



Faculty Affairs Committee

October 23, 2014, CP 331, 11:00am-12:00pm

Meeting Minutes

Present: Tyler Budge, Katie Haerling (via phone), David Schuessler, Gim Seow, Matthew Weinstein, and Anne Wessells (Chair).

Absent: none

1. Housekeeping

a. Review and Approval of Minutes

A member suggested listing deadlines for the action items in future minutes.

ACTION: Katie Haerling moved to approve the minutes. David Schuessler seconded.

All votes were in favor, with no abstentions, or opposition.

b. Update: EC

Anne asked that members keep constituents aware that

- the VCAA Search Committee has been formed
- Executive Council created 3 taskforces:
 - Campus Fellows for Diversity and Equity in an Urban-Serving Context
 - Teaching Evaluation Campus Fellows
 - Admissions Committee

The committee asked if the VCAA and Chancellor search will be conducted in parallel. Anne answered that the VCAA search committee will select the final 3-4 candidates and the incoming Chancellor will be involved in selecting the finalist.

2. Childcare

a. Action Items: Gim, Tyler, Anne

Gim Seow spoke with Harlan Patterson, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, who reported that 55 childcare spots at the Children's Museum are planned for only students at this time. Tacoma Community College is no longer a part of the partnership. Gim suggested a survey to assess the needs from staff and faculty at this time.

Tyler Budge reported that Angela Wheeler, TCC's Early Learning Center Program Assistant, stated that a center can generate revenue from the 3-4 year olds, lose money taking care of children under 3 years old, and break even caring for the 2-3 year olds. Caring for DSHS-enrolled students' children is a guaranteed remuneration. Anne added it may help meet diversity goals as well. Tyler said that there are 86 children at TCC's ELC, some perhaps are enrolled part-time. TCC has had their center since 1979. There can be accreditation issues if the right wording is



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not used: early childhood development is more easily accepted than daycare or childcare. Tyler plans to meet with Natalie Jolley soon.

Anne is following up with Bonnie Becker to better understand the previous taskforce work, and existing campus commitment. She noted that researching an operational structure that works to offer to administration might be useful.

b. Invitation to Harlan, others to update FAC?

The committee agreed that it would be good to have Harlan update FAC.

3. Growth

a. Web survey results

Anne Wessells reported that there were 91 submissions from faculty.

Teaching Load

The most common response was that faculty regard teaching load as the highest priorities (46%).

Anne said that Bothell has a 5 course norm across campus. In Tacoma this can vary unit-to-unit. Faculty reported that Business has a set load of 5 courses for the initial 2 years for research, and then the load is increased to 6 courses. Faculty commented that teaching load also includes number of students per class. Some universities and/or courses have 25-30 students, but UW Tacoma commonly has 45-50 students per class. That might seem like double the load with only one course.

Step Raises

The second highest priority was in regards to step raises.

Because the Senate is reviewing step raises; at this time, it may not be useful for the committee pursue researching this topic. Faculty shared that since this proposal is coming from the administration within the UW system it might reflect Seattle's issues more than Bothell's or Tacoma's. Anne noted that since the state cannot always provide raises, UW faculty may want a way to require raises, not limited to promotion. Members added that it helps full professors feel that they haven't reached the limit in their career. It helps with retention and attraction of employees. Talent has been poached because UW does not hold competitive pay with the nation. Anne said it is a common price in the medical school and would equalize their privilege. Faculty asked about the cost of the new policy.

Integration of Administration with Core Purpose



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The third most common response also brought significant feedback, for growth in the administration, which can be a sensitive subject for faculty especially those who span the administrative side as well. Faculty added that it was a national issue, not just local. Matthew suggested looking into any formal statement made by American Association of University Professors (AAUP) on what the response has been to this.

b. Feedback from units, others

Faculty asked if Faculty Affairs could make policy. Anne responded that the committee's role is to make recommendations and report to Executive Council where they can ask the faculty campus wide to make policy.

Faculty asked what the survey returned on physical growth of campus. Anne said that it generally ranked low in prioritization, similar to schools and colleges. Faculty guessed that some are tired of talking about it and others rank it as important because it has been something faculty has wrestled with for so long.

Anne also mentioned that unionization ranked low, just above capital campaign, which was lowest. Matthew volunteered to talk to AAUP about that.

4. Tasks/ Next Steps

- Matthew Weinstein to reach out to AAUP on admin growth, faculty unionization for national perspective
- Anne Wessells to coordinate with Gim Seow; invite Harlan to future FAC meeting
- Anne to follow up with Bonnie Becker re: childcare
- Tyler Budge to talk with Natalie Jolly re: childcare
- Katie Haerling to provide overview of faculty survey on growth
- All FAC members to review and discuss survey results and choose issue for 2014-2015 at next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned