

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Student Affairs
November 5, 2013, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm
Gerberding 36

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to Order
 2. Approval of the Agenda
 3. Review of the Minutes from October 1, 2013
 4. Chair's Report
 5. Student Athletes
 6. Office of Student Standards and Conduct – University Disciplinary Council
 7. ASUW Update
 8. GPSS Update
 9. Online Learning
 10. Study Centers
 11. Adjourn
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1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Treser at 1:30 p.m.

2) Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

3) Review of Minutes from October 1, 2013

Minutes from October 1, 2013 were approved.

4) Chair's Report

Treser spoke with the Chair of the Faculty Senate, Jack Lee, who had a rather urgent need to appoint a new member to the Faculty Appeal Board (FAB). Lee and Treser reviewed a number of candidates and chose Kathleen McGinnis, Senior Lecturer, School of Law. Typically, he would request the council's feedback on FAB appointments but the decision had to be made quickly.

Treser discussed the charge of the council and explained that all ex-officio members have voting privileges.

During the recent Faculty Senate meeting a major item of discussion was revisions to the Faculty Code regarding academic freedom. The legislation passed its first reading in the Senate and has been forwarded to the President, Senate Executive Committee, and "Code Cops" for minor word changes. When the Faculty Senate reviews the proposal a second time it will have to vote up or down to officially pass the legislation. A copy of the Class A legislation will be distributed to all members of the faculty for their approval following this meeting.

Faculty salary policy is an important agenda item for the Faculty Senate this year. Treser mentioned that the support received by students to increase faculty salaries was very influential in persuading the state legislature to increase funding towards higher education in the recent budget. Currently, an ad hoc

committee is working on developing an updated salary policy similar to a step system based on merit reviews.

There has been continuing problems with lecturers who are not being appointed through competitive searches. A new policy was adopted last year which requires any lecturer appointment be a product of a competitive search. Treser clarified that competitive searches must be open to the public, not necessary a large, national search. However, this policy only takes care of new appointments going forward. There remains the problem of addressing the close to 500 full and part-time lecturers who have already been appointed through a non-competitive search. Three task forces on all UW campuses are reviewing this problem to find a solution.

Intellectual property (IP) has become an important issue resulting from a recent Supreme Court decision prompting UW to reevaluate its IP policies. The decision found that the individual who creates the idea owns it. The University of Washington has traditionally not tried to exert ownership over the printed work of its faculty, but have maintained a property interest in products developed by faculty using UW facilities and support. However, they recent made it clear that there was no Constitutional distinction between the two types of activities. This has prompted many institutions to claim property rights over all items developed by faculty while they are employed the University. This point is argued because faculty members are using university resources to develop their inventions. This issue came to a head last year when the administration changed the outside work form which faculty members use when seeking outside compensation. The administration agreed to slow down on the process and work collaboratively with the Faculty Senate to arrive at a way to resolve the issue that is fair to both the faculty and to the University. A special committee on IP has been established and is now reviewing a report from the Center for Commercialization that surveyed peer institutions on their IP policies in order to craft a policy that works for UW.

Treser spoke about President Young's report on UW new student enrollment. Enrollment was very competitive with an average GPA of 3.79. 44% of entering students are minorities while 12% are classified as underrepresented minorities. UW was also able to fully fund the UW "Husky Promise" need-based financial aid program. Treser mentioned that this was not a result of additional state funding to higher education and it is unlikely UW could achieve that goal without increased funding in the future. The number of international students enrolled at UW has decreased slightly.

UW is celebrating Veterans Week for the first time in its history.

UW recently underwent its accreditation review which it passed with flying colors.

During its recent meeting the Faculty Senate spent a great deal of time discussing a resolution regarding UW English language lecturers. These lecturers are technically staff who are doing the same job as normal faculty but do not receive the same benefits. They are currently in negotiation with the administration which has become very complicated. The resolution in the Faculty Senate was discussed heavily and but a decision was made to postpone the discussion until the next meeting.

5) Student Athletes

Treser mentioned that as chair of FCSA he is now a member of the Advisory Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics (ACIA). One of the main items that will be discussed is reforming the NCAA governance structure that would provide a different governance for bowl eligible universities. The committee will also plan on discussing GPA for student athletes.

Treser asked the council if there are any issues he should address at ACIA. A concern was raised that student athletes are not viewed positively at the university and is a major issue that UW needs to address. A comment was raised that while some student athletes have good attendance and high scores they still do not feel welcome on campus and in the classrooms. Additionally, some faculty members will make appalling, biased comments of these students. Discussion ensued. This is a serious institutional problem and UW has no idea that these students are having such difficulties. A comment was raised that Kim Durand, Associate Athletic Director for Student Development, could visit FCSA to discuss the issue. Discussion ensued with members providing their personal experiences. Athletes feel unwelcomed in their classrooms and the perception across campus is that they are only athletes, not students.

