Chair George Dillon called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

Meeting Synopsis:
1. Approval of minutes
2. Chair’s report
   • Progress of cross-campus enrollment Class B amendment to the code
3. Subcommittee reports:
   • SCAP (Johnson)
   • Admissions and Graduation (Cunningham)
4. Old Business (Johnson)
   Resolution for FCAS subcommittee on departmental grade-based graduation requirements
5. New Business
6. Adjournment

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1. Approval of minutes

The minutes were approved as submitted.

2. Chair’s Report

Dillon reported that the Class B legislation to amend the code on cross-campus enrollment was approved at the Senate Executive Committee meeting with little discussion. It will be presented for approval to the Faculty Senate next Thursday.

The Chair also reported that nominations for new council members and Chairs were confirmed at the SEC meeting. He has spoken with the Chair of the Faculty Senate to confirm that John Schaufelberger will be the new chair of FCAS.

Dillon also noted that there is one last FCAS meeting this spring quarter.

3. Subcommittee reports:

   • SCAP (Johnson)
   Council member and SCAP Chair Jay Johnson reported that SCAP reviewed three old business items and one new one. He noted that the new business item from Construction Management (CM-20080409), requesting a revision in the requirements for the major in Construction Management within the Bachelor of Science, is on hold.

   Under old business the request by Communication (COM-20071031) to revise their admission requirements for the major, effectively limiting the number of times a student
could apply for admission, has been put on hold. After finally receiving a response from the Attorney General’s office SCAP is holding approval for justification of the “three consecutive quarter” requirement.

Another piece of old business concerns the request by Biology (BIOL-20071127) to create a new option in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation within the existing Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. Johnson reported that SCAP felt that the department had replied completely to all of the comments from tri-campus review and saw no problems. He made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded, and approved unanimously.

The final piece of old business was the request from the Information School (INFO-20080311) to revise their admissions and program requirements in the Informatics major, adding two options to the major. No comments were submitted in tri-campus review and Johnson recommended its approval. A motion was made and seconded. Council members then approved the request unanimously.

- Admissions and Graduation (Cunningham)

Council member Susanna Cunningham reported that the Admissions and Graduation subcommittee met last Monday and discussed two items. They discussed, but did not decide upon, the university’s position that does not require but allows incoming freshman to send in letters of recommendation with their applications. Cunningham explained that the subcommittee realized that it was a fairness issue. Some students don’t get in while others may be helped by them. She noted that UW technology is not yet capable of tracking these letters and that there are currently other places in the admissions application for personal statements. They will come back to this issue later.

The second issue was informational only. It concerns the Washington State Higher Education Coordinating Board’s (HECB) new minimum College Admission Standards and College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR) for freshman entering Washington State public four-year universities and colleges. Regular guest John Sahr explained that the term “minimum” here means “sufficient” and that the community colleges and four year institutions have differences of opinion on curricular issues. The new standard has been set up as a 5 year pilot program. A discussion followed about math requirements at the UW.

Chair Dillon raised an issue concerning a UW-Bothell student who missed getting on the Dean’s list because he had taken a course as credit/no credit that left him a course short of earning the recognition. He is now requesting that the credit/no credit course is retroactively graded. Dillon asked which subcommittee should look into this and whether it could be settled.

4. Old Business (Johnson)

Resolution for FCAS subcommittee on departmental grade-based graduation requirements
Johnson handed out a copy of a motion to establish an FCAS subcommittee to investigate departmental grade-based graduation requirements. He explained the background of the issue and need that FCAS saw for a more uniform policy across academic units at UW in the use of grade-based graduation requirements. A motion was made to approve the formation of a subcommittee named the Departmental Grade-based Graduations Requirements Subcommittee. The charge of the subcommittee is as follows:

1. document all departmental graduation requirements in existence at the University of Washington,
2. determine the rationale for the approval of these requirements,
3. determine the potential consequences, both positive and negative, of these requirements, and,
4. recommend to FCAS guiding principles to be followed by academic units relative to proposing grade based graduation requirements and criteria to be used by FCAS to approve these requirements.

The motion was seconded. In the discussion that followed it was pointed out that this issue had been reviewed by FCAS 10 years ago. Regular guest Matt Winslow said he would look back at old FCAS minutes to see what was done. It was agreed that the subcommittee’s formation would be in place by fall. The discussion included whether this work could be done by SCAP, or would pose a burden. Council members talked about the importance of setting higher grade-based requirements for entry into particular fields like engineering or business to ensure students can succeed, or at least have enough time to move into another field. They also examined the question of whether this was more of an advising function or an institutional requirement. A call for a vote followed with unanimous approval of the motion.

5. New Business

Regular guest John Sahr brought up an issue he had discussed in the Joint Access Oversight Group (JAOG) concerning the transfer by some community colleges of “prior learning assessment,” or life experiences. Council members discussed the issue, expressing a general lack of enthusiasm for "life experience credit."

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Minutes by Melissa Kane, Faculty Senate, mmkane@u.washington.edu

Present: Faculty: Almgren, Cunningham, Dillon (Chair), Fitzpatrick, Holt, Johnson, Keil
Ex Officio Reps: McManaway, Iseminger, Rocha
Regularly Invited Guest: Sahr, Winslow
Absent: Faculty: Schaufelberger (excused), Stroup (excused)
President’s Designee: Mildon (excused)
Ex Officio Reps: Fugate (excused), Haag Day (excused)
Regularly Invited Guests: Ballinger (excused), Corbett (excused), Wiegand (excused)