

## Faculty Council Meeting

October 17, 2023 – 11:00 am–12:00 pm

WCG 322 or Zoom: <https://washington.zoom.us/j/97666438717>

### MINUTES

Faculty Council Member	Capacity	Present (P), Absent (A), or Recusal (X) <sup>1</sup>
Ben Meiches	Faculty Council Chair	P
LeAnne Laux-Bachand	Vice Chair	P
Cassie Miura	CAC Representative	P
Jane Compson	PPPA Representative	P
Haley Skipper	SAM Representative	P
Leighann Chaffee	SBHS Representative	P
Tanya Velasquez	SHS Representative	P
Scott Rayermann	Teaching Faculty-at-Large (SAM)	A
Anna Groat-Carmona	Dean's Diversity Advisory Council representative (SAM)	P
Ex-Officio Members	Capacity	(P), (A), or (X)
Natalie Eschenbaum	Dean	P
Hyoung Suk Lee	Chair, Committee of Chairs	P
Kathleen Pike Jones	Assistant to the Dean	P
Non-Member Participant	Capacity	(P), (A), or (X)
Jessica Asplund	Director of Academic and Finance Operations	P
Jeremy Davis	Associate Dean of Programs & Operations	A
Stephen Ross	Associate Dean of Faculty Development & Student Support	P
Vanessa de Veritch Woodside	Associate Dean of Equity & Inclusion	P

### AGENDA

1. Introductions, Ground Rules, Land Acknowledgment (2 min)
2. Consent Agenda: Minutes (1 min)
3. RCEP Proposal (55 min)
4. Updates/For the Good of the Order (2 min)
5. Adjourn

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#### 1. Introductions, Ground Rules, Land Acknowledgment

- a. Faculty Council Chair Ben Meiches called the meeting to order and the council took a moment to reflect on the SIAS Land Acknowledgment and Ground Rules before beginning the business of the meeting.

#### 2. Consent Agenda

- a. No objections to the agenda.
- b. No objections to the minutes.

#### 3. RCEP Proposal

- a. Faculty Council Chair and/or Vice Chair have met with: Staff (10/5), CAC (10/6), PPPA (10/6), Environmental Science core faculty (10/9), DAC (10/9), SBHS (10/11), History major faculty, new faculty (10/12), EGL (10/13), Environmental Science full faculty (10/16); Meetings scheduled: SAM (10/18).
- b. Major Points of Feedback
  1. Major workload and administrative inequities in current model between proposed departments (CAH and NSM essentially the same vs. SS change).
  2. What additional compensation can we offer senior faculty for chairing?

3. Lack of consideration for the heavy costs of some curriculum and under-resourcing of successful programs.
  4. Importance of retaining interdisciplinarity in majors.
  5. Desire for majors to have autonomy—put faculty together who teach in similar areas.
  6. Majors require strong leadership who can respond constructively and inclusively to all faculty in a discussion, but also push back against problematic behavior.
  7. Revamping Center to bolster social justice vs. pulling curriculum out of the Center?
- c. Amendment Process
1. Revise proposal in series of steps.
  2. Few prepared amendments based on feedback.
  3. Concentrate mainly on Center and number of departments.
  4. Reserve a few minutes at the end to talk about Department Placement Form.
- d. Proposed Amendment: Consent Changes
1. Resolved: The changes written into the proposal using track changes distributed on 10/13/23 should be made permanent.
  2. Ben moves to accept the consent changes in the document; Jane seconds; no discussion; all in favor.
- e. Proposed Amendment: Faculty Council Chair and Vice Chair
1. Resolved: The proposal should mandate that the Faculty Council Chair and Vice Chair come from separate departments.
  2. Ben moves to accept the mandate that the Faculty Council Chair and Vice Chair should come from separate departments; Haley seconds; no discussion; all in favor.
- f. Proposed Amendment: DAC
1. Resolved: The Diversity Advisory Council should be written into the RCEP proposal as either a committee or standing committee of Faculty Council pending DAC's agreement at their 11/6/23 meeting.
  2. No vote as Anna not present at this time.
- g. Proposed Amendment: Teaching Faculty-at-Large
1. Resolved: The position of teaching faculty-at-large should be included as a voting member in Faculty Council and member of Shared Leadership in the proposal.
  2. No vote as Scott not present at this time.
- h. Current Center / Department Proposal
1. Currently proposed departments: Natural Sciences & Mathematics; Communication, Arts & Humanities; Social Science & Social Inquiry
  2. Curriculum currently in the proposed Center: Majors: EGL, Environmental Sustainability, and IAS; Minors: American Indian Studies, Gender & Sexuality Studies, Latino Studies, and Sustainability
  3. We can remove the curriculum from the Center: Environmental Sustainability and Sustainability minor is easy move to NSM/SAM.
  4. EGL, American Indian Studies, GSS, and Latino Studies could go in multiple places.
  5. The Center could be for coordinating research, grant funding, sponsoring faculty projects and creative works.
  6. There are still a lot of questions about the Center; it doesn't need to be part of the RCEP.
- i. Three Departments:
1. Social Sciences & Social Inquiry (Psychology, PPE, Law & Policy, EPA, History)
  2. Natural Sciences & Mathematics (Biomed, Environmental Science, Environmental Sustainability, Mathematics)
  3. Communication, Arts & Humanities (AMC, Communication, Spanish Language & Cultures, Writing Studies)
  4. Pros: Senior faculty equity, parity of resources, and simple thematic divide.