Discussion moved to the term “student athlete”. There is a perception among the athletes and others that academic community assumes that these students are not intelligent. It would be nice to hear from student athletes directly to get their perspective. This is an important student issue and something that faculty should be aware of across campus. While there may be little data, it will be useful to do some fact-finding and perhaps introduce a resolution to the Faculty Senate addressing the issue.

6) Office of Student Standards and Conduct - University Disciplinary Council

Treser reported that the Office of Student Standards and Conduct needs a student volunteer to serve on the University Disciplinary Council. Mc Nerney will work on identifying students who would be willing to volunteer for the role. Treser clarified that all students who express interest in the position will be randomly selected in a drawing.

7) ASUW Update

Mc Nerney reported that ASUW will host its first Husky Leadership Retreat on November 23rd. This retreat will bring representatives in student government together and discuss issues that impact groups across campus. ASUW plans to have 50-100 people in attendance. A question was raised if student athletes will be present at this meeting. Discussion ensued. It would be nice for student athletes to attend campus-wide events to mix with other student groups. While there are large “umbrella groups”, such as ASUW and GPSS, there are other ways for student athletes to mix with other students. A comment was made that student athletes represent a very large group and it is important for those individuals to interact with the rest of the academic community. This could help break down the barriers which create the misunderstanding of student athletes.

ASUW President Michael Kutz will be focusing on student debt reduction targeting middle-class students who do not fall under the Husky Promise.

8) GPSS Update

GPSS does not yet have an ex-officio representative on the council. Johnson volunteered to contact GPSS to find a representative to sit on the council.

9) Online Learning

Treser discussed the recent developments in online learning at UW. The institution is currently addressing three online degree initiatives:

- Early Childhood and Family Studies (ECFS)
- Criminal Justice – UW Tacoma
- Integrated Social Sciences degree completion

McNerney mentioned that ASUW passed a resolution last year concerning online learning. ASUW feels that online learning is beneficial if it works, but should not take the place of brick-and-mortar learning. However, online learning is useful for commuter students who are not physically close to the institution. ASUW stressed that online courses should be used strategically to enhance teaching, not just because they are cheaper and easier to use. Additionally, ASUW does not believe that MOOCs can be effective at “flipping the classroom”.

Treser mentioned that with the recent online learning initiatives UW recently created a new category of students called “Limited Admission Students”. These students would be limited in only taking the classes within their specific program. However, it does create problems in determining the rights they have as students when they are admitted to a specific program and not the institution itself. For example, questions arise if these individuals can live in student housing, receive benefits as students, pay student fees, and have access to student advisors. Discussion ensued.

UW is also addressing MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses). The idea behind MOOCs is that they provide high quality education that is freely available to anyone who wants it. However, the problem is that MOOCs are incredibly expensive to create and maintain. Several years ago a UW task force on distance education found that MOOCs were expensive to put online and were equal to the cost of a traditional brick-and-mortar courses. Discussion ensued. Online education can work for disciplines that require only a textbook but does not meet the demands of laboratory courses.

Universities typically adopt MOOCs as a way to brand themselves as innovators in public education. However, MOOCs do not have a sustainable funding model. In order to make money MOOCs can enhance their services by offering credit and additional benefits for a fee. However, the data so far does not suggest that this is a sustainable model. MOOCs also suffer from low completion rates. Comments were made to effect that it may be a good thing UW is not fully participating in MOOCs since there is little benefit from providing these offerings.

A comment was raised that while people argue online courses are the future of education, most students find little benefit to online learning. For example, students refer to on-campus courses as “real courses” when compared to online offerings. Students prefer traditional education because they enjoy being on a university campus rather than sitting in front of a computer screen. While online learning is useful for distance learning, UW needs to be wise in determining what students actually want and need.

10) Study Centers

A number of students have been complaining that student study centers are not efficiently run. The centers are overcrowded due to first-year classes and cannot serve second and third-year students who want to use the services. It was suggested to invite Ann Browning, Director of Academic Services in the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs, to speak about tutoring and student services available on campus. Discussion ensued. It would be useful to have a broad discussion about student services, particularly for minorities.

11) Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Treser at 2:45 p.m.

Minutes by Grayson Court, Faculty Council Support Analyst. gcourt@uw.edu

Present: **Faculty:** Treser (Chair), Burke, Lopez, Stroup, Svircev

President's Designee: Johnson
Ex-Officio Reps: Tawatao, McNerney

Absent: **Faculty:** Ezeonwu, Fabien, Laws
Ex-Officio Reps: Jones Wiles