

Faculty Assembly Minutes

December 2, 2003

12:55-2:10 pm, Keystone Auditorium

1. Mike Kalton, Chair of Faculty Assembly, presented the minutes of October 22, 2003. Jack Nelson, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, sought clarifications about what the previous administration thinking was about the "system". The minutes were approved with some modifications.
2. Jack presented his report. He announced that an e-discussion on research at UWT has been set up. Thus far there were two posts. He encouraged faculty to participate. There will be similar discussions on other topics. For example, a discussion on 4-year model for UWT could be discussed via an e-mail forum.

Jack mentioned that on December 11, 2003 President Lee Huntsman and Provost David Thorud will visit UWT. They are joining the Advisory Board meeting to discuss the transition to a new Chancellor.

He thanked the Faculty Affairs Committee for putting together a the tenure and promotion document.

3. Mike began by reaffirming that the Faculty Assembly as a representative body was resoundingly voted down. Faculty desired a town hall meeting of sorts. Today Mike hoped the meeting will be conducted like a town hall gathering.

He began with a few items for discussion and invited the faculty from the floor to do the same.

He alluded to the role of the faculty in selecting the interim Chancellor. The question was how long would the interim Chancellor serve. Clearly we were in uncharted territory. Do we find someone externally such as emeritus faculty/administrators from Seattle or someone internally from UWT? What are the implications of Jack filling in as the interim Chancellor? Who will take Jack's position?

- a) There were other related questions. Is it easier to find an external person for Vicky Carwein's position (the outgoing Chancellor) or find someone easily at the Vice Chancellor's level?
- b) What is the faculty voice in selecting the new Chancellor? What sort of faculty participation is envisaged for faculty?

It is imperative that the faculty voice its concerns now, before the discussions take place, rather than later.

4. Mike mentioned the significant issue of UWT's R1 status. There is a link at the Faculty Assembly's web site where some of these issues can be discussed. The issue is somewhat complicated as there are some faculty who do not want to be R1 and there are others who do. Some who came wanted to know if we did research and clearly all of us do. So the question is how do we combine aggressive research agenda with other kinds aspirations. The recently released P&T was an excellent document that illustrated the kinds of things faculty do on this campus.

5. The campus is looking to hire a strategic planner. It s an important task. On Thursday, December 4, 2003 from 12:30-2:00 pm, a potential candidate will make his presentation in the Tacoma Room. Mike urged the faculty to participate in this process.
6. Mike opened the floor for further discussion.
7. Janet Primomo recommended that all the P&T documents by Program be placed on the Faculty Assembly's web site. She also asked as to where we were in terms of Appendix B. With respect to P&T, Anthony D'Costa, Vice Chair of Faculty Assembly, said that the FACPAT document was approved with modifications by the faculty. The Faculty Council on Appointments, Promotion and Tenure will oversee the workings of the FACPAT.

June Lowenberg opined that in our attempt to streamline the P&T process at the campus level, some aspects of the process is turning out to be somewhat chaotic. She mentioned that that there was considerable variation in the P&T process in Seattle. Mike Kalton responded that there was neither an intention nor an attempt to modify or unify the P&T document here at UWT. Bob Jackson of Social Work is the Chair of Faculty Council on Appointments, Promotion and Tenure will be working on P&T issues with his colleagues and the Vice Chancellor.

Janet Mobus suggested that the FCAPT, which met a few times in the year, evaluate this P&T document under discussion. Bob Jackson responded saying that the FCAPT will be meeting two more times and will be advising Jack Nelson, VC of Academic Affairs, on four current P&T issues. This committee will be watchful and will provide clarity. The committee expects to come up with an explicit statement regarding P&T.

Divya McMillin wondered if the FACPAT document went through. Mike responded that the Faculty Assembly unanimously accepted the document with the "mentoring" function removed from the charges of the FACPAT.

Jim Gawel recommended that the FCAPT ought to revise the guidelines and provide guidelines to programs. Mike said that mentoring should be done at the program level. The program directors will have to take on this responsibility in working with a mentoring process. Bob's committee has a program representative, who reports back to the program. Thus mentoring ought to be initiated at the program level. Jim felt there are no systematic communication channels. Mike said there are linkages, given the significant overlap among committee members. Belinda Louie pointed out that earlier the FCAPT (in its earlier incarnation) was advising the Vice Chancellor but in the letter of shared governance both the faculty and the VC are together to serve the faculty.

8. Rob Crawford regards the transition associated with the recent resignation and impending departure of Chancellor Vicky Carwein as a source of anxiety among faculty. He felt that faculty voice be heard without disclosing their identity. Mike said that there were going to be two discussions with Provost David Thorud and President Lee Huntsman. There will be an open faculty discussion and with the faculty leadership, particularly the Executive Committee of the Faculty Assembly. The Tri-Campus leadership could be involved as well. Mike felt that these discussions ought to be informative and that faculty input will be critical to the decision-making process. Mike will handle the logistics of obtaining faculty input.

Michael Forman suggested that the faculty leadership discuss more with the faculty about this issue of transition, while Rob highlighted the importance of these conversations. Dave Secord asked what the process was for selecting the new Chancellor. Mike said he will find out from

the administration. Marcy Stein said that the Faculty Council of Tri-Campus Policy could help out. She also felt that faculty views be obtained at the program level through the executive committee. Anthony suggested that a paragraph be written to make it credible.

Mike said he will put this work on fast track as the meeting with Thorud and Huntsman will take place on December 11. He will send out an e-mail to faculty for input and assured that the executive committee will be available to take faculty views in person.

9. Janet Mobus asked if this was a good time to carry out a strategic plan. Mike said that we had discussed this issue before. It would be better to have a identity before the new person comes on board. Jim asked if the selected candidate will be given the Interim Strategic Planning document ahead of time. Mike said he will ask Carol VanNatta.
10. Cathy Tashiro asked what the criteria were for R1 status. Mike said that the definition was based on the Carnegie Research Intensive criteria. At one level it is a three-campus question. It also has to do with self-description, both internally an externally. The recent Washington Institute of Public Policy report pointed out that UWT was the most expensive campus per student. Janet Mobus asked if we were expensive because of our start-up costs. Jack responded saying that was not the reason.

Jack Nelson announced that we could have an open discussion about research on this campus. We are certainly part of an R1 university system but UWT was not an R1 institution. One key question is what research means at UWT. Dave Secord, echoing Steve Olswang's recent briefing, said that we are research- intensive campus because we are part of UW, which is an R1 institution.

Denise Drevdahl said several questions pertaining to research arose and they are also related to the Strategic Plan envisaged in the near future. Jack said that a research committee has been created, which he will make public soon. Mike asked the faculty to check the research bulletin (a link is available from the Faculty Assembly website) and participate in the deliberations. Sam Chung asked if there were different kinds of research-intensive institutions. Jack said there were many kinds of such institutions. However, instead of trying to fit ourselves to a given classification we need to proactively think about own particular situation.

11. Jim Gawel requested a discussion on recent Summer School administrative developments next quarter. He felt that All Directors' meeting minutes are not as detailed and hoped that his request would be met in the future.
12. On the transition question issue, Mike posed several questions:
 - a. When the search will start? Right away or after a new President is installed?
 - b. What kind of interim Chancellor will be sought? Someone who will hold the ship or someone who will be more involved in shaping the campus?
 - c. When do we want to announce the arrival of the Chancellor?

13. The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm.

Submitted By:
 Anthony D'Costa
 Vice Chair, Faculty Assembly