

**UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TACOMA**  
**Faculty Assembly Faculty Affairs (FA) Minutes**  
Wednesday, January 25, 2012  
8:45-10:00am  
GWP 303

Attendance: Donald Chinn (Chair), Erin Casey, Sergio Davalos, Johann Reusch, and Matthew Weinstein

- 1. The minutes from January 11, 2012 were approved.**
- 2. Continued planning on interviews with UWT researchers**

The committee refined the set of questions developed in the last meeting regarding the pursuit of external funding for faculty interviewees. Casey suggested adding a prompt regarding Program Administrator support of the grant (e.g., how the money is administered at the program level). She also suggested a question to prompt faculty who have been successful at obtaining external grants to explain the trajectory they took to get to the point where they were successful at obtaining external grants.

The committee also continued to edit a message to be sent to all faculty to participate in such an interview. The committee also discussed what kinds of externally funded projects are the subject of this study. There was agreement that externally funded projects with a scholarship component was what we were most interested in for this study.

The committee also felt that investigating other institutions and the way they have organized themselves to support research and/or the pursuit of external funds would complement the results of our interviews.

- 3. Other issues**

There was a continuation of the discussion regarding the purpose of the follow-up study. It was agreed that the role of the Faculty Affairs committee is to fulfill the obligation and responsibility of the faculty (as a representative body of the faculty) towards shared governance.

For this particular issue of external grants, the administration of UW Tacoma has encouraged faculty to increase their activity in externally funded research. There are faculty who engage in externally funded research and faculty who would be more willing and more successful at obtaining external funding under favorable institutional conditions. The committee's role is to better understand what those conditions are. In short, the committee is serving both the interests of the university as a whole but also the scholarly aspirations of individual faculty. Although many of the issues and barriers to increased research productivity were articulated in last year's study, it is also possible that an unexpected result may arise from our investigations.

- 4. The meeting adjourned at 10:00am.**