

University Of Washington
Faculty Council on Student Affairs
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., November 1, 2011
36 Gerberding

Meeting Synopsis:

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Student-athlete academic progress report
- 3) Approval of minutes from meetings on June 7, 2011 and October 4, 2011
- 4) ASUW/GPSS report
- 5) New Business
- 6) Adjournment

1) Call to Order

Council Chair Brian Fabien called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

2) Student-athlete academic progress report

Kim Durand, Associate Athletic Director for Student Development, and Pete Dukes, Faculty Athletic Representative, were present for this meeting. Durand presented trends in student-athletes' selection of majors and pre-majors, and such student-athletes' continuation on their teams and academic performance. Durand differentiated between special and priority admissions, noting that admissions caps tend not to be reached and that some priority admissions have more difficulty than special admissions. She was happy to report that special admissions are currently in good academic standing; however two priority admissions are in poor academic progress. There was discussion surrounding athletic programs whose athletes have had poor academic standing, and potential reasons on why this is occurring. Durand also discussed the demographic backgrounds of student-athletes noting that the profile of candidates are often two-parent households, middle class families, and not whom may be expected to be admitted under such conditions. The findings Durand presented on student-athlete progress are accessible via the Advisory Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics (ACIA) page (<http://www.washington.edu/faculty/facsen/adhoc.html>) on the Faculty Senate website.

Virginia Berninger asked Durand about learning need assessments conducted by the University of Washington to understand how to provide the best academic support for student athletes. This was followed by a brief discussion of challenges faced by students-athletes in which Durand described individualized support plans for student-athletes with learning disabilities, noting student-athlete access to 85 tutors and staff for such academic support. Further questions arose regarding support of student-athletes experiencing medical problem from sports programs and upon retirement from the sport.

Fabien noted the importance of having student-athletes who will succeed at the University of Washington, and additionally for coaches to be aligned with academic planning for student-athletes. Durand cited that 83% of student-athletes graduate at UW, only behind Stanford in the PAC 12 conference, and 76% of football players graduate within 6 years. She emphasized that academic

expectations are set to potential student-athletes prior to enrollment, that her department is tracking data on players and coaches within academic performance, and commented on correlation between academic and athletic success for student-athletes. Fabien noted that comparative graduation rates between student-athletes and the student population at large was a difference of less than 5%.

3) Approval of minutes from meetings on June 7, 2011 and October 4, 2011

With one revision, minutes from June 7, 2011 and October 4, 2011 meetings were approved.

4) ASUW/GPSS report

Evan Smith, Director of University Affairs for the Associated Students of the University of Washington (ASUW), noted efforts to welcome freshmen. He mentioned ASUW's preparation for the Special Legislative Session of the Washington State Legislature in November, and the future availability of a Washington State election ballot drop box on campus starting in 2013.

Smith highlighted the students' push to establish an Undergraduate Diversity Requirement, which would be announced on the evening of November 2nd. He discussed the next potential steps for establishing such a requirement, and interest in understanding potential faculty concerns as the last attempt at establishing such a requirement had been voted down by the Faculty Senate. Smith believed that the rationale for this rejection by the faculty was due to too narrow of a definition of such requirements and increased course load for students. He contrasted that the new requirement has a broad list of pre-existing courses which would meet the criteria and would not add additional credits to student course load. Smith cited that such requirements should be met between freshman and sophomore years, and consideration is being taken for transfer students and distance learning students. Jim Burke suggested a similar approach to courses designated with a "-W" when including technical writing credits, courses with diversity content could be "-D" courses, with such designations determined by the department.

Another item ASUW was investigating is shifting course evaluations course evaluations from paper to online means, and display and use of evaluations. There may be a decrease in opportunities for student course evaluations due to the growing prices of course evaluation through the Office of Educational Assessment. The student body had recommended building of online evaluations, and Smith noted that the Law School did trial run of online courses, and the iSchool is also doing a pilot which will conclude at the end of the quarter. The student senate will be considering funding these efforts through the Student Technology Fee. The council members discussed the helpfulness of yellow student evaluations, the difficulty of students to discern the importance of course content over time, and the need for anonymity within such evaluations.

In Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) news, Johnson gave an update. President Aaron Naumann just turned in his resignation as he accepted a job, and there will be a special election. GPSS is currently working on agendas and programming.

5) Report from the Chair

Fabien has been working on revision of Student Conduct Code over the past year, meeting with the working group once a month. He mentioned that Elizabeth Higgins should be invited to present to FCSA. Fabien believes that the different appearance of this new Code will necessitate meetings with students

and faculty used to support this. The goal was to make the Code more interpretable and approachable, building off of USC and WSU codes, and a rough draft of the new Code will be ready in December. Council members discussed the addressing of bullying and need to comply with “Plain Writing Act” under President Obama. Also, Fabien was asked by Eric Godfrey to serve on another committee to address appeals by student athletes who have lost their scholarships.

6) New business.

Berninger brought up concern in the increase in self-sustaining budgets springing up from north campus. She noted competition between professors teaching similar content under non-profit or for-profit budgets, competing for the same students. Along with bringing in graduate students or post-doctorates to teach courses and save money, she is concerned about the business ethics issues regarding these tensions. Fabien talked that these items should be sent along to the Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs, as these are differing fees, and different revenue streams.

Fabien asked for Support Analyst Jay Freistadt to verify if the next meeting will take place on November 29th, after noting meetings occur on the first Tuesday of each month.

7) Adjournment

Chair Fabien adjourned the meeting at 2:39 p.m.

Minutes by Jay Freistadt, Faculty Council Support Analyst. jayf@u.washington.edu

Present: **Faculty:** Fabien (Chair), Burke, Berninger
 President’s Designee: Johnson
 Ex-Officio Reps: Hanken, Smith, Christenberry
 Guests: Durant, Dukes

Absent: **Faculty:** Schwartz, Bailkin
 Ex Officio Rep: