

Gail Stygall, Chair
University of Washington Faculty Senate
Remarks at April 26, 2007 Faculty Senate

“Good afternoon and welcome to the first Faculty Senate meeting of the Spring Quarter. We have our usual full agenda today, and I want to provide an overview of that agenda.

“Now that the legislature has adjourned we will hear reports from President Emmert and our deputy legislative representative, J.W. Harrington, on how the University fared in the final budget. Ashley Emery, Chair of the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting, will update us on current discussions about the budget here on campus. Faculty salaries, as you know, have been our focus in both the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting and in the Special Committee on Salary Plans. Between the last Senate meeting and this one, the Special Committee on Salary Plans and the Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs both sent forward legislation on salaries to the Senate Executive Committee. As you will see under Item 6 on the agenda, this legislation was brought to the SEC and thoroughly discussed. The legislation added a mandatory merit increase and a permissive compression increase to the *Faculty Code*. These changes were brought in anticipation of a possible weakening of the current 2% policy in Executive Order 64. After a lively discussion between the SEC and President Emmert, we concluded that now was not the best time to consider changes in Executive Order 64. At this point the proposed legislation was tabled until it becomes clearer what, if anything, the Regents want to do with Executive Order 64.

“Today we will have two reports under Requests for Information. One is the annual Intercollegiate Athletic Report from the Faculty Athletic Representative, Pat Dobel, and Todd Turner, Athletic Director. As you may remember, when Pat Dobel took on the task of Faculty Athletic Representative, he promised good communication between the FAR and the Faculty Senate. Today’s report is part of that good communication. Our second report, given by University of Washington Police Chief Vicky Stormo and Vice President for Human Resources Mindy Kornberg is on workplace violence. As the events of last week at Virginia Tech remind us, it is often the faculty who are the first to know of turbulence in our student’ and co-workers’ lives. Vicky and Mindy are providing information to us on what the current University protocols are in violent situations.

"We also will complete the legislative process on two pieces of Class A legislation today. The Tri-Campus legislation, amending the *Code* to recognize current practices at our Bothell and Tacoma campuses is back after the Committee on *Faculty Code* and Regulations and President Emmert reviewed the legislation. We will also vote on the Class A legislation changing how the Secretary of the Faculty is selected. On both of these pieces of legislation, our vote today is up or down, after our first reading and review by the "code cops" and the President. We also have a Class C resolution to present today on the Faculty Senate's support for the students' Husky Tee project.

"Finally, each of you should have picked up a piece of blue paper coming in titled "My Recommendations." As Chair of the Faculty Senate, I am often the point person for making sure that the faculty as a whole are represented on various university and faculty governance committees, beyond the Faculty Councils. Most of these committees meet irregularly or rarely, but the faculty still need to be represented and represented by someone willing to think about the faculty as a whole. Some of the requests I've had this year include a faculty representative to the Investments Board, to the Academic Technology Committee, to the University Disciplinary Committee and Intercollegiate Athletics. In addition, sometimes committees are appointed jointly by the administration and Faculty Senate on current issues, meeting for a short time with a particular goal in mind. Examples of those include the Provost's Committee on Compression and the Provost's Committee on Schools and Colleges Organization. I am coming to you today to ask for your recommendations for faculty members who might ably fill some of these temporary committee and issue assignments. You know who the good citizens are in your departments, schools and colleges. You are yourself a good citizen by your membership in the Faculty Senate. Please take a moment, right now, and jot down a name or two and the interest area and please feel free to add interest areas that you think might be relevant or areas that need attention.

"Thank you."