Report of Faculty Council Activities
Senate Executive Committee
May 4, 2015

Faculty Council on Academic Standards

In addition to normal business reviewing curriculum changes, major topics that FCAS is undertaking are:

Recently adopting 2 new policies that the Council feels should be brought to the attention of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC): a change to the distance-learning (DL) designation and establishment of procedures for the evaluation of new course creations and course modifications.

Faculty Council on Benefits and Retirement

1. Advocate changing increased faculty contributions at age 50 from "opt-in" to "opt-out."
2. Provide through the faculty senate process information to faculty regarding benefits and retirement.

Faculty Council on Multicultural Affairs

FCMA is holding joint meetings with the Faculty Council on Women in Academia to address specific issues that impact faculty demographics, including:

- Tenure demographics
- Lecturers
- Mentoring
- Data
- Faculty salary policy

Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs

FCFA has continued to work on language to revise the Faculty Code regarding the proposed faculty salary policy, with a goal to send to the Senate and the faculty in Autumn Quarter 2015. We have also been examining revisions to Code chapter 26 on Reorganization, Consolidation, and Elimination of Programs, also for 2015-16 Senate consideration.

Faculty Council on Research

The primary focus of the FCR during winter quarter was drafting a Class C Resolution on developing a world class open access repository for peer reviewed scholarly works from the UW faculty staff and students. The FCR worked jointly with the Faculty Council on University Libraries and the Senate Committee on Intellectual Property and Commercialization to put together a resolution that was passed by the Faculty Senate on April 23, 2015. The FCR also discussed with David Eaton, Dean of the UW Graduate School, the problems that small departments and programs are having with continuation of their PhD degree programs. The potential for joint alignment of these departments and programs for mutual admissions and interdisciplinary teaching and research and what financial investments would be needed was considered. The FCR also discussed and voted on waivers on restricted publication for contracts to the APL that have security concerns and for an additional contract from the Medical School for an Alzheimers drug trial. In the future, the FCR will be discussing the barriers to interdisciplinary research imposed by ABB and working on helping the UW research community access the resources that are available to investigators for dealing with compliance with federal, state, and local regulations required for conducting research at the UW.
Faculty Council on Student Affairs

The Faculty Council on Student Affairs (FCSA) is "responsible for all matters of policy relating to non-academic student affairs such as financial aid, housing, regulation of social affairs, eligibility rules, intercollegiate athletics, and general student welfare." (Faculty Code, Sec 42-38.)

The FCSA continues to conduct discussions on issues pertinent to students. The major issues that have come before the Council so far this year are:

- Student Mental Health;
- Diversity;
- Enrollment Management;
- Quality of Student Life;
- Student Athletes;
- Student Financing & Debt.

29 April: The council is currently in the process of reviewing proposed changes to the Student Conduct Code.

Faculty Council on Teaching and Learning

1. Update on FCTL Report on Hybrid Online Learning: On April 4, 2013, former FCTL chair Jan Carlile transmitted to President Young the council's report on hybrid online learning. At its January 9, 2014, the council hosted Jim Gregory, co-chair of the UW Task Force on Online Learning, to learn the scope of its work and its relevance to FCTL's mission. On February 25, 2014, President Young responded to the 2013 FCTL letter (a copy of the letter was forwarded to the Senate leadership and Faculty Secretary). The president thanked FCTL for its efforts, then went on to cite several UW teaching-with-technology success stories. At the same time, the president indicated that he shares FCTL's concerns about maintaining quality and monitoring faculty effort with regard to online teaching and recognized there "is considerably more work to do." In response to FCTL's recommendation for supplemental faculty funding for support of hybrid courses, he indicated that he and the provost are giving it "serious consideration," indicating that such support is central to their vision in the 2Y/2D initiative and in the Center for Teaching and Learning. During winter quarter 2015, council members including chair Jeffrey Wilkes worked collaboratively with members of FCAS to alter the Distance Learning designation and FCAS policy.

2. FCTL continues to address faculty concerns over access to student course evaluations outside UW. In 2012, Nana Lowell (UW-OEA) learned that students from the Information School had provided public access to results of student evaluations of courses they obtained from a web site accessible only to those with a UW NetID. The practice of giving access to these evaluations only to individuals with NetIDs had been put in place based on discussions in the former Faculty Council on Instructional Quality, after consulting the Attorney General's office. This was done because of two concerns, the first being potentially inappropriate use of faculty evaluations by individuals not affiliated with the university, and the second being restrictions on the publication of evaluations of teaching assistants included in the bargaining agreements with their union. An inquiry about this matter was referred to the Attorney General's office for advice, but the AG's office has ignored the request. At its February 2014 members of the FCTL supported adding a disclaimer to the web site for faculty teaching evaluations warning that the information is intended solely for the use of individuals within the University of Washington community and that redistribution to anyone who does not have a current UW NetID is prohibited.

3. FCTL provided advice on a number of teaching and technology issues this year, including the move to paperless online course evaluations (and its possible effect on response rates), use of anti-plagiarism software, transition to the Canvas learning system, possible transition from Tegrity
to Panopto and the possible integration of e-Texts and Catalyst. The council also approved a plan to move snapshots of course evaluation results to the web-based student tool – MyPlan.

**Faculty Council on Tri-Campus Policy**

1. Embarking on a massive effort to review the Tri-campus system and define a vision for how the campuses relate to each other
2. Conducting a review of tri-campus information dissemination and faculty member representation between the three faculty governance structures.
3. Reviewing issues related to student conduct code violations and how they are disseminated and treated if/when student seeks cross-campus enrollment.
4. Examination of processes related to cross-campus degrees/minors and role of UW Curriculum Committee.
5. Coordinated Faculty Senate communication of tri-campus awareness regarding governance, policies, new issues, budget, etc.
6. Budget and legislative representation related to tri-campus strategic planning.
7. Discussion of potential issues related to “UWS/B/T” self-sustaining and distance learning degree programs and cross-campus implications.
8. Examination of variations/changes to faculty handbook that affect UWT/UWB faculty.
9. Cross-campus faculty research activities/opportunities – and an examination of selection processes related to limited submission research applications from the University of Washington.

**Faculty Council on University Facilities and Services**

The Council has reviewed Learning Spaces and Classrooms (UW-IT), Major Project Activity Report, the South Campus Study II, Classroom Security, and the annual UW Transportation Services Update. In addition, the council has drafted a Class C legislation on Childcare, which was approved by both the SEC and Faculty Senate.

**Faculty Council on University Libraries**

The FCUL has met with the FCR to jointly prepare a Class C resolution on Open Access. The resolution was approved by both the SEC and the Faculty Senate.

Additionally, the FCUL has toured the new Odegaard Undergraduate Library (OUGL) hosted by its Director, John Danneker, and reviewed the facilities and many services within that complex. The council has reviewed changes to the Library Loan Code, and expressed interest in bolstering efforts to support open textbooks at the university.

**Faculty Council on Women in Academia**

FCWA is meeting jointly with FCMA; please see updates under FCMA.

Approved council minutes are available online at [http://www.washington.edu/faculty/councils/](http://www.washington.edu/faculty/councils/).