The Faculty Council on Student Affairs met at 12:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 13, 2005, in 36 Gerberding Hall. Chair Jeffrey Schwartz presided.

Approval of minutes
The minutes of March 9, 2005 were approved as written.

Comments from FCSA Chair – Jeffrey Schwartz
Neighborhood Update (the neighborhood north of N.E. 45th Street and University Way N.E.)
Schwartz said he sent comments culled from council discussions to Ernest Morris, Vice President for Student Affairs, and was told that Dr. Morris and President Emmert are putting together an open meeting with the neighborhood residents to address the question: “What are the problems?” Schwartz said, however, that many residents in the neighborhood see this as “lip service” and feel that, if the laws and regulations already in existence were enforced, “many of these issues would go away”, or greatly dissipate.

Kravas said, “Hopefully, neighborhood members will appreciate President Emmert being at the open meeting, and see that gesture as a positive step forward on the part of the University.” Schwartz said, “I’ll raise the question as to whether the pertinent information about the open meeting has been disseminated to everyone in the neighborhood.”

ASUW Update: Garret Parks
Night Ride Program
Parks said the Night Ride Program “is up and running”. The feedback on the program has been excellent; students are making good use of the program.

Affordable Tuition Now
Parks said, “Students want to bridge any concerns people have about Affordable Tuition Now (ATN).” (One of the students formerly in charge of ATN has admitted to $5,000 theft from its funds. That student is no longer involved with ATN. Some $40,000 in all may be lost in ATN’s funds.) Parks said this issue will be a major topic at the next ASUW meeting. He said there has been coverage of this misapproporation on all the local networks. There are completely different people running ATN now, and the organization is “a good one”, said Parks.

Parks said Affordable Tuition Now organizes Student Lobby Day – the day on which UW students go to the state legislature to raise issues important to the ASUW – and pays for hundreds of students to attend the event in Olympia. Parks said the ASUW wants to reassure students and to let them know that they should still support ATN. He said an internal audit hopefully will be created within the organization. Kravas asked if other models, outside of the ASUW, have been looked at. Parks replied: “ATN was the reaction to the Washington Student Lobby (WSL), which we didn’t like that well.”

Bridging Gaps Between Students and Student-Athletes
Parks said he will be meeting with Molly Seaman, President, WSAAC (Washington Student-Athlete Advisory Council), and a member of the UW Gymnastics Team – she visited the council on January 12, 2005 – to further discuss efforts to bridge the gap between students and student-athletes at the UW.
Student Elections
Parks said ASUW student elections are currently being promoted, and multiple efforts are under way to enhance student involvement in the election process, both in terms of participation as candidates and in voting turnout.

Student Participation in Meetings in which the Provost Search Committee Interviews Candidates
Parks said nine students have been invited to participate in Provost Search Committee meetings with candidates early in May. “The ASUW is delighted with the number of students being invited to participate”, said Parks. A smaller number had been anticipated.

Washington Weekend (coming next week)
Parks said the ASUW will be actively involved with Washington Weekend, coming next week, in which members from various constituencies in the greater community are invited to visit the campus. He said it is always a great opportunity for students to meet and converse with visitors from a wide spectrum of interests throughout the community.

Senior Sendoff Celebration
Parks said the ASUW is looking into the possibility of a “Senior Sendoff” celebration on the lawn in front of the HUB on Friday, May 20th, from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. (or 8:00 p.m.). He said the event would include a barbecue and a concert, and would celebrate the accomplishments of graduating seniors at the University. The estimated cost of the Senior Sendoff is $6 – $8,000.

“We’re seeking endorsements and contributions from departmental deans,” said Parks. But he added, “We want the option of serving alcohol, which has not been done before for an undergraduate event.” He said it is hoped that alumni and different departments at the University will “get involved” and help bring the idea for the Sendoff to fruition. “The beer garden would be separate from the rest of the venues on the HUB lawn,” said Parks.

Schwartz said, “The alcohol would send the wrong message” [to the rest of the student body, and to the University as a whole]. But Brock felt differently: “I don’t see it as a bad idea,” he asserted, “as long as ID is checked.” Parks said, “Every person has to have an ID check. The beer garden – the area in which the alcohol would be served – would be fenced off.”

Brock noted that serving alcohol “is so much a part of the culture of barbecues and concerts” that to disallow it in this instance would offer further corroboration that “society sometimes seems overly cautious”. Etzkorn observed that “if the drinks were free, that might enhance the danger of students drinking too much”. Kravas said, “It’s a great idea to celebrate seniors’ accomplishments, and getting alumni to participate; but the alcohol is the slippery slope. And the University may have restrictions on the use of alcohol.”

The suggestion was made that, if alcohol is not offered at the event, students may “get wasted” beforehand. Lewis said the presence of alcohol at the Sendoff could present anxiety over “the designated driver issue”. Especially if the event were to be held on campus, she noted, the University would be partly responsible if something unfortunate were to occur.

