Jan Sjåvik called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Meeting Synopsis:
1. Approval of agenda and the minutes of the November 26, 2007 meeting.
2. Announcements.
3. Reorganization, Consolidation & Elimination of Programs (RCEP) discussion (continued).

1. Approval of agenda and minutes.
The agenda and the minutes of November 26, 2007 meeting were approved as corrected.

2. Announcements:
Chair Sjåvik announced the “official” Faculty Senate appointment of the three new faculty members on the Council: Sarah Bryant-Bertail, Christine Di Stefano, and Sandra Phillips – and he welcomed them to full voting membership on the Council.

3. Reorganization, Consolidation, and Elimination of Programs (RCEP).
Vice Provost Cheryl Cameron distributed color-coded copies of the most recent version of the revised RCEP procedures that Micéal Vaughan had prepared since the previous meeting’s input. The discussion included the following topics:

Voting rights of external committee members
A question was raised about whether it made sense for external committee members to have a vote on the college council’s RCEP decision. The external committee is there to make a recommendation to the Dean by way of a written report. The external committee should serve with the college council as ex officio members without vote.

Preamble
Having volunteered to draft a preamble to the procedures, Vice Provost Cameron distributed copies for the Council’s review. After some word-smithing, the following version was set aside for further discussion at a later date:

This section provides a process for collegial dialogue and consultation when budget reductions, resource reallocations, or shifting academic priorities lead to consideration of organizational restructuring. The process provides administrative leaders with counsel from faculty, students, and staff, both internal and external to the unit under review for restructuring, and provides directly and indirectly impacted or interested parties a forum for gathering or contributing information and perspectives. This consultative and collegial process is intended to lead to fully informed decisions regarding program reorganizations, consolidations, and eliminations.

A question was raised about whether another preamble should be written for Section C. Procedures for the Elimination of a College or School.
Certificates
Vice Provost Cameron reported that she had consulted with officials from the Graduate School on this question and was provided with a table: Comparison of Graduate Program Options, Concurrent Degrees, Certificate, and New Degree Programs” which she distributed to Council members. Graduate School certificates are reviewed and approved by the Board of Regents, but not by the HECB. The Council concluded that Graduate School certificates seem to be the equivalent of an interdisciplinary minor. After considerable discussion, the decision was made to remove the draft parenthetical sentence in A2 which provided “(Unless authorized….)”

Changes to next draft
The Council agreed that the following revisions should appear in the next draft:

- The Council’s recommendation (from the previous meeting’s discussion) that the Chair of the Review Committee should be appointed.
- Procedures should specify that information compiled by the first committee should automatically be made available to the second committee.

Procedures for Limited Consolidation or Amalgamation of Colleges and Schools
Vice Provost Cameron distributed a draft of Section D. Procedures for Limited Consolidation or Amalgamation of Colleges and Schools. There was no time for discussion of this draft, but it will be taken up at the next meeting.

Timeline for RCEP legislation
The Chair noted that if proposed changes for RCEP procedures are to be approved this academic year, the Council will need to have a final draft by the second meeting of Winter Quarter. This will need several external reviews, including by the Board of Deans and Chancellors. In preparation for the next meeting, the Chair urged members to study the most current draft.

A motion to adjourn was approved unanimously at 3:37 p.m.

Minutes by Susan Folk
Assistant to the Secretary of the Faculty
slfolk@u.washington.edu

Present:
Regular: Bryant-Bertail, Carline, Christie, Hildebrandt, Ricker, Scheuer, Sjåvik, Vaughan
President’s Designee: Cameron
Ex Officio: Bazarnic

Absent:
Regular: Callis, Di Stefano, Gill, Phillips
Ex Officio: Cook (ALUW) and Hahn (ASUW)