

Faculty Assembly Meeting
November 9, 2006

Faculty in Attendance: Zoe Barsness, Greg Benner, Donald Chinn, Sam Chung, Rob Crawford, Sian Davies-Vollum, Linda Dawson, Tom Diehm, Ehsan Feroz, Laura Feuerborn, Jerry Finn, Jim Gawel, Cheryl Greengrove, Linda Ishem, Mike Kalton, Diane Kinder, Michael Kucher, Karen Landenburger, June Lowenberg, Nita McKinley, Don McLane, George Mobus, Stern Neill, Julie Nicoletta, Jill Purdy, Loly Ramirez, Johann Reusch, Eugene Sivadas, Patricia Spakes, Marcy Stein, Christine Stevens, Tracy Thompson, Carolyn West, Alan Wood, Daniel Zimmerman

Faculty Assembly Assistant: Jamie Kelley

Guests: Jim Coolsen

Marcy Stein called the meeting at 12:50.

The minutes for the meeting of October 11, 2006 were approved.

Announcements/Updates:

Marcy requested more volunteers to put their names forward to serve on the campus Strategic Planning Committee. Jim Coolsen provided information regarding the time commitment for serving on this committee.

Faculty also discussed having food at meetings and ways to pay for it.

Reports:

Faculty Senate

Marcy mentioned that as Chair of Faculty Assembly she attends the Faculty Senate meetings in Seattle. Gail Stygall, Chair of the Faculty Senate, is very supportive of changing the Faculty Code to clarify the status of UWT and UWB as campuses, so that they are not considered in the same category as schools and colleges. The Tri-Campus Council will be initiating the legislation for this change.

Budget

Jill Purdy announced that there are Q & A sessions regarding the budget process. There is also a website providing information regarding the budget process. The deadline for budget requests is November 22, 2006. In February or March budget proposals across the various units on campus will be made public so that everyone has a chance to see what is going on.

Cheryl Greengrove mentioned that the timeline is very tight for submitting budget requests. In order for Cheryl to get feedback from IAS faculty, the November 22, 2006 deadline needs to be moved to early December.

Standing Committees of the Faculty Assembly:

Academic Policy

Mike Kalton announced that the committee did the final review of the Nursing minor on Society and Health. It now goes to the Tri-Campus Council. The other major issue underway concerns student disciplinary measures. The review process for Tacoma students currently includes cases going up to Seattle with outcomes that did not please faculty in Tacoma. Pat Spakes met with Steve Olswang and the head of student affairs in Seattle over the summer to review the Faculty Code regarding student conduct and disciplinary procedures. A significant portion of the code has been revised to shift more of the power for review to the individual campuses. The result is UWT will have a student disciplinary committee made up of faculty and staff. Some actions may bounce up to Seattle regarding heavy-duty cases, such as those regarding suspension or expulsion of a student. The committee in Seattle currently has seven faculty all from Seattle; the make up will change to five faculty from Seattle and one faculty member each from Tacoma and Bothell. The workload appears to be manageable. Tom asked how things will really change if severe cases still go up to Seattle. Mike answered that we will have a faculty rep on the Seattle committee, which will give us a voice.

Curriculum

No report was given.

Faculty Affairs

Johann Reusch gave an update in Cathy Tashiro's absence. Committee members are gathering information regarding teaching course loads across the different academic units and the hours involved vis-à-vis Seattle. Jerry Finn mentioned that if you are going to do that kind of work, then the committee also needs to look at research and publication records, grant monies brought in, and service requirements. Marcy mentioned that the Code does not outline standards for workload, but it does cover equity issues. Marcy also mentioned that the Executive Council will be conducting tutorials with the various standing committees on the Code.

Promotion and Tenure

Eshan stated that the committee discussed the procedures for reviewing files. Eighteen tenure and promotion and promotion files will be coming forward this year. A discussion of procedures will take place after the files have come through.

Faculty Council on Tri-Campus Policy

Zoe reported that the first meeting of the year occurred on October 23, 2006. A positive development is that all three campuses now have administrators as ex-officio members of the council to enhance communication. Much of the meeting was spent on agenda-building for the year. One big task from last year dictated three-campus review of new undergraduate minors, majors, and programs. The Tacoma and Bothell reps tried to make this review as small as stumbling block as possible. The process itself is now being evaluated to see how well it is working. Another development is that the Tacoma and Bothell reps were able to get on the table a discussion of clarifying the roles of the three campuses and their relationship to one another. What multi-campus model should the University of Washington adopt? How can the council make substantive progress toward developing a model? How can the Code be changed to reflect changes regarding the review of curriculum that now takes place on individual campuses? Zoe also discussed the move to change the Code to recognize the autonomy of the Bothell and Tacoma campuses within the University of Washington.

Updates

UWT Bylaws

Hardcopies of the bylaws were distributed.

FA Website Construction

Marcy mentioned that the Faculty Assembly website is currently being revamped. As soon as the new website is up and running, the bylaws, revised handbook, meeting minutes, etc. will be posted.

Handbook

The UWT Faculty Handbook is being updated and will be posted on the website as soon as that task is completed.

New Business

Marcy distributed a sheet listing goals for the Executive Committee for the 2006-07 academic year. She explained that the Executive Council is working on improving communication among the Standing Committees and the Executive Council and with key campus committees, such as Strategic Planning and Budget. By having regular meetings with representatives from the different committees, each committee and the Executive Council will know what is going on. Also, meeting regularly will allow the Executive Council to provide counsel to the Chancellor in an effective and timely manner.

Marcy also mentioned the issue of research support for faculty. Over the past two years, two research task forces have been convened. The first met under Jack Nelson in 2004. The second met in the spring of 2006 under Jim Coolson. The recommendations of both

task forces need to be discussed and addressed. The Faculty Assembly leadership is forming an Ad-hoc Committee on Faculty Research Support made up of members of the two research task forces and the search committee to hire the head of a research support office with representation across the programs. Cheryl suggested putting the reports of the two task forces online and having Sondra Perdue do it, so that all the faculty can see what each task force recommended. Marcy requested volunteers for this ad-hoc committee.

Finally, Marcy discussed the need to create more efficient work procedures for the Executive Council and the Faculty Assembly. How can we get work done if we cannot get a quorum at Faculty Assembly meetings, for example? How can we get enough faculty to come to these meetings? Tom Diehm suggested doing a Catalyst survey to ask faculty why they are not coming. Rob Crawford asked why the UWT faculty cannot constitute itself in the way it wishes. Marcy and Julie Nicoletta said that Donna Kerr said that having faculty excuse themselves to lower the quorum requirement is not code-compliant. June Lowenberg stressed the importance of doing a survey that is carefully designed so that the faculty who have not been attending meetings understand what the question is. Zoe suggested that doing faculty focus groups first might be a way to figure out what some of the problems are.

Marcy adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m.