

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Student Affairs
Wednesday, November 15, 2006
36 Gerberding Hall

Chair Brian Fabien called the meeting to order at: 9:04 a.m.

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Approval of the Minutes
2. Report from the Chair (re. recent SEC meeting)
3. Report from the ASUW representative (Erin Shields)
4. Report from North of 45th Street Working Group
Eric Godfrey, Jeffrey Schwartz, Julia Gold
5. New business

1. Approval of Minutes

Chair Brian Fabien asked the Council if there were any objections to the approval of the minutes for the October 20 FCSA meeting. Hearing none, he announced that the minutes were approved.

2. Report from the Chair

Fabien reported on the following issues brought up at the recent Senate Executive Committee meeting for FCSA attention:

- a. The President reported on the plan to reduce the funding gap relative to peer institutions. The principal idea of the plan is to cap tuition increases to 7%. If that is not sufficient to close the gap, the state will augment support to do so. If the state is unable or unwilling to augment support, further increases in tuition will be considered. In response to a question about whether there was student input in the formulation of this plan, Eric Godfrey reported that there was significant student input and collaboration in the process.

ASUW representative Erin Shields reported that students are in general in favor of the 7% cap. Their biggest concern is the prospect of the Regents securing local control of tuition.

- b. Seatbelts will soon be installed in UW shuttle buses that serve the wider campus community.
- c. The Faculty Senate will be working on a University-wide procedure for dealing with racial and sexual harassment.

3. Report from the ASUW representative (Erin Shields)

Erin Shields reported that students are in the process of forming a legislative agenda, and she will bring copies of the final product to the next FCSA meeting.

Students are also contributing to work on the UW Vision Statement and the 6-Year Plan.

The ASUW is currently dealing with budget challenges, including some long-standing and valuable programs that consistently run at a deficit – including the Experimental College. The UW's Business Consulting Network has agreed to evaluate the Experimental College this year to determine how it might be able to operate profitably.

Another issue of concern is the concrete blocks outside Allen Library that make it difficult for handicapped people to navigate through that area. The Student Disability Commission is working on that issue.

Student course fees are currently being discussed by students. These fees vary greatly from department to department, and this was a topic under consideration by this council last year. The hope then was to try to find a way to make the process of determining course fees more transparent.

Jeffrey Schwartz suggested that since course fees are included in the amount required to support a student at the UW, it should be included in the ASUW's legislative agenda.

Other issues under consideration by the ASUW include the conduct code and childcare.

4. Report from the North of 45th Street Working Group (Eric Godfrey, Jeffrey Schwartz, Julia Gold)

Eric Godfrey introduced Julia Gold, Director of the Mediation Clinic at the UW Law School, who was chair of the initial North of 45th Street Working Group. Godfrey also mentioned that Jeffrey Schwartz and Erin Shields had taken part in the Working Group. He distributed a map showing Fraternities and Sororities, as well as party houses (as identified by a local neighborhood group). In response to the problems that plague that neighborhood – including crime, large and noisy parties, absentee landlords, single family homes that have been re-built to accommodate more people in a boarding house fashion – the President appointed this Working Group, under the direction of Julia Gold, to get a fix on the situation north of 45th and to make recommendations on how to contribute to a solution of these problems. The Working Group (which included significant input from students) came to the conclusion that there was no one group of people – permanent residents, students, or outsiders – that was entirely to blame – but a combination of all of those involved.

Julia Gold distributed copies of the Working Group's recommendations, explaining that they had been drafted using a consensus-based process. The following comments reflect what has transpired so far in response to the recommendations.

Recommendation #1: The "On-Going" North of 45th Street Working Group has been appointed and charged with the assignment of monitoring progress on all the recommendations. The Group is now co-chaired by Lincoln Johnson, Director, Student Activities and Union Facilities, and Aaron Hoard, Deputy Director, Office of

Regional Affairs. Action has been deferred on the Campus Community Coalition idea because of the cost of staffing required and the hope that the Working Group might be able to cover those concerns in other ways.

Recommendation #2: Funding for UW Police has increased significantly, allowing for twice the previous UW Police coverage in the north of 45th Street area. Work continues on finding better ways for the SPD and UWPD to communicate and coordinate. Already there have been improvements reported in response time. A precinct in the area (jointly staffed by UWPD and SPD) is under consideration.

Recommendation #3: This was the only recommendation where a consensus of the Working Group could not be reached – although there was a consensus about holding students accountable in some way for their actions outside of the University’s boundaries. A smaller group is working on how best this might be done, and their recommendations are due by the end of this calendar year.

Recommendation #4: The State Supreme Court is currently reviewing a case from the Pasco area that calls into question the lawfulness of requiring inspection of housing rentals. This will significantly impact any Working Group action taken regarding this recommendation, and it is temporarily “on-hold” pending the outcome of the case.

Recommendation #5: Although this is one of the most expensive propositions, if considered over the long-term, and if the University were to purchase just 2 houses a year, this could have an impact in a relatively short while. Houses purchased might be rehabilitated and sold to faculty or staff, while the University would retain ownership of the land. They might also be converted to student housing.

Recommendation #6 - #10: These recommendations are currently under discussion by the Working Group.

Julia Gold reported that although the neighborhood representatives on the Working Group were willing to reach out and join these discussions, some of them were obviously fed-up with the situation and the University’s apparent unwillingness to take responsibility for student behavior north of 45th. Eric Godfrey noted that the University is now taking a new approach to the situation as evidenced by the formation of the initial Working Group. The President is committed to having the University participate in solutions to the problems in that neighborhood. In addition, the events of the past month have caught the attention of the administration at an even higher level. Godfrey’s office is actively working with the Greek Houses to find ways to ensure the safety of the students who live in that area.

A concern was expressed that “cleaning up” this neighborhood might simply move the less desirable elements that had caused the problems further north – or at least to some other location.

Chair Brian Fabien proposed drafting a memo or resolution of support of the recommendations. This proposal was unanimously approved by those present. He said he would circulate a draft to members for their review.

5. New Business

Mark Stoelinga reported that the Services and Activities Fees Committee needs a representative from FCSA. He has served as that representative in the past, but can no longer do so due to scheduling conflicts. Doug Brock expressed an interest. Fabien will be in touch with Brock and/or will poll FCSA members for their interest in serving on this Committee.

Mark also suggested that the Council invite Kristin Millis, Publisher for the Office of Student Publications for a return visit and update on issues that had been discussed last year when she addressed the Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

*Minutes by Susan Folk, Staff Assistant, Office of Regional Affairs, 1-4183,
slfolk@u.washington.edu*

Present: **Faculty Members:** Brock, Fabien, Schwartz, Stoelinga
 President's Designee: Godfrey
 Ex-officio Members: Shields, Perrin

Absent: **Faculty Members:** Kathleen Fearn-Banks, Dennis Rasmussen
 Ex-officio Members: Kathleen Collins, Edgar Winans

Guests: Julia Gold, Director, Mediation Clinic, Law School
 Glenna Chang, Graduate Assistant in Office of Student Life