Pace said, “I don’t think the ASUW should sponsor an event only for seniors. The ASUW is an organization comprised of all students, not just seniors.” Lewis suggested that the Alumni Association could perhaps contribute to the funding for the event. Parks, referring to the Alumni Association, said, “They also have a struggle with the alcohol issue.” Schwartz said, “It would only take one incident to create a problem.”
Parks said, “The final proposal is due on April 20th. I will send an E-mail to the council with specifics, once I have them. We feel that this is an opportunity for seniors to show that we’re ready to be alumni. I think this would be a good thing: to have the option of serving alcohol. We will have the event regardless, if we are able to get the necessary funding.”

Pace said, “I don’t like the rationale [for having the option of serving alcohol]; though the party itself sounds OK.” Parks said, “Around campus there are departmental events including undergraduates at which alcohol is available.” Schwartz observed: “If you were off-campus, it would be different. But you’re on campus, sending the wrong kind of message. You’re right among all the students.” Brock demurred: “I think it’s a chance to send the right message. It’s part of the culture at large [the use of alcohol], and to integrate it into this University culture [in proper proportion] would be a positive message. In society, careful integration of alcohol into societal practices is the normally desired practice.”

Parks said, “Our ASUW president will approach President Emmert when the proposal is done.” Pace said, “Don’t have the ASUW pay for it [Senior Sendoff].” Kravas recommended that, “if alcohol is served at the Sendoff, wine would be a better choice than beer, that sipping a glass of wine would be a much preferred image to drinking beer after beer.” Parks said, however: “We’re trying to have beer to avoid hard alcohol.”

Parks said he would send the draft of the proposal for a Senior Sendoff to the council for further perusal and comments. Lewis confirmed many council members’ opinion when she said: “The basic idea of celebration is excellent.” Asked if anyone other than students would be attending Senior Sendoff, Parks said, “This event would be strictly for students.” He said he would use E-vite to notify students.

Kravas said, “It would be good to not allow only the first 500 students who respond to come to the event.” Parks said, “This is a trial run. Eventually, we could have many more than 500 who are invited. We have, however, a major concern about affording this event. We don’t expect 500 students to actually show up. But we don’t want to have a lot more food and drink on hand than will be eaten and imbibed.”

Golf Range Update [sent by Parks via E-mail on April 13th]

“After speaking with the Director of the IMA, I have an update on the current status of the Golf Driving Range Renovation.

Over the past 20 years, the driving range has generated a net revenue of over $2.5 million, all of which has been re-allocated to various projects at the IMA. This has kept the budget proposals to SAF and our student SAF fees significantly lower than they would be otherwise. That being said, this renovation will at least maintain, and probably will increase, the revenue generated by significant amounts annually.

The concerns of the SAF committee were primarily twofold. The first was the amount of use by students. According to the IMA, golf is one of the three most popular activities that students participate in (cardiovascular exercise and basketball being the other two) Golf is also the #2 activity that students enroll in for instruction. Golf is also the #1 overall instructed activity that the IMA offers.

Furthermore, 34% of the buckets of golf balls sold are sold to students; 12% are sold to faculty, and 6% are sold to alumni. When looking at these numbers, it is quite apparent that more students in aggregate use the driving range than any other recreational activity, with the exception of entering the IMA. Students are also charged less than half the price that the general public is charged for balls, and unless students were to be given the opportunity to hit for no cost, this is the best option.
The second primary concern of SAF was what the proposal entailed and the details of what the $8 million was being spent on. Below is a general timeline and list of projects that will be undertaken during the renovation.

The construction is proposed to begin October 2005 and will last for approximately 10 months. During this time, the entire golf facility will be closed. It is scheduled to reopen in July 2006. The following are some of the new amenities to be offered:

1. A new pro shop will replace the existing structure.
2. All tee boxes will be covered and additional tee boxes will be added.
3. A premium instructional center, with videotaping capabilities, will be available.
4. Resurfacing, including an all-artificial field turf.
5. New target greens will provide a more realistic hitting experience.
6. New and larger putting and chipping areas will be available.

Hopefully this information can answer some if not all of the questions that everyone has. Please feel free to email me at any time and I will further attempt to answer any questions.”

Next meeting
The next FCSA meeting is set for Wednesday, May 11, 2005, at 12:30 p.m., in 36 Gerberding Hall.

Brian Taylor
Recorder

PRESENT: Professors Schwartz (chair), Brock, Fearn-Banks, Pace and Wood;
Ex officio members, Etzkorn (for George Bridges), Kravas, Lewis, Parks and Robenolt.

ABSENT: Professors Almgren, Fridley and Stoelinga;
Ex officio members Gething, Hatlen, McKinstry, Miller-Murray and Morales.