

Faculty Assembly Executive Council (EC) Meeting

April 03, 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Tacoma Room

Attendees: Katie Baird, Zoe Barsness, Luther Adams, Orlando Baiocchi, Donald Chinn, Linda Dawson, Yonn Dierwechter, Marjorie Dobratz, Debra Friedman, Rich Furman, J.W. Harrington, Matt Kelley, Marcie Lazzari, Nita McKinley, Jill Purdy, Tracy Thompson

Absent: Bonnie Becker, Greg Benner, Sergio Davalos, and Charles Williams

Guests: Jenny Quinn, Andrea Coker-Anderson, and Harlan Patterson

1) Consent Agenda:

The minutes from January 9, and March 21 EC meetings were approved.

2) Updates, Announcements, and Information:

- The following are additional announcements that were not included in the Chair's report:
 - Reminder: Faculty Assembly is seeking a Vice Chair for next year
 - The last Faculty Assembly meeting for academic year 2012-2013
 - Scheduled for May 3rd, 10am to 12noon in WPH, Milgard Assembly Room
 - There is an optional meeting following from 12:30 to 2pm, with JW Harrington and COACHE Team to discuss survey results and put together a plan on how to address shortcomings, and build on the strengths that come from the survey
 - FYI: New possibility of a UW "diversity requirement" to be voted on by Senate Executive Committee Monday, April 8
 - ✓ Katie will send definitions for circulation and/or feedback as requested by Jim Gregory
- Summer Funds: EC members were provided with a summary of the distribution of UWT's Summer Revenue for 2010-2012. This topic was raised at the prior EC meeting. Katie raised the question of whether or not the EC wants to raise campus level discussion about summer funds, and use EC's authority to spark some of those conversations. The following topics were discussed:
 - Lack of awareness and transparency in how units are utilizing summer revenue funds
 - Main reason for summer funds:
 - Replace endowment fund
 - Provide units with more discretion and/or flexibility to meet their aspirations
 - Faculty role regarding summer funds:
 - Provides faculty within units new opportunities, and greater flexibility
 - Supports the faculty voice in making transparent decisions, sustaining accountability, and managing resource usage
 - Resources that can help and create a vision and encourage conversations
 - Report on how summer funds are being used:

- Representatives will voluntarily collect info about how different units are using summer funds
- Katie will compile the information and distribute in the Chair’s report
- JW Harrington expressed interest in knowing what is being done to further the goals of the units. He suggested an exemplary approach when requesting this info, and creating positive examples of increased output measures that can be traced to the innovative use of summer funds
- Representatives should specifically ask questions in terms of advancing unit goals, objective strategies, and what things may be exemplar for other units

3) Discussion on admissions:

Due to time constraints, EC briefly discussed admissions. This topic will be revisited with longer discussion at next EC meeting. Nita McKinley has been working with Cedric Howard and the Strategic Enrollment Management Committee; she reminded the EC that this committee can be used as a resource to acquire enrollment data.

- EC Concerns and information requests to be discussed:
 - UWT automatic admissions acceptance and rejection criteria
 - Profile of students who have applied, admitted, enrolled, and retained
 - Student performance assessment based on admission criteria and assessment of support systems for assurance of academic success
- Cedric Howard, Vice Chancellor for Student Enrollment and Services, will be invited to a future EC meeting to further explain and answer EC questions
- This might be combined with inviting representatives from the TLC to provide input and feedback in terms of student support, success, and struggles

4) Classroom Space (Jenny Quinn, Andrea Coker-Anderson, Harlan Patterson)

Jenny Quinn, Associate Director of IAS made a presentation to the EC entitled “The UW Tacoma Time Schedule—Considering the Need for Change”. Jenny, Andrea, and Harlan were invited to talk about this issue to inform faculty of the proposal for a time schedule change to Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays. The purpose of having this conversation is to bring Faculty in on the discussion as early as possible so that they can spread the word that this conversation is going to start taking place. Highlights of the presentation include:

- Current UWT time schedule
- Existing and anticipated pressures; increasing student enrollments means more classes
- Current things we can do to meet anticipated growth needs:
 - More classrooms (on the order of 4 or more a year)
 - More incentives to teach 8 am and 6:30 pm classes
 - More online/offsite classes
 - Hybrid classes with complementary space utilization (2 classes in the space of one)
- Changing the time schedule by going to Monday, Wednesday, Friday classes:

Benefits

- 40-45 new classes in extra time slot
- Breathing room while awaiting space developments
- Pedagogical benefit for lower division and skills-based classes

Drawbacks:

- Change of culture for students and faculty
- Possible adverse effects to our students: 3 days on campus rather than 2
- Possible negative impact on faculty research agendas

- Spreads usage across week
 - Still allows for all-faculty gatherings on Friday afternoons
 - Decreases impact of Monday holidays
- All materials presented in the PowerPoint presentation are available online in the Shared (S) drive in the “Everyone”/“Time Schedule Matrix” folder.



- Future planning and thinking ahead on this issue:
 - JW suggested having a round table to hear more about the classroom needs of faculty, including: types of classrooms, types of configurations, types of computing, types of wireless, and ways of hosting a discussions about this issue
 - Harlan Patterson urged that we need to start planning and make sure of the following:
 - Use space as effectively as possible; any additions to space will probably come directly out of tuition.
 - Gather data about classroom usage; assess why rooms not highly scheduled aren’t being used
 - Brainstorm ideas to change rooms to increase attractiveness
 - Exploring long-term ideas that make a significant impact and difference to capacity (i.e. change out furniture in computer classrooms to increase versatility and use as regular classrooms)
 - Luther urged that the time schedule is only a small part of thinking about the overall issue. He encouraged the EC to have broader conversations regarding future growth of the campus. Jill Purdy added that there are pedagogical and curricular issues that link to how we are educating students that should be driving this conversation rather than purely capacity.
 - Katie underscored the issue brought up by Luther and Jill, which she linked to the vision for the academic mission and what the academic mission is. She stated that this mission falls to faculty and we collectively need to figure out how to:
 - Promote those substantive discussions that faculty should be having
 - Articulate what our ideas are relative to growth; to what extent is growth good for our campus versus what might be some limits, and how we best plan for that.

5) Discussion: Faculty and UWT Budget and SBC:

Jill Purdy distributed a working document about the current structure of faculty budget advice to the Chancellor.



There is currently a mismatch in current practices and what our actual bylaws are; in this document, she has tried to reflect what current practices are. A decision/resolution about how the committee wants to provide faculty budget advice needs to be made. The SBC is not meeting the needs of faculty giving advice; we have been using EC this current year, and Jill suggested refining as we go, and continuing to

use EC as body of advice. There are five proposed recommendations presented in the working document that can be changed and modified. Key topics mentioned:

- Numbers 2 and 3 of the document in terms of the leadership role of SBC and whether faculty representation is appropriate
 - Leadership Role:
 - Chancellor Friedman has offered to have Harlan Patterson co-chair
 - Would this be the best use of our limited resources in terms of faculty time and service?
 - Faculty representation:
 - Concerns about broad representation on SBC since currently it reflects chairs of 3 different years, yet includes only two at large representatives

- These questions and this document are meant to be conversation starters in terms of what the EC may do collectively. It will be distributed electronically. Jill encouraged faculty to have budget structure discussions with units and with colleagues.

Meeting Adjourned 2:03 pm.