

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

Thursday, October 21, 2010

CP 206

12:30-2:00 p.m.

Attendance: Marcie Lazzari, Chair; Zoe Barsness, Vice Chair; Donald Chinn, Sian Davies-Vollum, Marjorie Dobratz, Linda Dawson, Charles Emler, Ehsan Feroz, Emily N. Ignacio, Diane Kinder, Mark Pendras, Jose Rios, Tracy Thompson, Peter Selkin, Larry Wear, Chancellor Patricia Spakes, Beth Rushing, ex-officio

1. Review and approve the EC minutes from the September 21, 2010 and October 7, 2010 with minor revisions.

2. Updates from the Standing Committee Chairs

Curriculum Committee (CC), Jose Rios The CC is using Catalyst. They would like to address whether repeated directed studies should be listed as courses. They will follow up with Bobbe Miller Murray about courses offered in the Core and the situation that has been made for the Registrar's office. Rios also noted his concern as the CC chair, that there are more short-term lecturers than senior lecturers and faculty serving on the committee because it leaves the committee with very little continuity over time.

There have been changes with the 1503 form. Rios will talk with program directors about service on the committee and the nature of representation from their program on the committee.

Appointment Promotion and Tenure (APT), Emily N. Ignacio At the first meeting APT reviewed their charge and also the end of year report (2009-2010), along with the promotion file checklist to check the consistency of faculty member's file requirements in the bylaws, UWT handbook, checklist on the VCAA website. There is an ongoing concern that the UWT Handbook does not match the other checklists. FCAPT will ask the programs to put the program APT criteria in the file – this request to the programs for a change in procedure was moved and passed by the committee. In their next meeting, on November 2, 2010, they will talk more about the 3rd year review and annual review processes, which differ across programs. APT members are reviewing the language of the faculty code in respect to conduct and content of the annual review. On October 27, 2010 Ignacio and Shelby Fritz will meet to discuss a faculty workshop on promotion and tenure. APT is also collaborating with Faculty Affairs about their dual roles in the annual review process. APT would like programs to define what is considered meritorious and extra meritorious, since the criteria for these merit ratings vary across programs. APT is also looking into what is required for the regular annual

conference (and letter) and how that differs from the merit review. Zoe Barsness has talked with Marcia Killien about this as well and passed along her notes from this meeting to current FCAPT members.

Faculty Affairs, Donald Chinn

Kelly Fitzgerald, Director of the Office of Sponsored Research provided suggestions on the Research Productivity Survey, developed by Sergio Davalos to explore ways the administration might support faculty in their research. Fitzgerald noted that skills-based questions can be addressed from the Office of Sponsored Research. Faculty Affairs suggested shortening the survey length.

Jim Posey, Director of Institutional Research and Planning attended and gave a very similar presentation to the FCFA members to the one he gave at the EC meeting on October 7, 2010.

3. Review draft of proposed bylaws changes.

Zoe Barsness proposed that the Faculty Assembly leadership track be extended to a term of three years (Vice Chair, Chair, and Immediate Past Chair). The past chair of the Faculty Assembly will serve on the EC as a voting member. This proposal will encourage institutional memory for the Faculty Assembly and EC. The proposed bylaws changes also included an extension of terms for all members of the standing committees from two to three years to facilitate continuity and maintenance of institution memory on the standing committees as well. In Article IV a provision has been added regarding attendance- failure to attend two meetings without advance notification will result in ground for replacement. After discussion the EC decided to add “per academic year” to the attendance provision. Zoe Barsness will review Article II Voting Membership of the bylaws and consult Marcia Killien and Bothell and Seattle’s bylaws and existing procedure.

4. Budget Update: Chancellor Patricia Spakes and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Beth Rushing

Chancellor Spakes passed around a graph of the potential budget cuts. Lately there have been talks that the cuts will likely be 20% - 25%, which is about a \$4 million cut in total per year for UWT. The Executive Planning Council (EPC) is looking at enrollment growth both in tuition revenue and student enrollment. Currently, the graph does not include revenue from summer school and fee based programs.

Spakes noted it is likely there will be 20% budget reduction with a 10% tuition increase. This is assuming there will be 150 more students and who will be paying more tuition. After working with the EPC they agreed that new revenue is most

likely to come from increased enrollment, the summer session, and non-resident (e.g., international) student tuition. Each of the directors and deans are in talks with their units about growing without new resources and with minimal resources. The EPC would like the EC and Academic Directors to develop the principles to manage through this difficult process.

Spakes and Rushing met with Derek Levy this morning – realized that if they admitted 200 more students with a 10% admission increase they are still \$1,000,000 short on the 20% reduction scenario. One option is to increase summer session offerings and non-resident student enrollments.

Mark Pendras suggested that the EC should consider guiding principles for the budget cuts in the immediate budget crisis, but it also must consider the future of the campus.

Marjorie Dobratz asked whether other institutions outside of higher education are looking at ways to cut operating expenses and enhance sources of revenue. (Boeing, returning troops, more income possibly do they ever plan to give money back?) Spakes noted that the budget scenarios are based on the assumption there will be no new revenue or federal aid in the next biennium. Planning and Budgeting and lobbyists are focused on modeling various budget scenarios using these conservative assumptions.

Beth Rushing thanked Larry Wear regarding the positive visit at the Institute of Technology from ABET.

5. "Guerrilla Teaching Tactics," discussion with Ehsan Feroz

Ehsan Feroz attended a session on “Guerrilla Teaching Tactics” at the annual meeting of the American Accounting Association. The session related to teaching and the curriculum. EC reviewed a power point from this session.

Feroz explained that he believes student evaluations provide useful information. However, he wants to explore whether they provide useful information about student learning and the effectiveness of the instructor. Feroz suggested there is significant evidence that this is not the case given the way that student course evaluations are constructed and conducted.

Feroz discussed student evaluations as they relate to tenure and promotion reviews. Feroz suggested the EC might discuss the appropriate use of student evaluations in promotion and tenure and annual reviews. Larry Wear noted that at his previous school student evaluations of teaching effectiveness could not constitute more than 25% of the overall faculty review.

Barsness added that section 24-57 Procedural Safeguards for Promotion, Merit-Based Salary, and Tenure Considerations of the UW Handbook has a list of the different criteria from which teaching might be assessed. Student evaluations are

one of eight. The program/unit faculty has the authority to define how to assess and measure teaching effectiveness. Barsness suggested the EC think about how faculty assesses student perceptions of teaching (through learning or satisfaction). Linda Dawson noted the development of IAS teaching portfolio and its adoption in IAS for T&P reviews. Larry Wear noted that in IT there is an assessment committee which evaluates the outcome of student learning and the evaluation of specific courses and effectiveness.

Action: This discussion will continue at the next EC meeting.

6. The report on Senate Executive Council meeting was postponed.

7. Other items – Faculty Service

Bridget Collier has requested that FA appoint a faculty member to serve as an ex officio member on the Services and Activities Fee Committee. Marcie Lazzari will put out a call to faculty to see if there are volunteers. Marjorie Dobratz asked where she could find the wording regarding the changes for the writing requirement. Christine Stevens serves on the assessment committee, and she asked about the new writing requirement. Marcie Lazzari indicated that she would find the information for Marjorie to give to Christine.

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

**All meetings are held Thursdays, in CP 206 from 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. The next meetings are November 4, 2010, November 18, 2010, December 9, 2010 and, January 6, 2010.