**Definition of Standing Committee in the UWT Faculty Bylaws**

The UWT Bylaws provide for amendment “at any regularly scheduled Faculty Assembly meeting by two-thirds vote of those present provided notice of intent is given at the previous regular meeting or when submitted in writing to all faculty at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which action is taken.” Article XI Amendments.

**Proposed Legislation Background and Rationale**

The proposed amendment intends to provide a definition for the work already being accomplished by Faculty Assembly Standing Committees, and to establish the role and expectations for such bodies within the structure of the UWT Faculty Assembly.

This legislation is a codification of existing practice, consistent with the provisions and expectations of the UW Faculty Code. It does not introduce a change to the established responsibilities of our faculty governance committee structure, rather it clarifies the nature of the work done by Standing Committees in relation to the central obligations of faculty governance and the organization of the Faculty Assembly to administer the areas of university activity that are the purview of the faculty.

This is important for faculty serving in elected and leadership roles on our Standing Committees, and for the Faculty Assembly Chair and Vice Chair as they develop each committee’s charge and organize the activities of the Executive Council on an annual basis. It also provides a template for organized groups of faculty leaders who are actively involved in the executive activities of the faculty (eg curriculum and academic policy, tenure and promotion, program budgets and those areas specifically reserved for faculty in the UW Faculty Code) to make a case for Standing Committee status. By defining Standing Committee responsibilities, this addition to our Bylaws provides criteria for evaluating and approving such proposals in the future.

**Proposed Changes to the UWT Bylaws**

The following change will be made to the Bylaws:

• Article V, Section 2: add a paragraph describing the purpose and role of the Standing Committees and locating the authority for these committees in the UW Faculty Code.

**The Proposed Class A Legislation**

Be it resolved by the UWT Faculty Assembly to submit to the faculty for approval or rejection that Article V, Section 2 of the UWT Faculty Bylaws be amended to read as shown below.

Section 2. Standing Committees *(existing section head and title)*

*(new language defining Standing Committees at UWT)*

Faculty Assembly Standing Committees are seated and charged with areas of faculty governance that are directly in the purview of the faculty, as outlined in the UW Faculty Code. The work of faculty Standing Committees relates to "matters affecting the general welfare of [the] ...campus, matters of faculty promotion and tenure, and... matters involving academic policy" (Section 23-45). The charge and membership of Standing Committees are designed to meet regularly occurring, precise, and predictable requirements of clear faculty workload expectations and responsibilities at the University of Washington Tacoma. In addition to meeting interim milestones in the execution of that area of faculty activity, and where warranted, Standing Committees shall formulate and forward policy proposals and recommendations to the Executive Council. The annual charge will be co-produced by the Chair and Vice Chair in collaboration with the Chairs of each Standing Committee on an annual basis. Each Standing Committee shall produce and submit an annual report to the Chair of Faculty Assembly and provide regular progress updates to the Executive Council over the course of the academic year.