5. Cons: Requires redeveloping administrative structure, artificially blends divisions without collective identity or shared structures.
- j. Four Departments:
  1. Natural Sciences & Mathematics (Biomed, Environmental Science, Environmental Sustainability, Mathematics)
  2. Communication, Arts & Humanities (AMC, Communication, Spanish Language & Cultures, Writing Studies)
  3. Social & Behavior Sciences (Psychology)
  4. Politics, Economics & Social Inquiry (PPE, Law & Policy, EPA, History?)
  5. Pros: Greater faculty autonomy, preserves existing identities for the most part, supports programs that have further developed/specified.
  6. Cons: Potentially fewer resources for smaller departments; only one division completely recombines.
- k. Funding for Departments
  1. Four Departments: Max Course Release Cost: \$209,000; Admin Salary Cost: \$172,050; Additional admin support: \$19,800.
  2. Three Departments: Max Course Release Cost: \$192,500; Admin Salary Cost: \$158,900; Additional admin support: \$32,950.
- l. Asks Not Yet in the RCEP (for Chancellor and EVCAA)
  1. Chair compensation (addressing compression)
  2. Return of STF with distribution to departments
  3. Resources for the heavy burden of cross-campus teaching places on SIAS
  4. Reconsider “negative subsidy” place on SIAS for other UWT Schools
  5. Chairs play more substantive role in Academic Affairs discussions
- m. We need to have acceptance or modifications to the proposal before we present it to the faculty at this Friday’s faculty meeting.
  1. Environmental Sustainability faculty want to remain within SAM.
  2. Cassie moves that we remove the curriculum from the Center; Ben seconds; all in favor.
  3. Ben moves that we move the Environmental Sustainability major to NSM/SAM; Haley seconds; all in favor.
  4. Ben calls the question and moves that we support the Three Department model; Haley seconds; Yes: 5; No: 2; Abstain: 1.
  5. Ben moves that EGL, American Indian Studies, GSS, and Latino Studies move to CAH/CAC; Jane seconds; Yes: 4; No: 1; Abstain: 3. We need more discussion on where to move them.
  6. Ben moves that we put Latino Studies in CAH/CAC; Anna seconds; Yes: 4; No: 0; Abstain: 4. More discussion needed.
  7. We should put the minors where most of the faculty live; we didn’t look at the minors over the summer.
  8. Ben moves that we put EGL, American Indian Studies, GSS, and Latino Studies into the Social Sciences for now; Cassie seconds; Yes: 5; No: 2; Abstain: 1. This is provisional and we will revise this after consultation with the faculty.
  9. Ben moves that we remove the Center from the RCEP proposal; Jane seconds; Yes: 6; No: 0; Abstain 2.
6. Departmental Placement Form
  - a. Hypothetically send out 10/23–10/24 with a due date of 11/10
  - b. Identifies field affiliation and curriculum as basis for changing
  - c. These could be evidenced in several ways:
    1. Curriculum: Classes historically taught or in development, courses listed in a major.
    2. Field: Publications, areas of future research, grants, and explanation of relation to research of colleagues in a proposed department.

7. Updates/For the Good of the Order

8. Adjournment

a. The meeting was adjourned at 12:13 pm.