

University of Washington  
Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs  
Tuesday, November 10, 2009, 8:30 a.m.  
142 Gerberding Hall

Council Chair Rich Christie called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

**Meeting synopsis:**

1. Approval of the agenda and minutes
  2. Senate and SEC restructure (continued discussion)
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**1. Approval of agenda and minutes**

The agenda for the meeting and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

**2. Senate and SEC restructure**

Chair Rich Christie began the discussion with a brief report on his Senate restructure presentation at a meeting of chairs of elected faculty councils from the colleges, schools and campuses. He felt that although chairs were not delighted with the prospect of taking on responsibility for the election of Senators, they did not entirely resist the idea, and he did not feel a reexamination of that section of the proposal was warranted. The chairs felt a bit more strongly about their inclusion as members of the Senate and suggested there be a provision for the appointment of designees. There was considerable Council discussion of the merits of requiring the participation of the elected chair of the elected college, school or campus council. On the other hand, there were also merits in having more a more consistent and reliable communication link between the college, school and campus governments and the Faculty Senate that the allowance of designees might afford. FCFA drafted a final sentence to Section 22-41.D: "A college or school council may appoint one of its members as a designee to attend a Senate meeting in place of its chair when the chair is unavailable." The intent here was to indicate that having the Chair present is preferred, but that it is better to have a representative that has been chosen from among the ranks of the college or school council in attendance than no one at all.

The next discussion dealt with Section 22-52, Meetings of Voting Units and Senate Groups and Campuses. The original draft of the restructure proposal had deleted this Section of the *Code* because there is no *Code* prohibition for anyone to call a meeting to discuss Faculty Senate business. Members of the Council felt that retaining some such language in the Code would give support and lend credibility to grass roots initiatives, should they arise. A proposal was made to change that section to read: "At the request of one third of the senators or one fourth of the faculty members within the school, college or campus, a special meeting shall be called to discuss pending Senate business." After further discussion, the Council decided to postpone a decision on this change until after it had discussed the composition and the role of the Senate Executive Committee.

Attention was then directed to Section 22-62, Membership of the Executive Committee. First, Section 26-62.C. was changed for the sake of clarity to read: "Each member elected at-large may serve an unlimited number of one-year terms but shall serve no more than three terms consecutively."

The Council re-opened the question of the constitution of the SEC – questioning if the right people were included. At-large selection of SEC members was a source of concern. A suggestion to give SEC voting rights to the Provost and Board of Deans was rejected on the basis that they are members of the Administration. Discussion ensued about the merits of including Faculty Council Chairs; about the relative merits of a democratically chosen versus a well-informed membership that serves ex officio; and about ensuring representation on the SEC from across the University.

The meeting was adjourned mid-discussion at 10:00 a.m.

*Minutes by Susan Folk [slfolk@u.washington.edu](mailto:slfolk@u.washington.edu)*

Present:

Regular:	Astley, Christie, Kirtley, O'Brien, Phillips, Ricker, Sjøvik, Wilcock
Ex Officio:	Corbett
President's Designee:	Cameron

Absent:

Regular:	Bryant-Bertail, Carline, Di Stefano, Scheuer
Ex Officio:	Padvorac, Vallier