

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TACOMA
Faculty Assembly (FA) Executive Council (EC)
Wednesday, November 30, 2011
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
Minutes

Attended: Zoe Barsness, Chair, Katie Baird, Vice Chair, Donald Chinn, Linda Dawson, Yonn Dierwechter, Marjorie Dobratz, Marcie Lazzari, Beverly Naidus, Nita McKinley, Mark Pendras, Peter Selkin, Tracy Thompson, Charles Williams

Excused: Charlie Emler, Larry Wear

1. Approval of minutes from November 17 meeting

M. Dobratz moved to accept minutes, T. Thompson seconded and they were approved.

2. Standing Committee Updates

No updates from Strategic Budget Committee

- SBC – next meeting is scheduled for next week.

Discussion followed:

- Request for input from EC by M. Lazzari. She started a new catalyst page and asked EC members to send her their input. Z. Barsness suggested an assessment of types of metrics that might be used, and indicated she is working with SCPB, and faculty governance leaders at UW Bothell to see what they are doing in this area including Marilyn Cox – Vice Chancellor for Administration and Planning, University of Washington Bothell, and Steve Holland chair of GFO (General Faculty Organization Bothell).
- M. Lazzari reported Data gathering at UWT currently occurring.

This raises important points:

- M. Lazzari indicated that D. Friedman made it clear she makes the decisions on the campus level budget. Faculty input and consultation will occur through SBC. This does not address need for faculty input/consultation at the program/unit level budget development process. According to code, faculty consultation on program/unit-level budgets should occur through the program/unit's faculty council. Z. Barsness asked how EC as a group might assure that faculty is engaged in the budget development process at the unit/program level as well as campus level.
- Q: How do we want to work governing in a more structured way at the unit level so that units don't get overlooked?
- C. Williams: FA as a body has more impact than individual unit groups.

- M. Pendras: We as faculty governing body express the need for faculty being treated in a particular way. If we perceive we're not being treated fairly – then who do we go to?
- Z. Barsness suggested that the SBC provide a Budget primer at the next full FA meeting, to help communicate to the faculty as a whole how the charge has changed. A general discussion of merits of adding SBC overview and faculty role in budget development processes at program/unit level as an agenda item for January 27, FA meeting ensued.
- EC members discussed possibility of requesting information from each unit on how budget development is handled. T. Thompson noted that this was the approach successfully taken to document program/unit P&T procedures
- C. Williams suggested focus of FA January meeting might be on identifying best practices and what facilitates accountability to units.
- B. Mauk suggested gathering all information and then talking to Renee Smith Nyberg on how to frame the questions. She is very helpful with this area.

At this point, Sub-Committee reports were put on hold and the guest, Ben Mauk gave his presentation:

3. B. Mauk Transportation report:

- There will be Open House forums next week regarding discussions on transportation and future parking technologies.
- Resources and mission have changed, while we have had dramatic growth.
- Need to use our resources more efficiently and encourage other ways get to campus.
- Capital funding from state is unlikely so what broader resources might be accessed by partnering? A possible pilot program is forthcoming with the City because the city parking program going into the red, could be a win/win.
- Tuesday, December 6 event – planning group will canvass campus – and then engage in more targeted conversations with students, staff. Group is requesting faculty input. 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. – Is the faculty slot to meet with planning group
- Planning group is looking for representation by FA in this process.

Responses:

- Z. Barsness suggested Ben and the planning group work on putting out a survey directly to faculty and announce the Tuesday time slot through the faculty list serves, but suggested there is not enough time to adequately address the faculty's input. T. Thompson suggested faculty don't discuss transportation issues, and may not be as affected by them.

2. Standing Committee Updates (continued)

Academic Policy (AP) (Nita McKinley)

No update

Appointment Promotion & Tenure (APT): Yonn Dierwechter

- Y. Dierwechter reported the committee is currently reviewing files.
- There has also been a request from the Marcia Killien, the Secretary of Faculty for information about campus and program level T&P criteria and processes.

Faculty Affairs (FA) (Donald Chinn)

- D. Chinn reported that FA met Monday and he presented an update from EC meeting.
- Q: what should we put on our websites? Suggested having a suggestion box for all committees (online)
- Work of committee – moved forward interviewing experienced grant researchers, barriers, what works well, and how can we leverage the existing resources, like the library
- D. Chinn indicated that the committee spent some time discussing What is the purpose of the committee, who are we advocating for: FA, administration, or other? Committee members determined that they are here to advocate for faculty, meaning all faculty – not just tenure track.

Curriculum Committee (CC) (Katie Baird)

No report.

3. Chancellor's Report

No report, JW Harrington not present

4. Portland State Visit Discussion

- Z. Barsness and K. Baird reported that they along with several other administrative leaders from UWT are going to Portland State University, an urban serving University
- Each will have two meetings with their PSU counterparts. Meetings are geared toward faculty governance
- Asked from input from EC members on what primary goals of such discussion should be? Asked EC members for feedback/suggestions on draft of questions they developed for PSU meetings.

