

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Student Affairs
April 1, 2014, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm
Gerberding 36

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to Order
 2. Approval of the Agenda
 3. New Category of Student: Program Specific
 4. Enrollment Management
 5. Approval of the Minutes from March 4, 2014
 6. Student Financial Aid
 7. Chair's Report
 8. 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 written.

3) New Category of Student: Program Specific

Patricia Kramer (Chair of the Faculty Council on Academic Standards) was present to discuss the recently-created definitions of “program-specific” and “generally admitted” students. Johnson explained that the Office of Student Life is using the language to update their materials to be consistent with the legislation. One of the initial concerns was that program-specific students would be able to participate in campus activities and pay the extra student fees. Campus activities and services covered under these additional fees include participation in ASUW/GPSS, access to Hall Health, counseling services, and the ability to live in student dorms. Since students cannot opt-out of student fees all students (including program-specific) can have access to these services. A comment was raised that many individuals are taking distance education and summer courses so this policy makes sense to create consistency amongst different types of students. A comment was raised that graduate students pay different student fees compared to undergraduates.

A question was raised asking if program-specific students are being notified about paying the regular student fees. There is no certainty that the university is broadly notifying students. A comment was raised that program officers will likely be aware to this new classification and will be able to advise students. McNerney reported on a conversation he had with Jenny Campbell who is involved in the new online Early Childhood Family Studies (ECFS) degree and her experiences in working with program-specific students. One problem has been issuing Husky Cards to program-specific students who were not able to reach campus. Rather than coming to campus the alternative has been to mail the Husky Cards to students. McNerney mentioned that he will be working with the counseling center to provide better access for program-specific students.

A question was raised asking if there is a projected estimate of the increase in student numbers as a result of the new program-specific student category. Kramer explained the online Integrated Social Science (ISS) degree is initially planning for 350 FTE students with the number increasing to 779 in 5 years. ISS believes the program will be financially viable once it hits its 5-year goal. Kramer mentioned that the ECFS online degree needs 50 FTEs to be financially viable and is currently enrolling 42. These are the first two online programs offered to undergraduate students at UW-Seattle. Kramer mentioned that FCAS took a great deal of time approving the ISS online degree and expressed skepticism that FCAS will deal with a similar degree in the near future. However, there are many departments that see online degree offerings as attractive so there could be movement that she is unaware of.

A comment was raised that the increase of program-specific students will increase the size of the student body paying fees. However, due to their limited access to services it is likely that the Office of Student Life will have more revenue without a corresponding increase in expenses. A comment was raised that while that is correct it may adjust the focus of certain services due to the demands by this new student type. A question was raised about the impact on UW Libraries and providing services for off-campus students. Tawatao reported that UW Libraries has a new Educational Outreach Librarian funded through UW PCE (Professional Continuing Education).

Members discussed the rationale of having program-specific students pay into the student U-PASS program when many out-of-state students are located off campus. A comment was raised that this exemplifies the problem about who pays into student fees because there is such a diverse student population at UW. Members agreed that the most important takeaway is to be upfront with the costs and provide transparency for students when making decisions about enrollment.

Members discussed the importance of financial aid available to students through PCE programs. This is problematic because these programs are targeting specific students who are also struggling financially.

4) Enrollment Management

Kramer spoke about FCAS' discussions on direct admissions and competitive majors. These are difficult issues to handle and will become a larger discussion in the future. In particular, FCAS is addressing the increase of programs moving towards competitive majors. FCAS has traditionally considered this a departmental matter and something the individual unit should be able to regulate themselves. However, combined with departments moving to direct admissions it is becoming a larger institutional problem in determining what to do with new and current students. Kramer mentioned that direct admissions used to be only 10% of the total student population in certain departments, but has now increased to 35% for some units. In addition to this increase in direct freshmen admits departments are also receiving a large number of transfer students from other institutions. All of these issues bring up a critical problem: how many slots are left for native UW students?

Members discussed the problem in accessing data around admissions and students who apply for particular programs. McNerney explained that students are in a complicated situation when they receive offers from different universities that allow direct admissions into their program of choice. A comment was raised stressing the importance of transparency in communicating acceptance into certain programs. Kramer explained that FCAS will be addressing this issue this quarter. It is likely FCAS will suggest departments provide information about their in-coming class in order to provide the transparency that students need.

Members discussed the student population and the demographics of the last entering class. Members discussed their personal experiences in how departments incorporate competitive admissions into student recruitment. A comment was raised that admissions requirements should not be changed but departments need to be honest about the entering student population. Individual departments have the right to determine what their student population can look like, but at the same time individual admissions policies have profound implications on the entire campus. With less and less state funding, and state contracts not being supported, UW can have so many students until its reached maximum capacity. Members discussed the pressures that are being put on their individual departments.

A question was raised asking who else at UW is discussing this issue. Kramer explained that there is a Presidential task force (the Enrollment Management Advisory Council - EMAC) which is also addressing this issue. EMAC is looking at the big picture to assess the larger, institutional-wide impacts of enrollment policy. Kramer will continue to update FCSA on the developments of EMAC. Kramer will also be serving on a subcommittee (Advisory Council on Direct Admissions) and will provide updates from those meetings as well. A suggestion was made to invite Kramer on a quarterly basis to provide updates. Kramer explained that she is actively working to gather feedback from across campus in order to have a stronger voice on EMAC.

5) Review of Minutes from March 4, 2014

Minutes from March 4, 2014 were approved as amended.

6) Student Financial Aid

Treser reported that he will contact Michael Kutz (ASUW President) to discuss student financial aid at an upcoming meeting.

7) Chair's Report

Treser reported that he submitted his quarterly report on the council's activities for the upcoming SEC meeting.

8) Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Treser at 2:40 p.m.

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

Present: **Faculty:** Treser (Chair), Laws, Lopez
President's Designee: Johnson
Ex-Officio Reps: Jones Wiles, Tawatao, McNerney, Scott

Absent: **Faculty:** Burke, Ezeonwu, Fabien, Stroup, Svircev
Ex-Officio Reps: n/a