

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON FACULTY COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS

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

Welcome and Introductions – Jeffrey Schwartz, Chair

Schwartz welcomed the council's guests, and asked council members and guests to introduce themselves, and to identify their academic department or administrative unit.

Approval of minutes

The minutes of October 13, 2004 were approved as written.

ASUW Update: Garrett Parks, ASUW representative

Garret Parks, ASUW Director of Faculty, Administration and Academic Affairs, said there has been progress on the issue of course fees for students. Parks met with ASUW president Kelsey Knowles, Dean and Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education George Bridges, and others, to discuss the changes. Much of this content appears in the new policy statement, Parks noted. Also, the use of a data base for course fees has been implemented. And a grievance process has been established for students who are not getting answers to their questions, or who are confused about course fees. Parks said that, with regard to an issue he discussed at the last FCSA meeting, a Commuter Union Task Force has been formed; it includes, among others, the ASUW president and three student senators who are commuters. The Task Force will meet weekly, and will be meeting soon with FCSA ex officio member Gus Kravas, Vice Provost / Special Assistant to the President for Student Relations. The Task Force will bring a pool of students together to discuss their needs and goals, said Parks. Schwartz noted that the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting is talking about course fees as well.

Student Athletes

COIA Legislation Update – Jeffrey Schwartz

Schwartz said he discussed the council's proposal to endorse the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) with Pete Dukes, who heads the ICA Advisory Committee, and will take the proposal to the Senate Executive Committee on November 15th and report back to the council at its next meeting on how that presentation is received.

Questionnaire Update – Paul Wood

Wood said he contacted Dave Burton and learned that the Athletics department conducts an exit survey of all athletes who leave the University. He will ask Burton to visit the council at its December meeting to discuss the survey and related matters. Wood said the "system" is in place, but the information is not reaching the appropriate people to enable action to be taken when necessary.

Relationship with the University's Immediate Neighbors North of 45th Street (see "Guest" list above)

Schwartz explained that this issue came up last year in council discussions. "What makes this neighborhood desirable, or less desirable [for those who live in it]?" is the overarching question for today's discussion.

Dr. Ernest Morris, Vice President for Student Affairs, outlined, by way of backdrop, efforts taken by the University and the Office of Student Affairs in the last twelve months to address this issue. In September 2003, Dr. Morris noted, a disturbance took place on Greek Row that involved "active breaking of the law." An automobile was overturned and burned, and upwards of 300-500 students gathered in the area, observing the disturbance, and failing to disperse in a timely fashion. No UW students were identified as

having participated in the active breaking the law, though one student was found to have a keg of beer at a house in the area, which was determined to be unrelated in the disturbance. “None of the violent individuals in this incident were UW students,” Dr. Morris reiterated, “though the large gathering of students did provide unintended cover for those who were breaking the law. The police posted photographs of 19 individuals at a Web site; and the nine individuals identified as a result were not UW students.”

In the aftermath of the incident, said Dr. Morris, “We did launch an effort to get students to recognize that the students’ failure to disperse contributed to the problem. Efforts are under way to make the area more secure. Lighting in the neighborhood has been improved. Lines of communication with law enforcement have been enhanced. We work with the City and the Office of Regional Affairs on a project called Husky Neighborhood Clean-Up, which takes place when students move out in the spring and arrive in the autumn.”

Dr. Morris discussed the “Incident Prevention Teams” (IPTs) that has been created specifically to address the issue of security in the neighborhood. “We rely on our own police officers [at the UW] to help patrol and monitor Greek Row and the area immediately beyond it. The IPTs are in the neighborhood Thursday night through Saturday night Autumn and Spring Quarters, on other days as deemed appropriate, and on selected days in Winter Quarter.” Dr. Morris noted that students are receptive to this presence, especially students in the Greek System. Sororities are particularly grateful for the IPTs’ presence because of their concern for the overall security of the neighborhood. Dr. Morris said this effort will be sustained “as long as it is useful”.

Copies of the brochure, “Hold It Down, Please!” – which contains pertinent information and tools for working with the City on neighborhood security and cooperation – have been distributed to students residing in the 98105 zip code, including all Greek houses. The brochure contains many important tips on “being a good neighbor”. Outside the Greek community, approximately 6,400 students received the brochure last year, and the same number this year. Some students have expressed appreciation for the information.

Dr. Morris said a second annual “Night walk” will take place on November 16 in the neighborhood immediately north of 45th Street. “We are trying to get people to take action on private property,” he noted. He said the “Night walk” is part of the “continuing effort” to improve the University’s relationship with the entire neighborhood, and to sustain the momentum of the last 13 months.

Dr. Morris emphasized, “We do not feel we need to extend the Student Conduct Code. The best response is to do what we have done. The logical extension of what we do is to have UW police patrol that area.” Ruedi Risler, Senior Research Engineer, Radiation Oncology, and a resident of the neighborhood north of 45th Street, asked how much of a presence the University Police has maintained during the past school year. Dr. Morris said, “Patrols are maintained throughout the academic year, and modified in Winter Quarter because there is less activity in that quarter. With time, the police have adapted to the presence we have desired: not a ‘No tolerance’ presence, but a measured presence.” He pointed out that the IPTs “are not there to control the Greek community but to contribute to the overall security of the area by citing under-age students who are drinking and dealing with anyone who is disorderly and disruptive.

