

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TACOMA
Faculty Assembly (FA) Executive Council (EC)
Minutes

Wednesday, February 23, 2011

CP 206

12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Attendance: Marcie Lazzari, Chair; Zoe Barsness, Vice Chair; Marjorie Dobratz, Donald Chinn, Charles Emler, Ehsan Feroz, Diane Kinder, George Mobus, Mark Pendras, Peter Selkin

Absent: Emily N. Ignacio, Linda Dawson, Jose Rios, Tracy Thompson, Charles Williams

1. The minutes from February 10, 2011 will be approved at the next EC meeting.

2. Academic Policy Committee, George Mobus, Chair

Mobus will invite Derek Levy to the next APC meeting on March 8, 2011 to discuss the proposal for “TOEFL waivers options.” They will discuss part three on p. 3, of Derek Levy’s memo.

EC voted the following language, which had been reviewed by APC and EC.

1. *Revise UW Tacoma’s admissions policy to provide for direct admission of international, undergraduate applicants as freshmen or freshman standing transfer students. The existing policy prohibits students from enrolling at UW Tacoma prior to earning 45 transfer credits (sophomore class standing). This is an artifact of our prior history as an upper division, 2-year campus, where students needed 40 credits or more to be admitted to a major, and lower division courses preparatory to major were not offered. Since the advent of freshman enrollment at UW Tacoma, a student can now enroll with no prior college coursework and complete the prerequisites at UW Tacoma for most majors offered (exception- BSN).*

This change would go into effect for autumn 2011 admissions. International students applying as freshman would be required to complete the regular freshman application requirements, which include fulfilling the College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADRs), meeting the minimum GPA requirements and submitting SAT or ACT scores including writing. They may also need to submit TOEFL scores if their SAT or ACT scores do not otherwise exempt them from submitting the TOEFL.

2. *Reset the TOEFL (and equivalent IELTS test score) minimum requirement of 83 (internet-based) to make UW Tacoma’s standard more consistent with other four-year, public universities in Washington, Oregon and California, as well as UW’s peer institutions in the Global Challenge states. Our current minimum requirement is higher than the minimum at MIT, University of Michigan, UCLA, UC Berkeley and any other public university in the western United States. Recalibrating the TOEFL score minimum*

would significantly broaden our pool of potential international applicants, while keeping our standards well in line with (and in most cases still above) other comparable universities.

After some discussion, Marjorie Dobratz moved and Mark Pendas seconded vote on the proposal for admitting International Students (undergraduate) as a UWT campus wide policy, under 1 and 2 [above]. The Executive Council unanimously passed these recommendations. This action reiterates what EC had already voted on at the February 10th meeting.

Concerns

Diane Kinder asked if George Mobus would clarify the process for evaluating the impact of these changes in Enrollment Services and the externalized costs for faculty inside the classroom. Mobus explained his concerns that faculty are carrying much of the workload with new proposals like these. Mobus felt it is important to monitor classrooms at the campus level. Individual programs will monitor the classrooms over the next year.

3. Updates from Chancellor/Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs Budget Committee – Marcie Lazzari

Suggestions

Faculty members would like list of the programs to be funded once Beth Rushing has approved the funding requests. EC would like a breakdown of what was funded, which departments received funding, and what percentage this constitutes of the overall budget.

The next Campus Budget Conversation will be March 1, 2011 from 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

George Mobus suggested a faculty led conversation on budget cuts.

4. Reflection on the January 28, 2011 full FA meeting and continued conversation on the impacts of enrollment growth – March 9, 2011 EC/FA meeting

Derek Levy, Lisa Garcia-Hansen, and Jim Posey will attend the meeting on March 9, 2011 to continue the discussion they had started on undergraduate retention rates (This will cover freshmen and the entire student population).

5. 2011 – 2012 Senators – represent units or campus at-large?

Marcie Lazzari and Zoe Barsness suggested that newly elected senators, starting in September 2011, should represent the campus as a whole. Once they are elected faculty will discuss how to continue representing faculty.

Action: The EC voted on the procedures for electing Senators in the 2011-12 year. UWT will vote on four (4) senators to represent the campus. Once they meet, the UW

Senators (in Tacoma) will decide on representation across all programs. The elected Senators will communicate UW Senate business/initiatives to the UWT faculty. Initially the elected senators will represent the entire UWT faculty. The motion was unanimously passed.

6. 2011 – 2012 Standing committee chairs and rotations moving to a 3-year cycle

Faculty commitment to service on Standing Committees

- Challenges with faculty engagement
- Administrative support for faculty service

Faculty Service Evaluations – There is no existing guideline to measure faculty contributed to service on the Faculty Assembly Standing Committees. If faculty service requirements are implemented on faculty evaluations within programs this might increase faculty participation on Standing Committees.

George Mobus suggested programs implement a way to aggregate the work of faculty on Standing Committees and have this communicated back to program directors.

Ehsan Feroz noted that weighting internal service and campus wide service (Standing i.e. Committees) should be addressed.

7. Lobby Day – John Wheeler III and Nauman Mumtaz, ASUWT

John Wheeler introduced himself as the Legislative Liaison for UWT and part of the Washington Student Association (WSA). Wheeler announced an upcoming opportunity for faculty to engage the Washington State legislature on March 7, 2011.

Wheeler summarized the situation: The Washington Student Association is a collection of 100,000 students, faculty and staff, who have collaborated in unified voice to address the disproportionate cut to higher education in the last biennium over any other program. On March 7th their message will be to protect baseline funding for higher education. People are involved to address the budget cuts and their impact to the quality of education e.g. shorter paper assignments to students and bigger classes. The message is “we want the quality of our education programs.” In order to retain the quality, as part of the UW system—an R1 institution, it is imperative that Washington State protect its fiduciary responsibility and remain a public institution.

Wheeler noted the process for employee involvement on March 7th. State Employees must fill out an F5 form. These forms will be readily available on site on March 7th. Public employees must use their own private time. Wheeler asked that if faculty have questions, they should contact [Mike Wark](#). Wheeler will send other information about March 7th to uwtfac@u.washington.edu.

Comments

Ehsan Feroz mentioned Representative Hasegawa's proposal to establish a state owned bank.

Charles Emlet asked about the best approach when communicating about the budget cuts. Emlet was concerned about sending a message that might sound self-serving. Emlet was interested in communicating a balanced message. Wheeler suggested that higher education is an investment in and will contribute to helping Washington residents out of the recession. Wheeler added that it is important to communicate the realities of the cuts by illustrating what the last budget cut (last biennium) has done at the classroom level.

Wheeler noted that state funding, per undergraduate, is rated as 49th in the nation. Washington State is also number one in the nation, as far as output (graduates).

Feroz suggested a consideration of the funding for community colleges. Feroz added that in the long run, UW should look at incorporating community colleges into the UW four-year institutions, i.e. University of Wisconsin and the University of Texas. Wheeler noted that Washington State has 34 community colleges, which is one of the largest in the nation.

8. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.