**Faculty Assembly Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

Monday, 4/26/2021, 12:30 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.

Open Public Zoom Meeting

***Present:*** *Chair Sarah Hampson, Past Chair Marian Harris, EVCAA Jill Purdy, FAC Co-Chair Sharon Laing, APCC Chair Menaka Abraham, APT Chair Yonn Dierwechter, Randy Nichols, Anaid Yerena, Kathy Beaudoin, Marisa Petrich, Maureen Kennedy, Amanda Sesko, Jacob Martens, Mary Hanneman, Monika Sobolewska, Andrea Hill, Annie Nguyen, Sushil Oswal, Katie Haerling Arindam Tripathy (partial),.* ***Excused****: Rupinder Jindal, Vice Chair Turan Kayaoglu* ***Absent:*** *Jim West* ***Guests:*** *Sharon Fought (Dean, School of Nursing and Healthcare Leadership), Bonnie Becker (Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Success ), Myria Stevens (Associate Director, Undergraduate Admissions)* ***Faculty Assembly Coordinator:*** *Andrew Seibert*

1. **Consent Agenda & Recording Permission**
   * Agenda was approved and Recording permission was granted by the Council.
     + Approval of 4/9/2020 Special Meeting Minutes
       - Minutes revisions:
         * Under Section 5

Change Campus Climate to “Campus Construction and Renovation Projects”

* + - * Motion to approve the Minutes with the edit made by the Chair of Faculty Assembly. So moved by Anaid Yerena, seconded by Randy Nichols.
        + ***Vote:*** *15 yes, 0 no, 1 abstentions*
      * Minutes stand approved as amended.

1. **Announcements**
   * Land acknowledgement
   * Another policy will be looked at by Executive Council, which is the Distance Learning/Hybrid policy. Representatives are asked to send any questions to the Chair of Faculty Assembly and the Faculty Assembly Coordinator.
   * The Executive Council will be reviewing a Shared Governance Statement that was proposed through the Council of Deans through the EVCAA where Executive Council and Faculty Assembly Leadership is asked to sign. This statement speaks to what has been done and what commitments there are through the campus leadership to supporting Faculty both during the COVID-19 pandemic and in the aftermath of COVID-19. Representatives are asked to review that statement to prepare for either signing the document or not signing it at the 5/10 meeting.
   * Listening Sessions dates
     + Winter faculty listening session - Feb 17th 12:30-1:30 (Non-Tenure Track)
   * APT Conversation with Provost Richards and Vice Provost Cameron May 20th 1-2pm
     + Faculty are encouraged to attend this meeting with Provost Mark Richards and Vice Provost Cheryl Cameron discussing Promotion and Tenure.
   * Faculty Assembly Spring Quarter Meeting
     + Faculty Assembly will host the Spring Quarter meeting on Friday, May 21, 2021 12:30-2:45. This meeting will give a brief update on things happening in Faculty Assembly. Also speaking is UW Senate Chair Dr. Robin Angotti on Faculty Senate update. Yonn Dierwechter will also be providing an update on the Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure Committee. A flyer with more details will be sent as the date approaches.
2. **EVCAA Report**
   * **Fall 2021**
     + UW has updated its messaging to provide more definitive language regarding Fall: “This autumn, the UW will safely return to in-person instruction and activities.”

.<https://www.washington.edu/coronavirus/autumn2021/>

Information on Fall 2021 is regularly updated on the UW Tacoma COVID website at<https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/chancellor/autumn-quarter-2021-planning>

We hope to hold an online meeting for faculty in late May to share information about the return to in-person instruction, addressing faculty concerns based on information collected from faculty.

Social distancing is not expected to be required in Fall. It is unknown if masks will be required. If masks are required when we return in Fall, [current policies](https://www.ehs.washington.edu/covid-19-prevention-and-response/face-covering-requirements) will remain in effect. [Guidance for faculty in addressing concerns around masking in the classroom](https://uwtdev3.tacoma.uw.edu/~jamesini/uwtd8main_staging/web/sites/default/files/2020-10/guidance_on_face_coverings.pdf) is posted on the [Student Conduct office](https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/uwt/student-conduct) website. Compliance with mask-wearing has been extremely high among students learning on campus during the pandemic.

* + **Vaccinations**
    - UW expects all students, faculty and staff to get vaccinated. Vaccine availability is good and all adults are eligible. There is not yet a decision on whether vaccination will be mandatory or how compliance would be monitored.
  + **Interim Dean of SIAS**
    - The effort to identify an interim dean for SIAS is continuing.
  + **Director of Academic Personnel**
    - Updates to the job description for this position are complete and work has begun on forming a search committee to replace Casey Byrne, who will depart UW Tacoma in early July.
  + **Merit raises**
    - The UW is going through the process of planning around possible merit raises for FY 22. Process steps include consultation with the Senate Committee on Planning and Budget (SCPB) and the Board of Deans and Chancellors in April and May. Cheryl Greengrove represents UW Tacoma on SCPB. The authority to give merit raises belongs to the Board of Regents and a decision may not occur until June. All processes for merit review on campus should proceed as usual [according to the Faculty Code](https://www.washington.edu/admin/rules/policies/FCG/FCCH24.html#2455).

1. **Unit Report: Library (Full Unit Report** [**here**](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fWH4VZVA8S9nNs9uEUbuOUMIZWdhtJGO/view?usp=sharing)**)**
   * A very brief explanation was made for this unit report. For the full unit report, please see the link above in the title of the section.
   * Questions for the Library Representative
     + The Executive Council had no questions to the representative.
2. **UWT Test Optional Policy Proposal/Vote- Bonnie Becker and Myria Stevens (**[**Link to Proposal**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VwzvFILR6TUBb3jrnA9GEz8M0hU0mFFvgYbaNpi6eIg/edit?usp=sharing)**)**
   * Myria Stevens and Bonnie Becker from Enrollment Services are seeking approval from the Executive Council to move test scores as an optional part of the process for New students getting enrolled into the University. If approved by the Executive Council, this permanent policy would start for the Winter 2022 Enrollment and continue indefinitely.
     + This already is currently implemented due to the pandemic, however considering UW Seattle and other universities are following suit, UW Tacoma is asking that this also be for the UW Tacoma Students.
     + The one clause would be Test Scores would still be required for applicants who are homeschooled who are meeting core academic distribution requirements through homeschool work.
       - Also for International students who are using test scores to meet the English Language Proficiency requirement.
     + Both Bonnie and Myria have done extensive research following this conclusion of this policy being implemented
   * This has been seen and approved by the Academic Policy and Curriculum Committee, and now is up for approval for the Executive Council body.
   * Questions for presenters
     + What is the holistic process currently in place?
       - The current holistic process has been in place since 2012-2013. Applicants who do not meet the threshold admissions criteria go through the holistic review process, which required a 2.0 GPA or higher. Many factors are looked at in this process.
     + Why are international students required to take the SAT or ACT test and not the TOEFL
       - International students are not required to take the SAT or ACT, however it is an option for the English Language Proficiency requirement, which is required. TOEFL is also an option as well as coursework
   * After Discussion, a motion was requested by Faculty Assembly Chair to approve this policy. So moved by Anaid Yerena, seconded by Randy Nichols
     + ***Vote:*** *13 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention*
     + The policy has passed with Executive Council Approval
3. **Adjournment**
   * Meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.
     + Next meeting: Monday, May 10, 2021
       - Zoom