To: Executive Council of the Faculty Assembly

From: Rob Crawford

Subject: Annual Report (2011-2012) Faculty Assembly Ad Hoc Committee for The Arthur R. and Anna Mae Paulsen Endowed Visiting Chair in Public Affairs

Date: May 31, 2012

As chair of the FACPEC for 2011-2012, I am submitting the following report in compliance with Section IV of the procedures adopted for the FACPEC.

The most significant achievement this year was the establishment of the FACPEC.

An earlier committee had been established by Vice Chancellor Alan Wood in September 2006 as an advisory committee to the Chancellor. The task of the committee was to establish procedures and make recommendations for speakers for the Arthur Paulsen endowment to the University of Washington, Tacoma. The purpose of the endowment is to bring high quality, public affairs speakers to our campus. The original membership was composed of the Vice Chancellor, staff from Advancement, a representative of the Paulsen family, faculty and at one point a student representative. The primary tasks of the committee were to establish procedures, consult with the Paulsen family about Art’s intentions and hopes for speakers, and to begin exploring possible speakers. After two years, this committee became moribund.

James Carville was chosen, without committee participation, to be the first Paulsen Endowed Visiting Chair in Public Affairs. He gave a talk and met with students in April, 2009.

The committee continued to languish through the spring of 2011. With the appointment of Debra Friedman as Chancellor, this process was reversed. In the summer of 2011, the Chancellor met with Rob Crawford to discuss the history and future of the committee. The agreed-upon recommendation was to establish the committee as an ad hoc committee of the Faculty Assembly.

Discussions occurred between Faculty Assembly leadership and Crawford to that end. Faculty Assembly leadership agreed to the ad hoc committee recommendation. Crawford wrote a draft set of procedures for the prospective committee. After discussion and alterations, the procedures were presented to the Faculty Council at its meeting on 10/11/2011. The procedures were amended and approved and posted to Faculty Assembly Website.

Crawford agreed to chair the committee for 2011-2012. Nominations were solicited for two additional faculty members to participate on the committee. Jill Purdy and Nicole Blair volunteered for the committee and were appointed for three year terms.

In October, 2011, the 2nd Paulson Endowed Visiting Chair in Public Affairs, Seymour Hersh, visited campus. Hersh had been chosen prior to the creation of the new committee. Mr. Hersh
gave a public presentation and gave a lecture in a class. Note that no formal evaluation of the success of the event took place.

It had also been determined prior to the establishment of the ad hoc committee that Mr. Hersh would be the only speaker for the period 2011 (autumn)-2013 (spring). This decision was based on funds available from the Endowment. The next speaker is tentatively scheduled for the autumn of 2013.

Given no pressing need to choose a speaker, the committee met only once (May 21, 2012) for the year. Jill Blair, Rob Crawford, Jill Purdy and Brieanna Jaiteh from the Office of Advancement attended. (Thanks to Jill Purdy for taking minutes.)

Jill Purdy has agreed to become Chair for 2012-2013. The committee recommends her appointment by the Faculty Council. By informal agreement, Nicole Blair offered to chair the following year.

The Faculty Council will also need to solicit nominations to replace Rob Crawford, who served a one year term in order to help with the transition to the new ad hoc committee.

For the coming year, a Paulsen family member should be given the opportunity to participate in the committee; the Chancellor should consider appointing an additional community member; and the ASUWT president should appoint a student representative.

The committee had a lengthy discussion about available funds. Currently, funds are insufficient to fund a quality speaker on an annual basis. Jaiteh estimated that a minimum speaker’s fee would amount to $20,000 plus an additional $5000 for related expenses. It was determined that such an amount would not be available for spring, 2013; thus, the agreement that fall, 2013, would be the best time for scheduling the next speaker.

Finally, the committee agreed that having an annual event would be preferable to one every two years. If sufficient funding from the Paulsen endowment is not available, alternatives should be considered. The committee noted the benefits of a fall speaker. The principal advantage would be to provide a “kick-off” event and theme that could be linked in various ways with students’ intellectual life on campus.