

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs
Tuesday, November 9, 2010, 9:00 a.m.
26 Gerberding Hall

Meeting synopsis:

1. Lecturer/Instructor Issues
 2. Review of Minutes
 3. Adjourn
-

Call to Order

Council Chair Rich Christie began the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

Review of Minutes

The minutes of the October 26, 2010 meeting were approved with changes.

Lecturer Issues

Christie reintroduced the lecturer/instructor issues in the Faculty Code. The council reached consensus on the issues promotion of lecturers, collegial reviews, and the rank of instructor before delving into specific language to codify these changes/clarifications.

Promotion of Lecturers

Christie said that the issue of promotion for lecturers has been made clear: the university expects lecturers to go through the same promotion process as tenure-track faculty. There is no particular danger of an implied expectation of tenure. Promotion for a lecturer is different than promotion for tenure-track faculty, in that they have an appointment with an end-date and no guarantee of renewal. Lecturer promotions occur through ending an appointment early and reappointing to a new title.

Collegial Reviews

On the issue of collegial reviews of teaching, Christie said that the language should be changed to apply to lecturers, senior lecturers, and principal lecturers. Another requirement in the same section of the code requires that persons receive a collegial review of teaching before reappointment. Christie said that he asked for an opinion on the matter from the Faculty Council on Teaching and Learning. Their response was:

The Faculty Council on Teaching and Learning recognizes the value of the frequent evaluation of the teaching of senior and principal lecturers, both for the lecturer and the students/department. In any case where the lecturer is appointed on an annual basis, annual evaluation should occur. In the case of at three-year or longer contract, evaluation should occur at least every three years and more frequently if the lecturer requests it.

After clarification that the evaluations referred specifically to senior and principal lecturers, the council reached consensus on agreement with the FCTL response.

Rank of Instructor

Christie explained the history of the term “instructor” as the introductory rank of the tenure track, but said that is a term that is no longer used, except for the in the title of acting instructor, which is used as a post-doctorate position principally in the Medical School. He proposed eliminating “instructor” from the code as a tenure-track rank, and inserting “acting instructor” as a non tenure-track faculty title. After a number of questions to clarify the current use of the acting instructor title, the council concurred with the proposed changes.

Code Changes

Christie presented proposed changes to the Faculty Code sections 21-31, 21-32, 24-34, 24-41, 24-53, 24-54, 24-55, 24-57, and 25-32 that would reflect the clarification of issues noted above.

Proposed changes to Section 21-31 included a listing of faculty members in rank order. After discussion on whether there was a need to add the rank of “principal artist in residence” for parallelism and consistency, Kirtley moved to adapt “principal artist in residence” as a title with the same rank as principal lecturer and insert it where appropriate in the code. The motion passed 3-1.

The council then discussed how to specify faculty rank to ensure clarity for use in determining voting eligibility, among other things. This led to a discussion on the differences between rank and title, and their inconsistencies in the code. Christie suggested a clarification that every listed faculty member has a rank, and then all other distinctions (senior, associate, etc.) are titles. It was noted that this could cause confusion about eligibility for promotion, something that could be discussed in Section 24-34.

Informal consensus was eventually reached on the language “The faculty, beginning with the professors, are listed in order for purposes of determining voting eligibility based on superior rank.”

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Minutes by Craig Bosman, Faculty Council Support Analyst. <cbosman@uw.edu>

Present:

Faculty: Christie (Chair), Ricker, Phillips, Kirtley
President’s Designee: Cameron

Absent:

Faculty: Bryant-Bertrail, O’Brien, Wilcock
Ex Officio: Fauchald, Anderson