

I. Legislative Session Update

At the beginning of the faculty Senate Meeting on May 21, we received a report on the legislative session. Two items worth highlighting are:

- Over 30 faculty members from UW provided and are providing expertise in Olympia.
- Higher education is not the bargaining chip in the state budget. The issue is how to generate more revenue.

II. Presidential Report

Interim President Ana Mari Cauce provided a brief report at the beginning of the meeting. Highlights of her presentation are as follows:

- Interest in utilizing faculty and the senate committees, instead of presidentially appointed committees, to get our work done.
- It is not clear when the decision on the budget will occur. If it is not done soon, the raises will be effective in September. If there is no budget, there are other university contingency plans.
- Undergraduate tuition has remained flat. There is concern about graduate tuition going up every year.
- UW is the second major university and first public university to divest from coal.
- There is a new initiative called Transforming Administration Initiatives. The intent is to reduce redundancy in operations instead of constantly raising tuition.

III. Presidential Search Committee Update

Kenyon Chan, Chair of the Presidential Search Committee, provided an overview of the committee's activities and solicited input. He announced the choice of the search firm and explained that it is ultimately the responsibility of the regents to search, identify, and appoint the president. Here are a few items of interest from that presentation and the conversation that followed:

- The selection committee consists of 6 faculty members (last search there were only two).
- There are representations from Bothell and Tacoma (last search none).
- There is a strong internal candidate
- Confidentiality will be central, but the regents have not decided about the level of confidentiality during the last round.

Questions and comments from the floor:

1. How will input be used by the search committee? A system will be set up. Comments and ideas will be collected and considered by the search committee.
2. We're a university that values liberal values and want someone who understands the opportunity of experiencing and practicing our collective beliefs.
3. Why is confidentiality important? An answer was provided.
4. Clearly articulate the role of the president in the community.
5. Outside candidates should be twice as good as the internal candidate
6. The president should know what faculty members do.
7. There is an obvious exhaustion from doing so many searches. Get someone who will be committed to us and understands us.
8. The Foster School representative expressed the following on behalf of their faculty members (as criteria for selecting a president):
 - a. Integrity, transparency, and positive energy
 - b. Committed to community outreach and building relationships
 - c. Strong decision maker
 - d. Champion for innovation and change
9. Faculty members picked by the Regents to serve on the search committee are not necessarily faculty representatives. Why can't faculty rep be from the pool of elected faculty members for faculty governance? Kenyon will convey this sentiment to the regents.
10. The regents should do their due diligence in picking a president for UW.
11. It is important to know how many institutions each candidate has served and how long s/he has stayed at each place.
12. The future president of UW should value diversity.

IV. Athletics Report

The final presentation was from the Faculty Athletic Representative and Director of Athletics.

More information on Senate can be found at UW.edu/faculty/facsen/.

UWT Senators this year are [Libi Sundermann](#), IAS, [Zoe Barsness](#), Business, [Loly Alcaide Ramirez](#), IAS, [Jim Gawel](#), IAS and [Ali Modarres](#), Urban Studies.

This report was prepared by Ali Modarres.