UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
FACULTY COUNCIL ON TRI-CAMPUS POLICY

The Faculty Council on Tri-Campus Policy met at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 31, 2005, in 36 Gerberding Hall. Chair Marcia Killien presided.

PRESENT: Professors Killien (chair), Leppa and Stein; Ex officio members Bellamy, Chen, Jeffords, Laverty and Tenenberg;

ABSENT: Professor Barsness, Behler and Schwartz; Ex officio members Cameron, Emery, Fugate, James, Nelson and Stygall.

Approval of minutes

The minutes of the February 8, 2005 meeting were approved as written. The minutes of the March 8, 2005 meeting were approved by FCTCP Chair Marcia Killien, and vetted by those attending the special meeting on the tri-campus review policy, including Secretary of the Faculty Lea Vaughn.

Status of the Tri-Campus Curriculum Review

Killien said there currently are three proposals undergoing tri-campus curriculum review, two from UW Tacoma (a minor in Applied Computing and a B.A. in Computing and Software Systems) and one from UW Bothell (a minor in Policy Studies). All three proposals are posted via “peer review” on the Faculty Senate Website. Secretary of the Faculty Lea Vaughn notified all faculty and those on the Deans, Directors and Chairs E-mail list of the posting, and of the 30-day comment period, which will end on April 11th.

Killien said she observed three comments on the UW Bothell proposal (the minor in Policy Studies). She found the comments, for the most part, to be substantive and useful. “These are comments that the curriculum committee can take into consideration,” she noted. She was struck by the fact that one could not tell who had submitted the comments, or from which campus the comments had come. “This could be looked into,” she suggested.

Killien said a topic of discussion at the special meeting on March 8th was the notion of anonymous review vs. public review. The open commentary was thought best: the more transparent the process, the better.”

After April 11th, said Killien, the curricular bodies at UW Tacoma and UW Bothell will meet and consider the comments. Asked if the comments are “time-stamped”, Killien said, “No, but the date on which they are made is noted.” Tenenberg said, “If it is discovered that the comments mostly come in quite early in the comment period, consideration could be given to shortening the 30-day time-limit.” The council concurred with Tenenberg. Killien said, “I hope the comments will go through the curricular bodies in a timely fashion, and that we [FCTCP] will get the proposals after they reach the president soon enough to get them through the process this quarter.” And she emphasized that FCTCP hopefully will hear about the discussions that the curricular bodies had on the comments sent to them. She also pointed out that the Executive Order on the review process “may get slightly rewritten”.

Campus updates

Bellamy noted that UW Bothell Chancellor Warren Buck will be stepping down at the end of Spring Quarter. President Emmert visited the campus and held discussions about the transition and about the search for the next UW Bothell chancellor. The search committee was praised as “a model for what we aspire to”. Bellamy said, “The transition is under way.” We expect an acting chancellor to be named by the end of April and to have some time to work alongside Chancellor Buck.

The council discussed pros and cons of making a recommendation to President Emmert about the search process. After discussion it was recommended that a letter be sent on behalf of the council that recommended active faculty involvement in the search process, and searching for candidates who hold a
multi-campus vision, an ability to work effectively in a multi-campus environment, and a deep understanding of issues in a multi-campus setting.

Killien said, “I’ll write the draft and send it to council members for their comments. When it is completed, we will send it to the president and copy Faculty Senate Chair Ross Heath.”

Bellamy noted that, at UW Bothell, “the issues of funding for enrollment and legislation on lower-division authority are crucial. Lower-division authority is moving forward. However, the budget side is unclear at this stage.” Stein said that, at UW Tacoma, “We are looking forward to the new chancellor [Patricia Spakes] taking over.” Tenenberg said, “The by-laws revision will help at UW Tacoma. We’re trying to decentralize on campus, and to have fewer committees. It should help us have a better structure. We will have many new programs, especially new undergraduate programs. Hopefully campus-wide governance will help faculty governance in individual programs. It’s a multi-level affair. FCTCP could help faculty members from UW Tacoma and UW Bothell learn more about faculty governance. We always have trouble staffing our standing committees. And we want to use standing committees whenever possible.”

Stein said, “It is important to remember that at UW Tacoma we mostly have junior faculty. And most junior faculty do not know much about faculty rights, or many aspects of faculty governance.”

FCTCP planning for the 2005-06 academic year

Killien asked the council to suggest agenda items for the 2005-06 academic year. They are as follows:

1) How can FCTCP assist in developing faculty governance at the local level, at all three campuses?

2) FCTCP can produce a clarifying memorandum on the change in the 90-credit transfer credit policy, together with the Faculty Council on Academic Standards (FCAS). This will be discussed, in part, in consideration of the impact on lower-division courses and programs at UW Bothell and, eventually, at UW Tacoma.

3) Governance internships. Possible release from teaching responsibilities to allow for UW Tacoma and UW Bothell faculty to participate in faculty governance internships – in a variety of ways – at UW Seattle. Tenenberg in particular said this “would be very helpful”; others in the council wholeheartedly concurred.

4) Graduate School – Working on FCTCP’s relationship with the Graduate School: further discussions with Graduate School curriculum leaders.

5) Accreditation issues as regards tri-campus relations. Jeffords said that this topic was raised by the accreditation reviewers during their last visit to the campus. She also said that several colleges in UW Seattle have raised the question of accreditation in professional schools. She said campuses eventually will move to separate accreditation. She said, “The council could think through the process of individual accreditations. Is it an issue for chancellors? Or who makes the determination? And in what ways is it different with different disciplines?” Killien said the process of decision-making – at the college and programmatic level, not at the University level – with respect to individual accreditation should be considered. She said it is a matter, in part, of “joint vs. separate” accreditations. She added: “It seems that UW Bothell and UW Tacoma are different enough that one may have individual accreditation, but not the other campus.”

6) Tri-Campus Retreat Follow-Up. Bellamy – who, like everyone else who has discussed the Tri-Campus Retreat, said the two-day event was extremely productive and helpful – said he has not, surprisingly, “been consulted about anything that happened at the retreat. There has been no follow-up.” The council could make a concerted effort to conduct follow-up discussions on issues emphasized at the Retreat.

7) Review of the new tri-campus undergraduate curriculum review process at the conclusion of its first year of implementation (Spring Quarter 2006).
FCTCP membership for the 2005-06 academic year

Killien said, “If any council members know of colleagues who would be good additions to the council, please encourage them to consider joining.” Interested faculty can contact Lea Vaughn (secfac@u.washington.edu) and Marcia Killien (killien@u.washington.edu).

Killien pointed out that two elected members are needed from each campus. Returning members from UW Tacoma include Stein, Barsness and Tenenberg. Leppa is returning from UW Bothell. Another member is needed from that campus. Killien is returning from UW Seattle. Another member is needed from that campus. Stein volunteered to serve as council vice chair in the 2005-06 academic year.

Annual Report

Killien said she will prepare a draft of the 2004-05 FCTCP Annual Report and send it to council members for their comments and suggestions. The Report will focus on the tri-campus undergraduate curriculum review process. (Killien, Leppa and Stein will meet as a subcommittee to review the curriculum process as it has been developed this year, and report to the council at its final 2005-06 meeting on May 26th.)

Next meeting

The final FCTCP meeting for the 2005-06 academic year is set for Thursday, May 26, 2005, at 3:30 p.m., in 36 Gerberding Hall.

Brian Taylor
Recorder