

Faculty Assembly Executive Council (EC) Meeting

May 01, 2013, 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Tacoma Room

Attendees: *Katie Baird, Luther Adams, Zoe Barsness, Bonnie Becker, Greg Benner, Donald Chinn, Sergio Davalos, Linda Dawson, Marjorie Dobratz, J.W. Harrington, Matt Kelley, Marcie Lazzari, Nita McKinley, Jill Purdy, and Tracy Thompson*

Absent: *Orlando Baiocchi, Yonn Dierwechter, Rich Furman, and Charles Williams*

Guests: *Cedric Howard, Ed Mirecki, and Joe Sharkey*

1) Donations to FA Discretionary Fund:

As discussed in the previous EC meeting, the Faculty Assembly is seeking voluntary donations to replenish the Faculty Assembly discretionary funds. Committee members who wanted to contribute brought completed gift payroll deduction pledge forms to the meeting. Faculty who had the opportunity to acquire matching gifts from their spouse need to complete a different process. All members were thanked for their contributions.

2) Global Honors and Faculty Role:

Nita McKinley presented information to the EC regarding APCC's proposal to endorse the designation of a council for faculty oversight for Global Honors and the Office of Undergraduate Education.

- Global Honors has submitted a proposal to APCC to have a minor.
 - GH's current advisory board does not have power to vote on curricular issues
 - APCC did not approve the proposal due to the absence of a faculty council; however, they did tell Global Honors that they would reconsider the proposal if they had a faculty council that was empowered to vote
- APCC would like to develop an overall policy that would apply to any future as well as current unit
 - The policy would state that any academic unit that does not have faculty permanently associated with it (like Global Honors or OUE) and that has responsibilities for admission, graduation, or managing and developing curriculum, should have a group of faculty that are permanently empowered to vote on such issues
- There is time urgency related to the issue because Global Honors wants to have the minor by this coming Fall
- Jill suggested that the EC offer assistance to GH to create bylaws to address the immediate issue, and to help GH to see Faculty Assembly as a partner as opposed to a group that throws up barriers to new ideas or making things happen
- JW suggested for APCC to assess the minor in order for GH to move forward with its proposal; in the meantime, we continue to work on the longer-term issues

- Tracy Thompson made the motion to that the advisory group serve as the faculty council this year for Global Honors
 - Zoe Barsness amended the proposal to include "acceptable for faculty oversight for the duration of one year and the expectation is that there will be a formal proposal for a set of clear bylaws governing the nature of the responsibilities, and the composition of the membership of that faculty council by the end of academic year 2013-2014."
 - Jill seconded the motion as amended. She further clarified to the committee that this vote was on the specific rather than the general issue. We were not voting on APCC's overall advice regarding academic units.
 - The committee then voted on the proposal that "the GH council as currently constituted, serve as the faculty oversight body for the GH program for the duration of one year, during which time the council should develop a formal proposal with set of clear bylaws governing the nature of the responsibilities and the composition of the membership of that faculty council". The vote was successful with 11 yes votes, and one abstention.

The broader issue included in APCC's proposal, in terms of councils for the future, was briefly discussed. The EC suggested the following changes in the language of the memo:

- Instead of must have a "permanent" council of faculty, replace with "standing" council of faculty
- In the third bullet point, instead of saying are "permanently" associated with the unit, replace with are "regularly" associated with the unit
- The proposal also needs to include something about bylaws

The committee agreed that this issue requires more discussion. Nita will distribute a revised copy of the proposal with the suggested amendments. She encouraged the committee to send suggestions or comments. The proposal will be revisited and voted on at the next EC meeting.

3) Class B Legislation on EC Structure, UWT Budget (Vote):

The floor was opened to discuss proposed legislation on EC structure and the UWT budget. The legislation is proposed to reflect the system of budget advice that is currently in place and to make this practice transparent to the faculty as a whole. The rationale and proposed legislation were included in the agenda sent to the committee prior to the meeting. The EC didn't have any comments or questions for discussion on this topic. Jill made the motion to accept the proposed legislation regarding budget advice. The motion was seconded. Vote was successful with unanimous yes vote. The legislation will be sent to faculty for their information.

4) Class B Legislation on Academic Misconduct: For discussion and possible vote:

In addition to materials received from Katie regarding the proposal of what to do for student academic misconduct, the committee also received an email from Joe Sharkey documenting his experience in dealing with student conduct issues and suggesting that the past history makes a difference in understanding the current situation. Problems with the

manner in which academic misconduct issue have been handled have arisen multiple times over the last several years; there have been challenges for putting into place a system that satisfies faculties concerns, as well as upholds all of the requirements on the student code and administrative code that staff is responsible for. Katie Baird asked Ed Mirecki, who recently became UWT's Informal Officer, to prepare a report of all cases of academic misconduct decided upon this academic year; this report was included in Appendix D for the EC agenda. Cedric Howard, Vice Chancellor for Student and Enrollment Services, Edmund Mirecki, Director of Student Enrollment, and Joe Sharkey were invited to the meeting to answer questions EC may have.

- Joe Sharkey reported two cases of academic misconduct last June, which have not been adjudicated. He has proposed legislation requesting that the Chancellor require three things of the Office of Student and Enrollment Services (SES):



Letter to FA EC
4-30-2013.pdf

- 1) a full accounting of the reasons why some cases of academic misconduct were not adjudicated last year
 - 2) an explanation of the reasons the SES failed to implement the new protocols laid out in the memo of September 2010
 - 3) a reinstatement of those protocols now (most importantly, that a faculty member serve as an informal hearing officer along with an administrator)
- Cedric Howard gave a brief history of the judicial process, and explained the situation from his perspective. He was not aware of the situation, and addressed it immediately when it came to his attention. He stated that he takes full responsibility and apologized. He stated that he and Ed met with Katie, and are comfortable with whatever process EC recommends. He also encouraged the committee to contact him directly if there are future occurrences.
 - EC's proposed legislation regarding academic misconduct was also included in Appendix D of the EC agenda. It reads as follows:
 - 1) We recommend that staff members in the OSA continue to serve as Informal Officers for allegations of academic misconduct.
 - a. Each quarter, the OSA should provide a report to the Academic Policy and Curriculum Committee (APCC) that summarizes the caseload handled and the outcomes of these cases.
 - b. Once a year, the Informal Officer should meet with APCC to discuss the process and most importantly, to collaboratively identify practices and policies that may minimize academic misconduct at UWT in the future.
 - 2) We also recommend that Faculty Assembly and the Chancellor's Office and/or OSA send a memo to all faculty that describes the new policy surrounding the handling of allegations of academic misconduct, and details the manner in which faculty and staff will in the future collaborate on efforts to ensure a culture of high academic and behavioral standards on our campus.
 - Katie reminded the committee that the process for resolving academic misconduct can make use of the University Disciplinary Committee (UDC) in addition to the UWT informal officer; at any point an incident can be turned over to the UDC. The EC selects faculty for the UDC by random draw in the fall to serve for one calendar year; this is a backup that can be relied upon if the informal officer is overwhelmed.

- Ed Mirecki is working on an online submission process for reporting academic misconduct.

The committee did not reach a decision regarding legislation for academic misconduct. Katie will resend her specific proposal for comments and feedback; the committee will revisit the issue in two weeks and hopefully at that point be able to vote on it. She ended the meeting giving thanks to all guests.

Meeting Adjourned 1:54 pm.