

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TACOMA
Minutes
Faculty Assembly Faculty Affairs (FA)
Tuesday, November 16, 2010
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
CP 103

Attendance: Donald Chinn, Chair; Erin Casey, Erica Cline, Sergio Davalos, Denise Drevdahl, Matthew Weinstein

1. The minutes from October 26, 2010 were approved (with modifications)

2. Faculty survey on research support

There was discussion of the current draft of the research survey to faculty. For example, there is a question in the survey about how long the faculty member has taught at UWT and also how long he or she has taught in any university setting. It was discussed whether years teaching, years doing research, or years in a university setting was the key idea behind the question.

Action: The committee will continue to work on the document via email to shorten it and make it more focused. It will be discussed again at the next meeting.

3. Faculty workload

The committee continued the discussion on faculty workload and what role the committee and Faculty Assembly in general has in encouraging programs to have and implement policies regarding workload (and other policies, too). One line of thought is that the programs should have complete control of their workload. Another line of thought is that since workload issues are ultimately tied to the university's budget, the entire faculty has a responsibility to verify that programs are implementing fair workload policies.

It was suggested that the committee find out from the programs what policies, formal or informal, each program has and what issues (if any) have arisen.

Action: Donald will create a document for the programs that describes the history of the workload issue and the rationale for programs to have clear policies regarding workload.

Action: Donald will consult with Emily Ignacio (chair of the APT committee) on the different roles of the committees on this issue and issues related to the University Handbook (see item #4 below).

4. Update on University Handbook issues

Donald updated the committee on his discussions with Emily Ignacio (chair of the

APT committee). The University Handbook describes documents that are required to be generated for all faculty: assessment of teaching effectiveness, yearly annual report, and the Director's conference with the faculty. These are documents that the APT committee would like to see as part of the tenure materials, but not all candidates have consistent sets of these materials. It is unclear whether it is the APT committee's role and/or the Faculty Affairs committee's role to encourage Directors and programs to execute these procedures.

Action: Donald will consult with Emily on what the roles of the committees are and decide on a course of action.

5. Adjourn: 3:10 p.m.