Discussion followed:

- Faculty engagement in shared governance is quite high at UWT: of 162 voting faculty, Z. Barsness reported that 51 are serving in a substantive way.
- T. Thompson: How do we compare on a scale with PSU; size relative to the tasks that have to be done?
- C. Williams: What are we effective at achieving? Can we actually get things done – or are we going through motions – based on administration. What does PSU feel regarding his issue?

- Z. Barsness reported she will meet with PSU IRP – do Faculty rely on it or use it? Unit level and more?
- C. Williams: do they have a union – or what other mechanisms do they have/use?
- T. Thompson: do they have the same kind of shared governance? How are they dealing with budget issues?
- Y. Dierwechter: Oregon has even more dire budget issues. U of O fired President for raising salaries for Faculty
- Y. Dierwechter: Asked if purpose of this trip was to ID best practices – relationship building – benchmarking. Reported that faculty at PSU have some different ways of presenting their research; not the same as we do, especially in regards to P & T. Way present their scholarship is somewhat different, how did they get there?
- M. Lazzari: pushing more toward funded research? Did they grow strategically or did it just happen?

5. Interdisciplinarity dialogue/Gail Dubrow visit Reflection

- Z. Barsness: reported on G. Dubrow visit: Gail and Academic Council discussed what is working best for us, what is community learning, role of incentives
- P. Selkin: One concern (from IAS perspective) regarding IAS discussion with Gail – it was just a discussion, didn't have a goal.
- There was general agreement among EC members that for our January 27 discussion we need more goal direction and structures needs to be in place to facilitate a meaningful discussion
- M. Dobratz indicated that for her unit interdisciplinarity is discussed but with sufficient clarification. Incentives are also problematic, for example FTE are lost at the masters level and Nursing is in a deficit if their students take courses outside of the nursing program; Different process and structure needs to be in place; be creative and share; we are not truly, fully interdisciplinary.
- C. Williams: without a proposal or document, didn't have a clear idea of how to get to a goal.
- B. Naidus: highlighted challenges posed by lack of familiarity, I don't know who our colleagues are in own unit, and/or what are we doing interdisciplinary way; needs to be shared publically; Not enough knowledge between disciplines. Students could be interacting in interdisciplinary ways if faculty knew and understood what other units are doing. We are interdisciplinary within our classes, but not across disciplines.
- T. Thompson: a Stanford research study showed that even when faculty commits to seminars regarding other disciplines over the course of a year – even once or twice month -there have been challenges.
- Restated: Once structures in place, we need to find methods to share.
- We haven't ever fully defined what interdisciplinary is at UWT.

- K. Baird suggested we focus discussion at January Faculty Assembly meeting on: What are our students getting from interdisciplinary practices? What are we trying to achieve with our students? What is society asking of education?

7. VCAS Search Update (Zoe Barsness)

- December 5 candidate interview, Executive Council time: 10:00 – 10:45 am. Encourage everyone to be there.
- Smaller pool, but high quality
- 3 invited to campus
- Strongly recommend asking: what their approach is to the budget process; who is involved in the decision making.
- Next two candidates, December 14 & December 16

8. Other items

- **Lecturer Experience at UWT update.** K. Baird & L. Dawson wrapping up focus group meetings with Lecturers. L. Dawson met with Shelby Fritz to gather information regarding how lecturers may be converted to senior lecturers L. Dawson and K. Baird will provide summary of focus group findings at first EC meeting in January.
- **Assessment committee** – Z. Barsness asked EC members to investigate who is representing their unit on the Assessment committee and how that representative was identified—appointed or elected at unit level.
- **Standing Chairs meeting** – Z. Barsness indicated that she and K. Baird will be meeting in the next two weeks with the standing chairs to work on identifying and prioritizing agenda for EC and standing committees.
- **Critical Thinking Roundtable** - T. Thompson reported hopes to put together panel across the disciplines.

Adjourned: 2:03 p.m.

Portland State University Visit
Friday, December 2, 2011
DRAFT

Questions for PSU Faculty Governance Counterparts:

- How would you characterize the nature of shared governance on your campus?
 - General role of faculty
 - Faculty involvement in appointment, promotion, tenure
 - Faculty involvement in curriculum (upper, lower division, core), new program/degree approval, academic standards
 - Budget review/advice/consultation

- What responsibilities do faculty have?

- What type(s) of support are provided for faculty governance?
 - administratively
 - financially
 - How specifically is faculty involvement in shared governance encouraged/supported/differentially rewarded?

- To what degree do faculty governance bodies utilize institutional research?
 - What sort of information is provided across campus?
 - Which faculty governance bodies rely on this research most heavily?
 - How is that information used

- Campus Culture Climate
 - How would you describe your campus culture/climate?
 - From a faculty perspective?
 - From a student perspective?
 - From a staff perspective?
 - How do you avoid a commuter campus feel? What activities/infrastructure are important in this regard?

- Budget Review/Development
 - How is faculty involved in the budget development/review process? What are faculty responsibilities?
 - At the campus level?
 - At the unit level?
 - What types of data are utilized by/shared with faculty in these processes?

- Faculty staffing strategies employed?