



**Minutes**

**Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting**

November 6, 2014 11AM-12PM CP 331

**Present:** *Katie Haerling (via phone), Gim Seow, David Schuessler, Matthew Weinstein, and Anne Wessells*

**Absent:** *Tyler Budge*

**1. Housekeeping**

**a. Review and Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from October 23<sup>rd</sup> were approved.

**b. Update: EC**

Harlan Patterson, Vice Chancellor, Finance & Administration, visited the Executive Council.

- i. Childcare opportunity at the Children's Museum of Tacoma:** Harlan spoke to the slowed timeline due to passing of Debra Friedman, prior UW Tacoma Chancellor, and a death in the family of the Museum's Executive Director, Tanya Andrews. Gim Seow will contact Harlan to see if he can attend a meeting in December to further discuss campus childcare. Matthew Weinstein reported that UW Graduate and Professional Student Senate (held in Seattle) are starting a childcare campaign.
- ii. Budget:** Harlan's report contained a graph showing state support regarding tuition. There is a clear cross over in 2008-2009. Student tuition since has been an increasing exponential curve. The funding model has changed dramatically.
- iii. Resolution:** The Resolution on the Recommendation from the Ad Hoc Task Force on Undergraduate Education was discussed. This group was formed by Interim Chancellor Kenyon Chan to execute the dramatic change on curriculum. New leaders in the administration will need to address this and also take into account the value of faculty governance. EC is voting on this resolution on via catalyst this week.
- iv. Chancellor Search Dates:** It is important to communicate to constituents the upcoming events involved in the Chancellor search
- v. Unionizing:** Matthew reported his meeting with Robert Wood, President of the AAUP-UW Chapter. There is desire within the chapter and they will discuss it in their upcoming retreat. There is a particular interest in Bothell. It may be challenged- the law that units might not be able to organize. SEIU (Service Employees International Union) is also talking with AAUP to organize faculty.

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**2. Childcare: Action Items**

Anne Wessells will connect with Bonnie Becker. Anne asked the committee to look over the taskforce's documents to prepare for meeting with Harlan. The Museum's Executive Director, Tanya Andrews, is still on leave.

**3. Growth**

**a. Identify priority area(s), issues, and approaches**

Katie Haerling reported 91 faculty responded in the catalyst survey in which faculty teaching load and proposed step raises rose to the top of concerns. The committee responded that looking at teaching load campus-wide could put units at odds. One member didn't know why this would have to do with growth. Anne Wessells responded that with a larger course load, it can be harder to engage with more students with more quality. If workload is not decreased, the quality of education could go down. This could be a proactive way to deal with growth. Given the financial model change, and that campus is more research intensive, teaching load would need to support that. Others expressed that concern that teaching load may not be the focus, but rather workload, but teaching would be a part of that. UW Tacoma, service load is important too. Anne said that there has been a drop-off in faculty governance participation. People might feel freed up to invest more in governance if their workload is manageable. This can affect the hiring of the tenure track versus non as well. The committee wondered if there could be larger classrooms for introductory classes to give relief for more units. Anne suggested asking Harlan Patterson in his visit. Workload affects the mentoring role of faculty to students. Faculty discussed that some labor is visible to others; some is voluntary while other facets are required. The committee agreed to broaden the discussion to workload not just teaching load. Anne agreed it was substantial enough to work on all year.

A committee member asked about where the data might come from and what to do with it. A member brought up Boyer's model of scholarship in which there are all kinds of scholarship that should be considered. The committee suggested looking at how UW Bothell and Portland State University handle teaching load and growth.

**b. Determine provisional framework for analysis**

- i. Teaching load:** the pros and cons of reduction; graduate vs undergraduate courses; tenure track vs non
- ii. Informal mentoring and advising**
- iii. Shared governance and service to university and community**



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- iv. **Research:** course releases versus unpaid
- v. **Curriculum and program development** to become independent from Seattle
- vi. **Accreditation and professional preparation:** guiding students into the workforce, institutionalizing within programs, relationship building with off campus entities, including recruiters

**4. Tasks/ Next Steps**

- All FAC members to circulate the framework list to examine faculty workload to constituents and think of how data might be gathered, framed; At the 12/4 meeting, the committee will vote on the 6 ideas.
- All FAC members to look over the taskforce's documents to prepare for meeting with Harlan, 11/20.
- Tyler Budge to report about TCC's Early Learning Center
- Gim Seow to contact Harlan Patterson to attend a meeting to further discuss campus childcare.
- Anne Wessells to follow up with Bonnie Becker