Chair Janet Primomo called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Approval of Minutes from March 6, 2009
2. Senate Executive Committee Updates: Restructuring
3. Report about meeting with the Board of Regents
4. Plan to evaluate undergraduate cross-campus enrollment policy
5. Update from FCTCP Work Group on Tri-Campus Relations update (Alan Wood)

Chair Primomo welcomed special guest Laura Meyer, a third year doctoral student studying educational leadership. Ms. Meyer is the new research assistant this quarter for FCTCP.

Primomo also welcomed Robert Corbett, Coordinator of New Programs, to the council.

Primomo asked to amend the agenda by adding two items, a Tri-Campus Program Review update, and an update on Senate budget news. There was no objection to amending the agenda.

1. Approval of Minutes from March 6, 2009

The minutes from March 6, 2009 were approved with two minor corrections.

2. Senate Executive Committee Updates: Restructuring

Primomo reported that she recently met with the Secretary of the Faculty who explained the need to restructure both the University Faculty Councils and the Faculty Senate because of the current budget crisis. Primomo noted that FCTCP will need to take a hard look at how they operate and how they can save money by streamlining their processes. One of the strategies this quarter was the decision to meet only twice. She asked members to consider whether being a faculty council is the best format for this group, given the number of needed administrators on it. Primomo said there would be no changes for this year, but it will be under review for next year.

Primomo reviewed the current membership and some expected changes in it for next year. She suggested that they reread the Rose Report for the next meeting to see what suggestions Rose had on how to restructure shared governance. Primomo noted that the history of the tri-campus body might be something Laura documents for them. She underscored the importance of this tri-campus body being part of the formal shared governance of the university.

Primomo announced that Steve Collins has agreed to take over next year as FCTCP chair, and she will stay on as vice-chair.
3. Update on Senate budget news

Doug Wadden reported on the legislature’s final budget figure and how it was reported in the newspapers. He explained how the real cut to the UW will be around 11% after factoring in the proposed 14% tuition increase over the next biennium. Wadden described how the budget cuts will impact Bothell and Tacoma campuses, the capital budget, and the UW endowment fund. He noted that the administration has not discussed and will not know the details of how each unit will enact the cuts.

Bruce Balick noted that for the first time the source of revenue from tuition is exceeding that of State funding, which raises questions about the State’s ability to fund the University and the nature of their future relationship. He also reported that the Senate Committee on Planning and Budget asked the Provost to enact the smallest cuts to the instructional units of the university and impose higher cuts to all administrative units. Balick noted the need for a robust strategic plan that will guide them how to grow when times are good and shrink when times are bad.

Primomo pointed to the President’s remark that the University needs to look at different models and how they operate (such as at Michigan and Minnesota), as an appropriate idea to apply to tri-campus relations. She noted that the university will look closely at educational outreach models, an issue raised earlier on the council.

Michael Forman inquired whether the tuition hike was permanent or temporary. Wadden noted that the tuition hike will be permanent. Forman also asked about the effects of a tuition hike on student enrollment, especially at UW-B and UW-T. Wadden described the issue as a “complicated equation” that UW-B and UW-T leadership will need to discuss. He explained the University’s current relationship with the State, described other state university’s business models, and suggested that the current financial model is not sustainable.

4. Plan to evaluate undergraduate cross-campus enrollment policy

Primomo noted that last year the council passed Class B legislation codifying the UW undergraduate cross-campus enrollment policy. She explained that they had agreed to review the policy at the end of two years, and that she would like to make sure that toward the end of next year they have a plan in place to evaluate how it is being carried out and whether it is working for both advisors and students. Forman raised an issue about graduate students at UW-T who might want to take courses at either UW-S or UW-B and how it might be facilitated. Primomo noted that the Graduate School had told the council when they were developing the policy that there was no cross-campus enrollment policy for graduate students. Forman pointed out that unit policies vary widely. Julia Petersen noted her own experience in trying to take courses at UW-T and feeling discouraged from doing so. Petersen also raised an issue concerning undergraduate study abroad students and their ability to access student services at the Seattle campus. Primomo noted that the issue was raised at the last Board of Regents meeting. A discussion began about who might be the department or person to handle the issue and whether or not it was an FCTTCP issue. It was noted that the issue in the 90’s was a financial one because students’ fees paid directly for student services. Each campus has its own service. Balick suggested it belongs to the work
of a sub-committee. Primomo asked for volunteers and student representatives Petersen and Paredes offered to look into the issue. Wadden suggested that they should first contact the Intramural Activities building (IMA) offices to get information and find out how it works. Primomo said she would help Julia and Chris to get an email out to council members to find out who they might contact to find out information and who they may link to in the future. Alan Wood offered an analogy with the UW library service that is freely accessible to students as a model that could be applied to the issue of students accessing the IMA. He felt that it might be possible for student government to find a way to work out an agreement about the funding so that when students pay their UW fees it would allow them access to the full panoply of student services. Forman advised FCTCP to look into graduate student access to cross-campus enrollment.

