

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs
Wednesday, May 14, 2008
36 Gerberding Hall

Council Chair Jan Sjøvik called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m.

Meeting synopsis:

1. Approval of agenda and the minutes of the previous meeting.
2. Thank you to those who are rotating off the FCFA this year.
3. RCEP (continued discussion).

1. Approval of agenda and minutes and announcements.

The agenda and the minutes of the May 7, 2008, meeting were approved.

2. Thank you to those who are rotating off the FCFA this year.

Special thanks were expressed to FCFA members who are cycling off the Council at the end of this quarter, including James Callis, Tony Gill, Jack Hildebrandt, and Miceal Vaughan. He noted that so far, two faculty members have been nominated, for Senate appointment next week, to serve on FCFA: Susan Astley and William Wilcock. Chair Sjøvik also expressed thanks to Vice Provost Cheryl Cameron for her tireless efforts on behalf of the Council and Susan Folk for serving as recorder.

3. RCEP (continued discussion).

The Council discussed the issues raised by the Board of Deans and Chancellors and the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting which were categorized by the Council last week as issues and concerns to be addressed. In order as they appeared in the minutes of the May 7 meeting, these were:

- *Role of the Graduate Council when a graduate program is involved*

The Graduate School authority defined in the *Faculty Code* Sections 23-24, 23-44 and 23-45 to determine which units are qualified to offer graduate degrees is not in conflict with the RCEP process used to reorganize the units offering the degrees. When a degree program is transferred, part of the RCEP considerations will be whether the Graduate School has qualified the destination unit. (Thus the results of RCEP and the graduate process will not come into conflict.) In addition, the reference to section 26-41 (RCEP) in section 23-45 is too narrow as it only mentions program termination.

- *Movement of interdisciplinary programs should not trigger RCEP*

FCFA had discussed this issue at length and had reached a consensus that movement of interdisciplinary programs should trigger an RCEP. This was a strong sentiment of the group, in order to ensure that all parties, including students, are involved in the discussion

- *Definition of reorganization, consolidation, and elimination*

After a discussion of the possibility of exchanging these words with “organizational restructuring” the Council finally decided to retain the original words, using dictionary definitions when questions arise. The method for resolving an ambiguity for this, and any other questions raised in the *Code*, is to ask the SEC, which, in consultation with the Advisory Committee on Faculty Code and Regulations, will give an interpretation. No *Code* change is warranted.

- *UWB and UWT have student organizations*

Revise Section 26-41.B.2.b by adding the following words: “... such appointments shall be made by the GPSS or other appropriate recognized graduate student organization and the ASUW or other appropriate recognized undergraduate student organization.”

- *Review Graduate School Program Review Conflict of Interest Guidelines*

The response to this issue is embedded in the response to the “Role of the Graduate Council...” issue (above).

- *Consider renaming the overall Chapter (Financial Emergency and Procedures for Elimination of an Academic Program)*

The Council decided that the name of the Chapter should be: “Financial Emergency and Procedures for Reorganization, Consolidation and Elimination of Programs.”

- *Moving degrees is a major movement*

The response to this issue is embedded in the response to the “Role of the Graduate Council...” issue (above), and is definitely a trigger for an RCEP procedure.

- *Acknowledge that not all elected faculty bodies are called a “council” – faculty council/organization*

Revise Section 24-41.B.2 by adding the following words after the seven occurrences of the words “college council” – or other appropriate recognized faculty organizations.

- *Clarification of elimination and consolidation as used in 26-42.A and B*

The response to this issue is embedded in the response to the “Definitions” issue (above).

- *Clarify the distinction among reorganization, consolidation, and elimination*

The response to this issue is embedded in the response to the “Definitions” issue (above).

4. Final Words

Chair Sjøvik told the Council that he will be serving for Chair one more year, but expects to be working actively that year to pass the baton to the next Chair. He noted that he expects to be working on these revisions over the summer and may consult with a smaller group, either in person, or by e-mail, from time to time, in order to move the revisions closer to readiness for SEC consideration.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. with a round of applause for the Chair!

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Minutes by Susan Folk
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Present:

Regular: Callis, Carline, Christie, Hildebrandt, Phillips, Ricker, Scheuer, Sjøvik, Vaughan
President’s Designee: Cameron

Absent:

Regular: Bryant-Bertail, Di Stefano, Gill (all excused)
Ex Officio: Bazarnic & Cook (excused), Hahn