

**University of Washington**  
**Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs Annual Report 2007-2008**  
**Jan Sjøvik, Chair**

The Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs met thirteen times during the 2007-2008 academic year. Our first significant issue was a new piece of Class A legislation, Section 22-57, Procedures for Removal of Faculty Senate Officers and the Secretary of the Faculty, which had been submitted to the SEC late the previous academic year. At its meeting on October 8, 2007 the SEC decided, with four friendly amendments, to forward the legislation to the Faculty Senate, which approved it at its first reading on October 25, 2007. The SEC again approved the legislation, including changes proposed by the Advisory Committee on Faculty Code and Regulations, at its meeting on November 19, 2007. It then passed the Senate on its second reading on November 29, 2007, after which it was approved by the faculty. As its title indicates, this new section of the Faculty Code establishes a mechanism by which the Senate may remove its Chair or Vice-Chair, as well as the Secretary of the Faculty, during their terms of office.

At the first meeting of the FCFA, held on October 1, 2007, it was noted that its voting membership included no women colleagues. This imbalance was subsequently addressed as Sarah Bryant-Bertail (Drama), Christine Di Stefano (Political Science), and Sandra Phillips (Restorative Dentistry) generously agreed to join our ranks.

The most significant—as well as the most difficult—issue considered by the Council was an extensive revision of Section 26-41 of the *Faculty Code*, Procedures for Reorganization, Consolidation, and Elimination of Programs (RCEP), of which the Council had begun its discussion at its meetings on May 3, May 15, and May 31, 2007, when Professor Jan Carline and Dean Patricia Wahl had reported on their experiences with the Pathobiology RCEP case. The Council gave extensive consideration to the matter at its meetings during the Autumn Quarter of 2007 (on October 1 and 15, November 1, 14, and 26, as well as December 10), and made substantial progress toward a draft revision. After additional consideration during its meetings on January 9 and 23, 2008, the Council unanimously voted to share its current RCEP draft with the Provost, the Board of Deans and Chancellors, the Senate leadership, and the Secretary of the Faculty, offering to answer questions as necessary. Members of the Council subsequently appeared before the Board of Deans and Chancellors, the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting, and the Faculty Council on Tri-Campus Policy. The feedback received was sufficiently extensive and of such moment that it necessitated further revisions of the RCEP draft, and this work continued during the Spring Quarter, 2008 meetings (April 30, May 7, and May 14, 2008). The Council will continue its work during Autumn Quarter, 2008.

The Council also gave extensive consideration to a matter brought to its attention by the Secretary of the Faculty, Professor Gerry Philipsen, who was asking the Council to consider revisions to the *Faculty Code*, Section 27-41, concerning the conciliation procedures, with a view to revitalizing this mechanism for resolving differences. This work resulted in a series of proposed changes that the Council believes significantly strengthens this part of the *Code*, particularly as the University's promise that the

proceedings will be confidential has been anchored in the provisions of the Uniform Mediation Law, which became part of the RCW on January 1, 2006. At its meeting on April 30, 2008, the Council voted to forward its proposed revision to the SEC.