**Faculty Assembly Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

Monday, 03/28/2022, 12:30 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.

Open Public Zoom Meeting

***Present:*** *Chair Turan Kayaoglu, Vice Chair Menaka Abraham, FAC Chair Sharon Laing, APCC Chair Julie Masura, APT Chair Christine Stevens, Kathy Beaudoin, Anne Taufen (Filling in for Anaid Yerena 2021-22), Barb Toews, Katie Haerling, Rupinder Jindal, Monika Sobolewska, Sushil Oswal, Julie Eaton, Jacob Martens, Amanda Sesko, Randy Nichols, Mary Hanneman, Erika Bailey .* ***Excused****: Arindam Tripathy, Interim EVCAA Ali Modarres, Jim West* ***Guests:******Program Coordinator:*** *Andrew Seibert*

1. **Approval of Agenda, Meeting Minutes, Permission to Record**
   * No corrections, additions, or removal of Agenda items were requested from Executive Council Representatives. Agenda was approved and recording permission was granted by the Council. Recording the meeting is for minutes purposes only and gets automatically discarded through the Zoom cloud server.
   * The Minutes from 03/11/2022 were approved with the edits suggested.
     + Suggested edit
       - Adding language from the meeting that supported the Interim EVCAA’s statement mentioning that decisions on HiFlex were a Faculty decision
     + One abstention.
2. **Faculty Assembly Policy for UW Tacoma School’s Hybrid & Distance Learning Teaching (Approved document** [**here**](https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/sites/default/files/2022-03/Faculty%20Assembly%20Policy%20for%20UW%20Tacoma%20School_Level%20DL%20and%20Hybrid%20Policy.pdf)**)**
   * A motion was made to approve the Faculty Assembly Policy for UW Tacoma School’s Hybrid & Distance Learning Teaching document as drafted and written. So moved by Amanda Sesko and seconded by Ellen Moore
     + ***Votes:*** *18 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention*
3. **Taskforce on APT: Report and Recommendations (See document** [**here**](https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/sites/default/files/2022-03/Final%20APT%20Task%20Force%20recommendations%2003-18-22.pdf))
   * The UWT Executive Council discussed the findings on the report on this taskforce. Some key pieces of this discussion are as followed:
     + The current APT Chair praised this report to hold the committee accountable. They recommend the next step would take the report and start a handbook or best practices guide for APT.
       - A Faculty Representative in SIAS recommended looking at the Bylaws for APT and adjusting as needed.
       - The APT Chair would like to implement an anti-bias process in APT for new and returning members and added training for new members.
   * In terms of process and timeline, the Faculty Assembly Chair will consult with the Vice Chair on timelines and create surveys for each recommendation and asked for Executive Council input.
     + Some colleagues offered to work on drafting bylaw changes to show the Executive Council.
4. **Faculty Resolution to Temporarily Lift the Prohibition against Flexible Teaching Modalities on the UW Tacoma Campus during COVID-19**
   * **See Appendix A for Draft Resolution**
   * The UWT Executive Council discussed the resolution document. Some key pieces of this discussion are as followed:
     + The Policy was located on the UW Tacoma Chancellor’s website [here](https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/chancellor/resources-faculty-and-staff#accordion-panel-61723)
     + There was Administrative pushback on hyflex teaching during the Pandemic
     + Although the discussion in the Executive Council seemed to mostly be positive, some representatives shared concerns about some of the Challenges in delivering in-person and online lectures simultaneously. A Tri-Campus link was shared and is referenced [here](https://teaching.washington.edu/challenges-of-delivering-live-lectures-to-in-person-and-online-students-simultaneously/)
   * After extensive discussion and due to time constraints, a vote was not made directly at this meeting. It was suggested to create a Catalyst Survey on this, and have all voting members vote electronically.
     + The Program Coordinator will create a Catalyst Survey and send to the Executive Council
       - ***Catalyst Vote Results*** (18 of 22 Voting members)
         * *14 yes, 3 no, 1 abstention*
5. **Adjournment**
   * Meeting was adjourned at 1:21 p.m.
     + Next meeting: April 8, 2022, Zoom

**Appendix A**

**Faculty Resolution to Temporarily Lift the Prohibition against Flexible Teaching Modalities on the UW Tacoma Campus during COVID-19**

**WHEREAS**, the pandemic has created a clear and urgent need for greater flexibility in how our students - especially those vulnerable to the myriad and significant impacts of COVID-19 - participate in the learning process; and

**WHEREAS,** “hyflex” is broadly defined on the UW Tacoma [Chancellor’s website](https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/chancellor/resources-faculty-and-staff#accordion-panel-61723) as including “simultaneous in-person and online instruction” and this resolution uses that same definition; and

**WHEREAS**, versions of the hyflex teaching model enable the teaching and learning process to be adaptive and flexible during an unprecedented time of uncertainty and instability while increasing access; and

**WHEREAS**, the *School of Education* at the University of Washington Seattle recognizes that “The maximum flexibility of th[e hyflex] model empowers students to choose the types of interaction and participation that best meet their needs”; and

**WHEREAS**, University of Washington Seattle does not have a policy prohibiting ‘hyflex’; and

**WHEREAS**, flexibility in modality creates the potential to significantly minimize disruptions to the learning process during the pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, since March 2020, the UW Seattle and UW Tacoma administrations have exhorted faculty members to be as flexible as possible for student needs during the pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Academic Success Programs* unit has agreed to partner with the *Office of Digital Learning* and *Media Services* at UW Tacoma in the design and implementation of a pilot project to study hyflex classroom practices on this campus if the prohibition is lifted, enabling us to be intentional and systematic about how we use ‘hyflex’ and other flexible teaching modalities as a campus community; and

**WHEREAS**, *Media Services* at UW Tacoma confirms that the majority of campus classrooms contain numerous camera and microphone systems that enable the use of Zoom or Panopto technology in the classroom; and

**WHEREAS**, policy regarding pedagogy and other teaching practices at UW Tacoma fall under the purview of the faculty on this campus;

**BE IT RESOLVED**,

That, UW Tacoma administration’s policy prohibiting faculty from offering flexible modalities, specifically within campus and hybrid courses, will be lifted starting spring quarter 2022 through AY 2022-2023.