Pace said 99% of the students in the neighborhood north of 45th Street “are wonderful neighbors”; that, in fact, most of the people who are disruptive are among those who visit residents (often for parties), and become unruly or leave trash before leaving the neighborhood, often while intoxicated. “As a resident, I don’t care *who* does the damage, UW students or someone visiting UW students.” Pace also pointed out that there were not many UW students involved in the clean-up last spring. “The University could do more,” he said.

Dr. Morris said, “We can address the concern about making visitors aware of concerns in the area. The brochure is available at the UW Student Affairs Office and at residence halls and other locations around the campus, including the ASUW/GPSS Housing Affairs Office. He said the brochure could possibly be distributed at the Orientation Program in September.

Dr. Morris said it is important to realize that some of the young people who were arrested last year were from up north – from Marysville – and that the area containing the Greek houses is a magnet for young people visiting from elsewhere, both inside and outside the city. “We will be more attentive to such people,” he said. “People come into the area looking for parties; they are not guests of anyone; they are uninvited. We’ll fold this into our quarterly meetings with leaders of the Greek community, the UWPD, the SPD, the Fire Department, and others. And we can get students to help in the spring clean-up.” Asked if the resources used for the neighborhood north of 45th Street take away from the resources needed to make other areas safe as well, Dr. Morris said, “No. We’re not taking resources away from other areas.”

Risler said, with respect to the Incident Prevention Teams, “How do we get them? How do we reach them?” Dr. Morris said, “You call the police; they’ll respond if they’re available.” Asked if the night of the incident in September 2003 was unusual in the size of the gathering of students, he said, “No, it was not unusual. There are upwards of 4,000 students in the Greek system. Students went out to see where the fire was coming from. The size of the student gathering, given the nature of the incident, was not unusual.” Parks stressed that parties given by students in the Greek system have to be registered with the Student Affairs Office. He said that when he lived in the neighborhood, and was involved with the planning of a party, “we told people in the neighborhood that we were going to have a party; we informed those around us.” Pace said there must be open lines of communication among those living in the neighborhood. Dr. Morris agreed, and added, “There’s the brochure to help, and there’s the necessary registration by at least a week in advance of the event to be held. We tell SPD, Liquor Control Board agents, and the Fire Department.”

Risler said, “When we invite the University to come to Park Community Club meetings, no one from the University shows up. I have lived in this neighborhood for 20 years. And student noise issues have gotten out of hand over the last five years. Students rent houses; they get loud; they throw trash indiscriminately; they can be insulting. And then, when we call the police, the police don’t come. This past year was the worst ever, despite all that Dr. Morris says is in place. These facts are well documented.” Dr. Morris said, “We’ve been told, in the past, about particular houses; the police have then responded to those houses.” Risler added: “We’ve asked the north precinct police questions about recent enforcement, but they haven’t yet responded.” Dr. Morris said, “We’ll talk to the police about this.” Hoard said, “The SPD is understaffed now.” Dr. Morris observed: “The IPTs respond to noise issues in the neighborhood, too.”

Risler noted: “Noise is the big problem. Most students are great, but a few exceptions make life difficult. There needs to be a follow-up when students don’t respond to requests to lower their noise levels, and when police don’t respond as they should. Also, students don’t realize the noise they make when just talking; their noise travels. Landlords have spoken to them, but the noise continues.” Risler said that no students he has spoken with recently have received the brochure. Dr. Morris indicated that the brochure was mailed to the addresses of all students in the area who were enrolled on the 10th day of instruction, based on the official UW student database. He also said that landlords are the responsibility of the City. Hoard said the ASUW/GPSS Housing Office prohibits landlords with land use or landlord/tenant violations from posting rental listings. Pace said, “I’d like to see better preventative measures. The enforcement side is all right. But the more we can do to educate, the better.” Dr. Morris said, “We

believe both enforcement and preventative measures need to be pursued equally strongly.” Risler noted that there are more citations now than in the past (at \$250 each), and that this should help.

Schwartz said it is desirable “to have easy open lines of communications between all groups involved.” Dr. Morris said, “We’re serious about this commitment; and we plan to sustain it. We’ll talk to the SPD and have a presence within and beyond the Greek community. We’ll work *with* the SPD.” Pace suggested sending something to residents. Dr. Morris said, “We’ll work on that with the Regional Affairs Office.”

Next meeting

The next FCSA meeting is set for Wednesday, December 15, 2004, at 10:30 a.m., in 36 Gerberding Hall.

Brian Taylor
Recorder

- PRESENT:** *Professors* Schwartz (chair), Fearn-Banks, Brock, Pace, Stoelinga and Wood;
Ex officio members, Ken Etzkorn (for Bridges), Gething, Kravas, Hansen, Lewis, McKinstry and Parks;
Guests Aaron Hoard, Deputy Director, Office of Regional Affairs; Dr. Ernest R. Morris, Vice President for Student Affairs; Ruedi Risler, Senior Research Engineer, Radiation Oncology; Jonathan Lee (ASUW).
- ABSENT:** *Professors* Almgren and Fridley;
Ex officio members Hatlen, Morales and Robenalt.