

**Faculty Assembly Executive Council (EC) Meeting Minutes**  
January 14th, 2015; 12:30-1:25pm; Lucien Boardroom: GWP 320

**Present:** Julia Aguirre, Zhiyan Cao, Charles Costarella, Sergio Davalos, Denise Drevdahl, Michelle Garner, Bryan Goda, Matt Kelley, Bill Kunz, Marcie Lazzari, Nita McKinley, Janie Miller, Lauren Montgomery, Amos Nascimento, Jill Purdy, Haley Skipper, and Huatong Sun

**Absent:** Orlando Baiocchi, Kelly Forrest, Anne Wessells

## A. Consent Agenda

The minutes of the November 21st meeting were accepted with a correction to the date and time.

## B. Discussion Items (in alphabetical order)

### Chair's Report

- i. **AAUP Board Meeting and Open House:** The American Association of University Professors will meet on January 21<sup>st</sup> in the Lucien Boardroom to hold a board meeting from 2:00-3:30 p.m. and an open house 3:30-4:30 p.m. Questions may go to UWT's board member Libi Sundermann.
- ii. **Faculty Salary Policy Proposal:** Jack Lee, Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting Chair, will come to the January 23<sup>rd</sup> Faculty Assembly meeting. Nita emphasized the importance that faculty attend. Senate representatives need to be advised on how to vote because this will affect the Tacoma campus differently than on the other two campuses. The discussion on the 23<sup>rd</sup> will be videotaped. Nita will send information including a proposal website with PowerPoint presentations, and a discussion board.
- iii. **New Chancellor Appointed:** Nita sent Mark Pagano a welcome message on behalf of the faculty.
- iv. **Part-Time Lecturer Celebration:** This winter's quarterly celebration of Part-Time Lecturers will occur on Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, at 12:30-2:00 p.m., in the Part-Time Lecturer Center, Keystone 202. There will be refreshments.

### Teaching Schedule

Nita McKinley stated that after one quarter of the new teaching schedule, it was proposed by a member that EC discuss its impacts. Nita mentioned that faculty would not have a lot of power in setting a new schedule, but they could have opportunity to advise on the matter.

- i. Faculty shared **drawbacks of the new schedule:**
  - Compression of class time has limited time to process, discuss, and conduct field work
  - The 10 minute passing period limits students' time to converse with faculty
  - Faculty activities have changed and it is difficult to schedule meetings within faculty
  - Students with complex lives worry about childcare, commuting, parking, and work arrangements three times a week versus once or twice
  - Students repeatedly miss class on Fridays
  - When topics are profound, it is difficult to have a safe place to discuss potentially upsetting topics
  - Lecturers are assigned three courses three days per week with only ½-hour for lunch
  - Some course work needs to have 2-hour exams to prepare students for professions

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- ii. One member **countered**:
  - UWT's 1-hour-20 minute blocks are 30 minutes longer than the 50-minute blocks of traditional universities. Those universities may not be urban-serving, but are an example.
  - Some students are happy to have three days of lighter exertion so they can work in the afternoon or evening.
  - Some faculty have done hybrid class and meet virtually on Friday and/or ask students to watch a video outside of class time.
- iii. Faculty asked what the **pedagogical reasons** for the change. Nita responded that there is a pedagogical reason for classes like mathematics, to create more practice of skill weekly, but the driving reason was how to better use space.
- iv. Faculty asked **how the two- or three-day schedule was decided**. One member answered that there is documentation from two years ago, for almost a year this idea was introduced to EC, students, and the units. Nita said the past process is not an issue; the feedback heard now and the future outcomes are.
- v. The council discussed **next steps**:
  - Nita asked if there should be a group to generate data. The Faculty Affairs Committee was suggested by council members. Nita suggested asking FAC if they are willing to generate survey questions.
  - Faculty asked to be specific in what data is collected. Faculty said that conducting a survey after only one quarter will result with only negative feedback before kinks are worked out. Faculty said IAS division chairs are already querying and will have an idea for investigation.
  - Marcie Lazzari wondered if this were an issue to raise with the Chancellor. The idea was supported and it was suggested connecting with the student government, who might have more sophisticated data.
  - Nita said to look at the fill rate of Friday classes and specific times.

## VCAA Report

- i. **AACRAO Report**: A drafted action plan was circulated. 1.2 is missing this draft because the consultants' report said, "no matter what the cost is." Campus needs a more meaningful campus-wide note-taking system; better software is being reviewed.  
A council member suggested culturally-appropriate means of reaching students. Bill responded that those kinds of things are not recommended by the consultants and are needed so that faculty are a part of the process.  
Faculty did not see recommendations regarding transfer students. Bill responded that the focus of this report was on the concerns about first-year students' low retention rates.  
Another member asked how President Obama's proposals to have the federal government provide tuition for two-year colleges might affect this report and action plan. Bill responded that that set of news and ideas are so fresh that he does not know the impact yet. Faculty proposed that first-year enrollment would drop.  
Feedback may send feedback to Bill through email.
- ii. **Budget**: process documents are being created on faculty lines so units can start processes by April

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- iii. **Curriculum Development:** The review processes need to be clarified. After meeting with deans and directors, Bill will present a new flow process to APCC. The search for the Director of Curriculum Development continues; the first candidate turned down the opportunity.
- iv. **Distinguished Faculty Awards:** in the last week of February Joe Lawless and Jill Purdy, 2014's Distinguished Community Engagement Award Recipients, will present. Then nominations will be sought for next round.
- v. **Faculty Development:** A UW Seattle Ed.D. graduate student would like to create an internship with surveys and interviews on campus to develop a plan with faculty input. Bill checked with Chris Knaus, Education Professor, to see if there might be a graduate student here, and Chris agreed to move forward with a student from Seattle. Bill asked faculty to nominate and ask others to nominate for the 2015 awards.
- vi. **Faculty Searches:** Social Work and the School of IAS have each successfully completed a search.
- vii. **Lower Division:** Bill will meet with Christine Stevens on Friday. Units and the Undergraduate Education Academic Council (UEAC), alike, are looking at their curriculum and processes to see what works and what does not. There is communication between the School of IAS and the UEAC to coordinate the next phase without duplication.
- viii. **McDonald Smith Building:** Psychology faculty, who are currently in temporary spaces, will be placed in the renovated McDonald Smith Building for fall 2015
- ix. **Student Enrollment:** on the schedule to discuss in the next EC meeting

## For the Good of the Order

None mentioned

## Meeting Adjourned