

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, TACOMA
FACULTY ASSEMBLY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Pre-Retreat Luncheon
CP 206C

In Attendance: Greg Benner, Sharon Fought, Mike Kalton, Diane Kinder, Bill Kunz, Janice Laakso, Karen Landenburger, Stern Neill, Julie Nicoletta, Mark Pendras, Jose Rios, Beth Rushing, Pat Spakes, Marcy Stein, Christine Stevens

Faculty Assembly Assistant: Jamie Kelley

Absent: Donald Chinn

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Introduction of new Executive Council members
2. Comments by Pat Spakes and Beth Rushing
3. Review of expectations for the Faculty Assembly Retreat
4. Generation of goals for the EC for the 2007-08 school year including FA/EC priorities for generating policy on:
 - a. General Education issues
 - b. Strategic Planning
 - c. Budget
 - d. Bylaws and Quorum issues
5. New Faculty Assembly leadership for 2008-09
6. Adjournment

1. Introduction of new Executive Council members:

Sharon Fought, Janice Laakso and Mark Pendras were introduced as new EC members.

2. Comments by Pat Spakes and Beth Rushing:

Pat initiated a conversation about shared governance at UWT. She would like to work with the faculty for clarity on faculty responsibilities, committee structures, and roles of Academic Directors, Chancellors, and Vice Chancellors.

Beth would like to have a discussion with faculty about the organization of Academic Affairs and Schools and Colleges. She feels that there are many questions regarding Promotion and Tenure and the process for decision making on the UWT campus.

Marcy mentioned the history of ambiguity of the UWT identity apart from UW Seattle. Janice suggested identifying ways UWT is similar and different from UW. For instance, UWT obviously does not have the same resources as UW.

Marcy articulated a need for an informed voice on budget decisions and feels that this should be a goal for 2007-08. We need to determine how to allocate resources to get things accomplished at UWT. Stern reiterated the importance of UWT's determining who/what we want to be as a campus. Karen feels that there is too much ambiguity in and among programs as well, and that there is work to be done on the UWT campus for clarity. Pat believes there are different messages being given in regards to who we want to be as a campus. Beth thinks it might be best to define this by campus and then by Program. Diane feels that we still need to work on procedures at UWT, and involve directors in this as well. Marcy thinks that institution building should be a part of the P&T process, to ensure that tenured faculty have an opportunity to give back to the campus. She had a conversation with Gerry Phillipson about this process last year. We need to figure out how to address the difficulties with weighing in on P&T from cross-programs. This ties into our identity as a campus. Mike reminded everyone that they need to think about maximum negative assumption with the junior faculty, and work to assure them (Beth?) that history will not repeat itself on this campus. Pat believes that this is simply a matter of tightening procedures so that this does not happen. Marcy suggested reviewing AP&T involvement in hiring and recruitment to determine how best to hire tenure-able faculty. Janice asked what they were told in their interviews regarding expectations, and Marcy mentioned that they get contradictory messages from faculty and directors. Pat thinks that as directors roles on the UWT campus change, faculty will be more involved with governance issues and directors less involved. The shift from directors to chair has not been popular with administration in the past, and Marcy speculated as to the evolution of Schools and Colleges. Pat explained that it is her role in highest level management to explain the parameters and context of an issue with no hidden agendas. Chancellor Spakes said that she cannot see UWT getting through the Board of Regents or Faculty Senate approval if faculty at UWT are split in their opinions about Schools and Colleges. The faculty, directors and Beth will make decisions to be approved by Pat, and strong faculty support of Schools and Colleges will be required to get through the regents, etc. in Seattle. This is a great opportunity for shared governance.

3. Review of expectations for the Faculty Assembly Retreat:

Marcy reviewed the handout of the proposed agenda for the Faculty Assembly Retreat on September 18, 2007.

4. Generation of goals for the EC for the 2007-08 school year including FA/EC priorities for generating policy:

The main goal for the Executive Council last year was to determine how best to do the work of the faculty to promote shared governance. The EC will be initiating and generating policies this year. Committee chairs were invited to every other EC meeting last year, and we hope to have more open communication this year. Faculty were needed on other campus committees throughout last year. How can we do this more effectively this year?

The standing committee goals generated at the retreat will act as a structure for determining how the committees can take on some of this work.

Bylaws changes are possible by the end of the year, and progress will be made toward recommending policy this year. Issues of quorum will also be addressed.

Marcy suggested hiring a UWT Secretary to the Faculty for code questions, etc.

Stern feels that it is important to have effective communication on Faculty Assembly business in "real time." Janice questioned how faculty find the time to get involved with everything else they have to do on campus. Karen suggested mentoring new faculty about the importance of shared governance and the work of campus committees, including Faculty Assembly. The schedule of Faculty Assembly meetings has been e-mailed to the directors, so as to avoid scheduling conflicts. What might be some other avenues for broadcasting FA meetings? Stern reiterated the importance of EC committee members reporting back to their programs and reminding them of upcoming FA meetings.

Julie mentioned that the EC will address the budget and strategic planning this year. Marcy feels that the faculty need clarification on the budget process, as the Budget Committee members were not elected to represent faculty interests last year. Can we have faculty advocates? Diane mentioned that the budget meetings are open and frequent, if people are interested in attending.

5. New Faculty Assembly leadership for 2008-09:

The UWT faculty should start thinking about possible candidates for FA Chair and Vice Chair for 2008-09.

6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm