

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Student Affairs

Wednesday, June 7, 2006

36 Gerberding Hall

Clark Pace called the meeting to order at: 2:35 p.m.

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Approval of the Minutes
2. ASUW Report – Jonathan Lee, ASUW representative.
3. GPSS Report – Richard Nobels, GPSS representative
4. Office of Student Publications – Kristin Millis, Publisher
5. University Park Neighborhood – Jeffrey Schwartz
6. Future Directions

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the May 10, 2006, meeting were approved with the following corrections: Under Item #2, second paragraph, the first sentence is changed to “He also reported that ASUW is considering asking administration to promote usage of the Catalyst Student wine line.” Also, under Item #4, last paragraph, the spelling of the name of Nana Lowell is corrected.

2. ASUW Report

Jonathan Lee began his report with the introduction of his replacement for next year, Erin Shields. Some of the projects she will be following next year with ASUW include the increasing cost of textbooks, including exploring the possibility of green textbooks and bundled texts. Another focus of ASUW attention next year will be monitoring plans for tuition as the budget for the 2007-09 budget is developed. Apparently administration is leaning toward withdrawing a request for a 10% tuition increase in favor of local control of graduate and undergraduate tuition. The students will be working against local control of tuition. ASUW will also be working toward finding a way to support independent student publications offering an alternative voice to *The Daily*.

Lee reported that results of recent ASUW elections were encouraging. Many of those elected will bring to their posts significant institutional history and he feels that it should be an interesting and active year.

3. GPSS Report

Report deferred because of the absence of the GPSS representative.

4. Office of Student Publication

Mark Stoelinga, the FCSA representative on the Services and Activities Fees Committee, introduced Kristin Millis, Publisher, Office of Student Publications, who gave an overview of her work in that office and answered questions from Committee members.

Millis's vision of the Office of Student Publications includes the hope of finding a way to provide a greater variety of student voices through additional publications that her office might support.

Apparently only one in twenty start-up publications succeed financially. Add to that the challenges students bring to the venture and the ratio is probably even less favorable. The basic support of an already established Office of Student Publications may make the difference for a publication like *Rukus*.

Millis reported that she has been at the helm of the office for about a year, during which time she has overseen a change in the mission for *The Daily* and other changes including establishing a longer term for the Editor-in-Chief – who can now serve a one-year term, instead of an eleven-week term. The board is considering appointing the Editor-in-Chief to a one year term beginning in the 2007-2008 school year. She also is working toward providing a setting for students to learn more about the news and media business by expanding on-line services, pod-casting, chat-rooms, blogs, etc. Instead of the Office of Student Publications, she hopes to make hers the Office of Student Media.

She is working on a handbook for *The Daily's* Editor-in-Chief and managing editor in order to hold the publication to a higher standard of content.

Gus Kravas commented that he would like to see *The Daily* provide a forum for lively exchange among students. He would like to see *The Daily's* journalism inspire more letters to the editor.

Millis agreed and said that currently the paper contains 45-55% advertising. She reported that *The Daily* has the highest paid staff (of colleges, nationally) and the lowest advertising rates. That will be changing this fall with the doubling of the advertising rates (with an exception for campus and student organizations). Fewer ads at a higher rate will result in more space and possibly more letters.

Mark Stoelinga raised the question of whether *The Daily* could be considered truly independent. Millis reported that it is – that it is student governed (she has no say about what is included editorially) and totally student-funded (through SAF and student-generated advertising). If *The Daily* were to receive funds from donors or the ASUW for operating expenses they would not be considered independent.

The *Right Turn* (a registered student organization) still exists and is funded by advertisers and donors. Of the 3,000 responses received on *The Daily's* recent survey, half included complaints that *The Daily* is too liberal. Offering the *Right Turn* (and *Rukus*) a home within the Office of Student Publications would provide alternative student voices – and would ease the burden of publishing on their own. In addition to these, Millis would like to see a humor publication launched within the Office.

Millis plans to establish a professional development center for *The Daily*, bringing in UW Journalism graduates who are working in the field to mentor *Daily* staff once a week or more. Journalism skills are beneficial for any undergraduate, but particularly for pre-law and business majors.

Council members agreed that the FCSA could work with ASUW to draft a joint resolution in support of creating a more diverse voice among student publications, and that this would most probably get a favorable hearing in the Faculty Senate. Council members also agreed that the quality of *The Daily* has been much better this spring, and Millis reported that *The Daily* had won a national competition with an issue submitted from this past year. Although Millis is pleased with the improvements she's seen in the past year, she feels that the students have subscribed to "CYA" ethics – that being ethical means avoiding being sued. Millis is committed to the proposition that being ethical often means taking risks. She feels that *The Daily* staff has been playing it too safe in the past year. College papers should be on the cutting edge of journalism and should be an example for regular dailies. After all, college papers are a public service, not a business, and they are not beholden to shareholders.

Millis concluded her remarks by asking that Council members provide feedback to her or to *The Daily* staff whenever they feel so moved. Clark Pace thanked her for her presentation on behalf of the Council.

5. University Park Neighborhood

Jeffrey Schwartz reported that the University Park Task Force (the North of 45th Committee) had concluded its work. Recommendations have been drafted and presented to the President. After his review, the President will make a decision on which of those recommendations will be implemented. One of the recommendations is that the Task Force (or some permutation of the Task Force) be continued into the indefinite future to oversee the implementation of changes and ultimately to evaluate the effects of the changes.

Although the Task Force looked at many similar Universities and how they have treated the same issues, there are no true "peer institutions" in this regard. The issues raised in this Task Force represent a very complex composite of problems. Consensus among Task Force members on many of the elements

(e.g. the student conduct code) was not achieved, and these will require on-going study and discussion.

6. Future Directions

It being the final meeting of the year, Chair Clark Pace thanked all the members of the Council for their participation and diligent work on the Council, with a special thanks to Jonathan Lee for his regular, thoughtful contributions to Council discussions. He noted that the Council relies heavily on ASUW representatives to provide informed input to all its concerns and discussions. He welcomed Erin Shields to her new role as ASUW representative to FCSA next year.

The chair of FCSA for the 06-07 academic year will be Brian Fabien.

The meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m. *Minutes by Susan Folk, Staff Assistant, Office of Regional Affairs, 1-4183, sfolk@u.washington.edu*

Present: **Faculty Members:** Almgren, Fearn-Banks, Schwartz, Stoelinga, Pace

President's Designee: Kravas

Ex-officio Members: Lee, McKinstry, Perrin, Winans

Absent: **Faculty Members:** Antony, Brock, Leady, Rasmussen

Ex-officio Members: Nobles

Guests: Erin Shields, ASUW representative to FCSA for academic year 2006-07.