student union, as students currently have no voice. Kravas said academic kinds of student associations could be studied, to see where students already are bound together. Schwartz said students should be reminded of the advantages "of being involved in some way in campus life". McKinstry said the Libraries are trying "to reach out to transfer students" in whatever ways they can. Almgren emphasized that "this is a larger and larger sector of the student population, including students of extended degree programs." Parks said, "All your suggestions are helpful, from a macro viewpoint." Schwartz said, "We'll focus on this in December."

Course Fees

Parks said much was still unfinished regarding course fees. He said he will meeting with George Bridges, dean of Undergraduate Education. "We need to find out where things stand, and we need to increase the transparency on course fees." He said he is not against course fees, but he wants to know exactly what they are used for. He believes a standardized form is needed, stipulating what the course fees are intended for, and that the information from the form should be put into a data base for all departments. Almgren noted that departments have latitude as to which courses they charge course fees for. Because of that latitude, it could be difficult to get a University-wide consensus. Parks said, "We need a straight definition of what course fees means." Parks will have feedback from his meeting with Bridges to share with the council at its next meeting.

Relationship with the University's Immediate Neighbors to the North

Schwartz said there is a "lack of communication between the University and non-University members of the community" in the residential area north of N.E. 45th Street where the Greek system's fraternities and sororities are located. He said he would speak with Ernst Morris, Vice President for Student Affairs, and will ask Dr. Morris to visit the council. It was also recommended that Theresa Doherty, Assistant Vice President for Regional Affairs, visit the council; her office is involved with the relationship at the core of this issue. Kravas said that there may still be pressure in the community to extend the Student Conduct Code off-campus, which is not the University's position.

Sarah Hansen, Assistant to the Vice President-Greek Relations, in the Student Affairs office, said the Seattle Police Department has special teams patrolling the area in question on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. And "Good Neighbor" brochures are sent to student residents who have a 98105 zip code. There also is a Greek system night-walk in the neighborhood, she mentioned, and a "best practices" document developed and used by the fraternities and sororities. The University Park program is helping

as well. Schwartz said some of the people involved in these efforts will be asked to attend the December council meeting, if available.

Next meeting

The next FCSA meeting is set for Wednesday, November 10, at 10:30 a.m., in 36 Gerberding Hall.

Brian Taylor
Recorder

PRESENT: *Professors* Schwartz (chair), Almgren, Brock, Stoelinga and Wood;
Ex officio members, Kravas, (Sarah Hansen, for S. Kay Lewis), McKinstry,
Parks (ASUW) and Robenolt;

ABSENT: *Professors* Fearn-Banks and Fridley;
Ex officio members Gething, Hatlen and Morales.