

Gail Stygall, Chair
University of Washington Faculty Senate
Remarks at November 30, 2006 Faculty Senate

Good afternoon. Welcome to the second Faculty Senate meeting of the 2006-07 academic year. As is often typical in Autumn Quarter Senate meetings, most of our agenda today concerns information items. The first information item is related to a bill that passed the legislature last year on textbook pricing. Legislators were alerted by the students across the state of the rising cost of textbooks. The legislature responded to them with a bill that set out guidelines for the Regents and Trustees of the state universities and their affiliated bookstores to follow in helping keep prices as low as possible. Today, Bryan Pearce from the University Bookstore will talk with us about textbook pricing from the Bookstore's perspective. Our second information item and report will be made by Philip Ballinger, Director of Admissions, providing us with an update on the comprehensive admissions review and its outcomes. Both Bryan and Phil included handouts that were sent out along with the agenda for this meeting.

Although we will not see legislation until the winter quarter, I wanted to alert you that the Faculty Council on Tri-Campus Policy is likely to be the first to present legislation, distinguishing a campus, such as Bothell or Tacoma, from schools and colleges. As the chairs of the Faculty Organizations at each campus serve on the Senate Executive Committee, for Groups 9 and 10, I still think it is important that the Senate itself, be able to recognize the elected faculty leaders of Bothell and Tacoma. So would Steve Collins from UW Bothell and Marcy Stein from UW Tacoma come down and introduce themselves.

The Salary Plan Committee has now met twice and I want to let you know who is serving on that committee, with members from the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting and the Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs. The members are from Senate Planning and Budgeting, Ashley Emery, Dan Luchtel, David Lovell (research faculty, Group 7) and me. The members from Faculty Affairs are Jan Sjàvik, Míceál Vaughan, and Jack Hildebrand (medical school). We are working on background and historical information now and I will report to you periodically as we make progress.

This brings me to my final comment in the introduction. Since our last meeting, we, both the University and the Faculty Senate, have suffered the loss of someone who served the Senate endlessly. Mark McDermott, chair of the Faculty Senate in the academic year 1997-98, died on November 4th. In the obituaries in the two city newspapers, Professor McDermott was praised as a long term mentor to faculty and graduate students in Physics, where he also served as chair of the department. I want to add here that he was that same kind of important mentor to the Faculty Senate and to the chairs who succeeded him. In researching the previous salary studies done by the Senate, what do I find but the most thorough and comprehensive study was chaired by Mark. Nearly every important report in the late 1990's and early 2000's has the imprint of Mark McDermott. He was available for questions and guidance to those involved in shared governance. I include myself in that list of those guided—he advised me while I was the Faculty Legislative Representative and he was on the Nominating Committee that asked me to run. His death is not only a loss to the university community, but also to the Faculty Senate. We will remember him today in the Memorial Resolution.