Faculty:
Sara Curran, Jackson School
David Fluharty, Marine Affairs
Mark Haselkorn, Technical Com.
Apurva Jain, Info Systems & Operations Mgt

Ex Officio:
GPSS Representative
David Foster, Retired Faculty
Jim Fridley, Faculty Legislative Rep.
Ryan Schmidt, ASUW Representative

President’s Designee:
Mary Lidstrom, Vice Provost for Research

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 9:32 am.

Miller welcomed everyone to the meeting. The agenda was approved.

2. Approve minutes from October 2009 FCR meeting

The October 14, 2009 minutes were approved as submitted.
3. 2Y2D (2 Years 2 Decades) Discussion with Mary Lidstrom

Lidstrom began the 2Y2D discussion. She noted that state support for the University’s instructional mission is now less than tuition. At the moment, tuition covers 55% of the cost of instruction, while state support covers 45%. In the long term, the percentage of the cost of instruction covered by tuition is expected to increase. Lidstrom emphasized that the University must change the way it funds activities.

Lidstrom has been meeting with a number of her focus groups to explore how changes to the University’s business model will affect the Discovery aspect of the University’s mission. She defined Discovery as research and scholarly activity.

She referred to the four documents previously emailed to the Council: “2y2d Discovery: Basic Principles,” “2y2d Discovery Focus Groups,” “Recruiting and Retaining Faculty: Estimating Impact on UW Strategic Goals and Objectives,” and “UW Vision Statement.” Specifically referring to the UW’s vision statement, she noted that the President has made it clear that we do not need to change our vision and values.

Referring to “2y2d Discovery: Basic Principles,” Lidstrom reviewed the main points of the document, including the importance of maintaining and enhancing our reputation and the difference between Activity Based Budgeting (ABB) and 2Y2D. ABB is a budget model, not an operating model.

Lidstrom then reviewed the questions listed in “2y2d Discovery Focus Groups.” She asked FCR to think about how or whether Discovery should grow in an era of decreasing funds for faculty salaries. Although much of the University’s strength comes from its breadth, the UW may have to contract in the future. Lidstrom asked FCR for input on the criteria that should be used to evaluate departments and activities.

Chair Miller proposed that excellence be the first criteria.

Haselkorn began a discussion on the educational value of research. In his opinion, the instruction graduate students receive when they are working on a research project is undervalued and overlooked. FCR discussed how the time spent teaching graduate students should be recognized. Lidstrom acknowledged that the University’s instructional and discovery missions are inextricably intertwined.

FCR discussed the role of research faculty and whether they are treated differently than tenure-track faculty. Council members discussed related issues, including the administrative cost of research faculty and the fact that indirect cost funding is not sufficient to cover the cost of doing research.

Jain asked about the UW’s future goals regarding international research. He commented that there will be a lot of opportunity in India and China. FCR discussed the UW’s goals in this area and the Global Support Project. Lidstrom asked FCR if we see international research as an important element of where we want to be 20 years from now.

FCR discussed the role of departments in the University and the barriers that sometimes discourage faculty from pursuing interdisciplinary research. Council members discussed a number of ways to increase revenue, including applying for more foundation grants and building indirect costs into foundation grant proposals.

Lidstrom thanked the Council for the discussion. She asked members to think further about these issues and to send her their ideas and feedback. She will return in January or February to share her 2Y2D Discovery recommendations with the Council.
4. New Business: Research Faculty Issues

Lovell provided information on the research faculty experience and some background on the important issues research faculty face. He distributed a handout titled “Research Faculty Issues.”

He reviewed the handout, stating that there are more than 500 ranked faculty at more than 50% UW support who are either research or WOT (without tenure due to source of funding).

Camber informed Lovell that she is working on a policy that will help research faculty with the issues described in “Legal jeopardy for grant-writing” in the handout. David Eaton is leading this effort.

FCR engaged in a wide-ranging discussion on this topic, including research faculty salaries and funding imbalances, faculty who risk losing paid vacation, and cultural issues (whether research faculty are seen as “real” faculty).

Chair Miller thanked Lovell for his presentation.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 am.

Minutes by Kristy Carter, Faculty Senate, kcarter4@u.washington.edu

Present

Faculty: Haselkorn, Jain, Miller (Chair), Vogt, Roesler
President’s Designee: Lidstrom
Ex Officio Reps: Redalje, Schmidt
Guests: Camber, Chronister, Rambo, Lovell

Absent

Faculty: Curran, Wright, Stenkamp, Fluharty, Spieker
Ex Officio Reps: Smith, Le, Fridley, Foster
Regularly Invited Guests: Gullion