

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TACOMA
FACULTY ASSEMBLY
SHARED GOVERNANCE RETREAT
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2007
UW PACK FOREST
9am-4pm

In Attendance: Elizabeth Alexander, Kathleen Beaudoin, Bonnie Becker, Greg Benner, Erin Casey, Donald Chinn, Erica Cline, Rob Crawford, Denise Drevdahl, Charles Emler, Laura Feuerborn, Jerry Finn, Michael Forman, Kelly Forrest, Sharon Fought, Michelle Garner, Jim Gawel, Cheryl Greengrove, Beth Kalikoff, Mike Kalton, Diane Kinder, Richard Knuth, Bill Kunz, Janice Laakso, Karen Landenberger, June Lowenberg, Ginger MacDonald, Nita McKinley, Don McLane, Divya McMillan, George Mobus, Stern Neill, Julie Nicoletta, Mark Pendras, Janet Primomo, Jennifer Quinn, Dolores Ramirez, Ruth Rea, Johann Reusch, Jose Rios, Peter Selkin, Marcy Stein, Christine Stevens, Ankur Teredesai, Riki Thompson, Matthew Weinstein, Charles Williams, Dan Zimmerman

Assistant to the Faculty Assembly: Jamie Kelley

Guests: Jim Coolsen, Derek Levy, Beth Rushing Pat Spakes, Carol VanNatta, Mike Wark

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 am

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Welcome: Marcy Stein, Chair of Faculty Assembly
2. Pat Spakes, Chancellor
3. Handbook Update: Julie Nicoletta, Vice Chair of Faculty Assembly
4. General Faculty Assembly Business; Marcy Stein
5. Address to the Faculty: Beth Rushing, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
6. General Education: Beth Kalikoff, Mike Kalton, Diane Kinder
7. Panel Discussion of Schools and Colleges: Bill Kunz, Karen Landenburger, Stern Neill, Julie Nicoletta
8. Goal Setting for Standing Committees, 2007-08
9. Adjournment

1. Welcome with Marcy Stein:

Marcy welcomed everyone to Pack Forest and gave an overview of the schedule for the day.

Marcy gave a summary of the work done by Faculty Assembly during the 2006-07 school year.

2. Pat Spakes, Chancellor:

Chancellor Spakes discussed the future of UWT, including freshman retention, on-campus housing, and the enhancement of the “college experience” for students.

Construction began on the new Assembly Hall in August, and is not expected to interfere with classes in Cherry Parkes.

The Joy Building is expected to be ready for use by 2010.

The Master Plan Review Committee will be looking at space for renovation, and classroom and office space will be an issue in the meantime. UWT will be experiencing much space shifting in the next 3-5 years. Jim Coolsen plans to have a draft of the proposal in December.

Cleanup of the contaminated soil under WCG will be underway soon.

Chancellor Spakes discussed the importance of the Schools and Colleges issue, and wanted to clarify that she had no preconceived notions of how the Schools and Colleges should be formed. She emphasized that this is an open discussion, but that faculty need to strongly agree on a model in order for it to go forward. UWT cannot simply keep adding directors as we grow, and new academic programs need to be developed. The directors do need to be involved in the conversation. Chancellor Spakes needs a draft of proposals to take to Seattle and is concerned with what the President and Board of Regents will accept. She does not expect to get more than 3 Schools and Colleges approved, and emphasized the importance of a strong faculty backing at UWT. Rob Crawford asked what compels a move to Schools and Colleges at this time and Chancellor Spakes said that is compelled more by external issues than internal ones. She feels that in terms of national recruitment, UWT will get higher quality responses to searches for Deans rather than Directors. A search will begin soon for a Social Work Director and an interim Director of Education. The Nursing Program will also begin conversations regarding a Director soon. Chancellor Spakes assured the faculty that the conversations with the faculty would be ongoing, and that budget processes for a line allocation would be a consideration.

3. Handbook Update: Julie Nicoletta, Vice Chair of Faculty Assembly:

Julie gave the faculty a Handbook update with a handout. The revisions to the Handbook are being made by Gene Kim and will be posted again for review when he has finished.

4. General Faculty Assembly Business; Marcy Stein:

Marcy introduced the UWT staff invited to the retreat.

June expressed her concern over the lack of Directors at Faculty Assembly meetings and retreats and was wondering how we might effectively

communicate the importance of their presence at meetings. Cheryl said that she would bring up this concern at the next Directors meeting. Marcy mentioned that improved and increased communication is an issue to be addressed this year. The FA and EC meetings are on a rotating schedule this year to accommodate more teaching schedules. Bylaws can be changed with a 2/3rds faculty vote.

5. Address to the Faculty by Beth Rushing, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs:

VCAA Rushing shared her Academic Affairs “to do” list with the faculty.

Academic Affairs will have a strong commitment to shared governance and hopes for better communication and collaboration among faculty, staff and students.

