



**RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY ASSEMBLY OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TACOMA**

**ON THE SCOPE OF SHARED GOVERNANCE AND A PATH FORWARD FOR  
CONSULTATION ON FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL DECISIONS  
AFFECTING THE ACADEMIC MISSION**

**WHEREAS** the Faculty Assembly has, by separate resolution adopted concurrently herewith, made formal findings that four significant decisions during the 2025–2026 academic year were undertaken without the consultation required by the UW Faculty Code and University Executive Orders, and that the administration's non-response to the Chair's formal inquiry of January 28, 2026, itself constitutes a failure of the consultation obligation; and

**WHEREAS** the allocation of institutional resources is the most consequential expression of institutional priorities, and decisions about funding, defunding, and restructuring services directly determine the conditions under which teaching, learning, and scholarship occur; and shared governance that excludes faculty voice from financial and budgetary decisions is shared governance in name only, as virtually every decision affecting the academic mission—including faculty compensation, instructional support, course delivery infrastructure, and student access to learning resources—is ultimately a resource allocation decision; and

**WHEREAS** the principle of shared governance therefore necessarily requires that faculty participate not only in curricular and academic policy decisions, but in the financial decisions that enable or constrain them; and

**WHEREAS** a resolution of the failures documented in the companion resolution requires not merely an acknowledgement of past omissions but the establishment of a clear, prospective protocol governing consultation on financial and operational decisions affecting the academic mission;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Faculty Assembly of the University of Washington Tacoma **affirms** that shared governance, as established by Washington State Law and the University of Washington Faculty Code, necessarily encompasses financial, operational, and administrative decisions that affect instructional support, faculty working conditions, and the academic mission;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Faculty Assembly **asserts** that consultation with faculty governance leadership prior to such decisions is not discretionary, but an institutional obligation required by [Executive Order No. IV, Section 3](#), which prohibits campus-specific policy decisions at UWT without consultation with elected faculty representatives, except in cases of emergency;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Faculty Assembly defines meaningful consultation as including, but not limited to, the following elements:

- (A) Engaging faculty in *ex ante* input to define problems and solicit feedback on options before narrowing down choices;
- (B) Providing faculty with complete and accessible information in a timely manner, including clear budget data, multi-year projections, assumptions underlying projections, and comparative benchmarks, consistent with the information access requirements of [Faculty Code Section 23–46H](#);
- (C) Using structured mechanisms for input, such as through Faculty Assembly leadership, the Chancellor's Budget Advisory Committee, joint task forces with faculty majority representation, and formal written feedback cycles;
- (D) Providing reasonable timeframes to allow for meaningful deliberation;
- (E) Providing written responses to faculty documenting revisions based on faculty feedback and explicitly explaining why recommendations are not adopted;
- (F) Creating consistent and continuous engagement processes, such as quarterly budget updates, annual open financial forums, transparent long-range planning processes, and early warning discussions about financial stress;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Faculty Assembly calls upon the administration to establish, in collaboration with faculty governance, a clear and binding protocol for consultation with faculty leadership on financial and operational decisions affecting instructional infrastructure, faculty compensation, the campus-level distribution of indirect cost recovery returned to UW Tacoma, and academic support services, prior to finalization of such decisions, consistent with [Executive Order No. IV, Section 3](#) and [Faculty Code Section 23–45B](#);

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Faculty Assembly calls upon the administration, in establishing the consultation protocol described above, to restructure the Chancellor's Budget Advisory Committee, or to establish a successor body, such that:

- (A) Faculty representation is consistent and continuous, with elected faculty members serving defined terms;
- (B) Unit administrators, including deans and vice deans, do not serve as voting members, in order to preserve the faculty voice that consultation under [Executive Order No. IV, Section 3](#) and [Faculty Code Section 23–45B](#) is intended to secure;
- (C) The body meets on a schedule aligned with the budget and decision calendar, including at least one regularly scheduled meeting in Autumn Quarter prior to the finalization of mid-year financial decisions, so that meaningful *ex ante* input is possible; and
- (D) The role and authority of faculty members on the body is articulated in writing, including how their input is solicited, documented, and considered in budgetary

decisions affecting the academic mission, and how this role relates to the faculty council's advisory authority under [Faculty Code Section 23–45B](#);

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Faculty Assembly **charges** the incoming Chair of the Faculty Assembly, in consultation with the Executive Council, to lead negotiation of the consultation protocol described above with the administration during the 2026–2027 academic year, and to bring a draft protocol before the Faculty Assembly for review and adoption no later than the final regularly scheduled meeting of Winter Quarter 2027;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution will be transmitted to the Chancellor, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, Provost, Secretary of the Faculty, and such other offices as the Faculty Assembly Chair deems appropriate.

Adopted by the Faculty Assembly of the University of Washington Tacoma

**Date:** May 8, 2026