Academic Affairs would like to see the organization of Schools and Colleges, centralized admissions, new programs to include: new minors and new Urban Studies programs, and coordination between Academic Affairs and Student Affairs for student retention.

Appropriate student services are needed on the UWT campus, as well as classrooms that can be expanded.

The budget process will be starting again for next year.

Cedric will be working on building co-curricular student transcripts to include leadership and internships.

George Mobus would like to improve communications about Strategic Planning. This topic was mentioned in the EC Retreat, and it was agreed that Faculty Assembly would have a stronger focus on the Strategic Planning Committee and the Budget Committee. It is a goal of the FA that committee meetings for 2007/08 be useful and productive. The PARC and Academic Policy committees are great models for productive committee work.

Julie inquired about our freshman retention rate, and Beth Rushing indicated that it is at the “lower end of normal” (for comparable universities), at 67%.

The national average is between 70-75%. Much of this can be attributed to the students connection with the faculty and staff.

Marcy mentioned that Faculty Assembly has been working with the Staff Association in regards to the LCVI survey.

6. General Education with Beth Kalikoff, Mike Kalton, and Diane Kinder:

The Academic Policy Committee was largely responsible for Gen.Ed. last year. Mike Kalton would like to find a way to incorporate shared governance into Gen.Ed. this year, if we can determine ways in which to get the various committees involved.

Beth Kalikoff gave the faculty some background info. on UWT's first freshman class. She noted that there was a great deal of anticipation, fear, and apprehension from faculty in regard to the new freshmen. We had 187 students to start, and 150 were still enrolled for Spring Quarter. The top reasons for leaving were: finances, failure, family issues, transfers to other universities, and students seeking a larger range of majors. We had two and a half applications for every admitted freshman last year. We are expected to have between 195-200 students this year. Many students mentioned that UWT doesn't feel like a "real university," due to the lack of student activities and things to do on campus. It was determined that the use of the TLC varies greatly from freshman to upper division usage. Math, reading and writing issues are now campus-wide, however the cohort model for classes is very popular with the students. UWT now faces many issues with Gen.Ed., such as determining who is responsible for admissions and tracking, and developing the appropriate consultative pathways for students. Gen.Ed. is currently an academic program with no specific faculty (there are 2.30 staff members at this time). UWT needs to decide how they want Gen.Ed. to be structured and represented, as well as coming up with a campus organization. Much more advising is needed on campus, as pre-majors need to spend more time with an advisor than those students who have declared a major already. Sharon mentioned that a mentoring program is being started on campus. George suggested determining the desired Gen.Ed. outcomes and working from there. Marcy emphasized that the charge for the Academic Policy Committee is huge, and suggested considering a bylaws change to accommodate the new demands. Mike is adamant about the fact that faculty need to do more than simply acknowledge that the Gen.Ed. structure is inadequate and needs to be changed. The faculty need to act as gatekeepers, to ensure that it is being responsibly financed and supported. George suggested an Ad-hoc committee to assist Academic Policy. If the Ad-hoc committee could determine what areas need policy formation, then the AP committee could act as gatekeepers for policy. Marcy thought it might be a good idea to initiate goals for this in the afternoon breakout sessions.

7. Panel Discussion of Schools and Colleges with Bill Kunz, Karen Landenburger, Stern Neill, and Julie Nicoletta:

Julie put the proposed models up on the screen for everyone to see and discuss. The models have been posted on the website, and an online forum for discussion has been created on Catalyst.

Jim feels that tearing apart existing structures is not in the best interest of UWT at this time. June thinks it has the potential to make the campus more interdisciplinary. Jim questioned the potential issues with P&T in Model B. Stern reiterated that the proposed models merely serve to open dialogue about Schools and Colleges. Janice was curious as to how many more administrative levels this might add. Faculty were asking both what UWT is trying to do, and how best to get there, in regard to Schools and Colleges. Bill mentioned that

the Arizona State University models for S&C were studied by the Ad-hoc committee, and asked the faculty to think about how we could make something like that work within our budget. Karen also emphasized that changing IAS to a School or College wouldn't change IAS itself. Michael Forman liked the idea of adding Schools to improve communication Dean to Dean. Diane thinks that a Schools and Colleges structure would open up areas for more faculty interactions and collaborations. Jim speculated as to how to effectively break barriers down without inadvertently creating more barriers. The way things are currently, UWT cannot grow programs with Directors. Mike and Carol spoke to Schools and Colleges from an Advancement standpoint. They feel it would be very powerful and marketable, and will be promoting whatever model UWT decides on. Jose feels that it is important to ask how each structure fits into the strategic goals of UWT and each existing program. The goals should be taken into consideration when creating the structures. Janet suggested figuring out what works strategically for UWT and thinking creatively. Marcy believes it will be easier to implement shared governance under an S&C structure.

8. Goal Setting for Standing Committees 2007-08:

The committees met in breakout sessions to formulate goals for the 2007-08 school year. These goals will be discussed in the first committee meeting of the year, edited, and forwarded to Jamie to post on the FA website.

9. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.