5. Program Approval Subcommittee update

Primomo reported that the FCTCP subcommittee for new program approval review (Janet Primomo, Steve Collins, and Barbara Endicott-Popovska) recently reviewed two new program requests. The new programs requests were a Bachelor of Arts in Paramedicine and a UW-B degree option in Media and Communication Studies. She noted that the two program requests were forwarded to the Provost’s office and will be listed with all the other new programs reviewed in the final report.

6. Report about meeting with the Board of Regents

Primomo reported that a Tacoma student Regent raised a question at the Regent’s meeting about tri-campus relations. She noted that they were put on the agenda for the Student Affairs subcommittee last Thursday where they heard tri-campus and shared governance issues addressed from a student perspective. Primomo noted that the Regents were pleased with the progress that has been made with coordination across the campuses and cross-campus enrollment. She reported that Wadden spoke about his work-in-progress with the Chancellors at Bothell and Tacoma on a “matrix for responsibility.”

Wadden reported on the accreditation review process and the kind of changes that have been put in place. He explained the complex nature of the new requirements and the short time frame under which they will need to create the necessary documentation. They must have a unified, consolidated accreditation created by spring 2011. Wadden noted that they will eventually move toward independent accreditation processes. Primomo asked about the degree of participation that faculty, staff, and students will have in the discussion in moving toward independent accreditation. Zoe Barsness inquired about the council’s effort to look at how other institutions work. Wadden responded by distinguishing between accreditation and autonomy and pointing out the implications of an independent accreditation. A long discussion began about accreditation and how it’s handled in different units. Wadden responded to a question about the accreditation cycle, describing it in detail, along with the site visits that will be tied to each identifiable programmatic theme. It was suggested that the new R.A. should look into the accreditation process. Primomo noted tri-campus involvement in the mini-site visits last year, and agreed to the usefulness in having Meyer look into the accreditation process, the history, and programs of other multi-campus universities.

7. Update from FCTCP Work Group on Tri-Campus relations (Alan Wood)
Wood acknowledged all the work that Meyer has done and how much of it seems to overlap with the accreditation efforts. He asked if it were possible to get copies of the accreditation standards document. Wadden referred him to the website for the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, version 2, an approximately 18 page document that is currently under review. Wadden asked Meyer to email him for the explanation that accompanies the accreditation standards document.

Primomo asked for a list of UW units other than the accreditation committee that is tasked with tri-campus connections. Members noted the Professional Staff Organization, the Libraries, and the Graduate School. Wadden pointed out that the report will eventually identify groups who share tri-campus concerns.

Wood described Meyer’s work on a six page annotated bibliography. He noted that much of it is from the early ‘90’s, a time period in which there was great interest in coordinating multi-campus universities. Wadden asked if they were focusing on state models rather than institutional models. He advised with the limited time available that they look at systems such as Michigan’s and Minnesota’s to see how they function. Primomo made a list of the categories for such a system to look at as part of the matrix she envisions:

- Context of the system; such as the proximity of one campus to another and how old the systems are
- How tenure and promotion occur
- The size of the institution
- The kind of governing boards
- The campus structures: schools, colleges, departments
- Accreditation, separate or joint
- Faculty Governance

Arizona State was also mentioned as a relevant institution to study. Wadden suggested that they focus upon urban campuses similar to UW rather than rural institutions, which will help to narrow the search. Primomo noted that they will have Meyer’s help until the end of the quarter. She acknowledged that it wasn’t likely that they would have everything done by then but hoped to have some tables, matrices, talking points, annotated bibliographies, and/or a power point presentation. The idea is to eventually present a report to the Senate Executive Committee, and to Bothell and Tacoma Vice-Chancellors and administrators, along with an annotated bibliography.

Wood inquired if there was anything that Meyer could review that would help the accreditation team. It was suggested that much of their needed information would not likely be found online, but that it would be useful for her to look at what’s shared amongst institutions (such as libraries) and what is distinct, capturing only the larger similarities. Wood suggested that the accreditation team should discuss a long term view of how they envision the campuses. He felt that FCTCP could have a similar discussion as part of their wish list for the nature of the campus relationships 10 years from now. A long discussion began about the relationship of the UW-S as a Research I institute and its relationship to UW-B and UW-T, and other institutions in the State. Barsness spoke of looking at the foundational values of an institution that flow from its shared values. It was noted that the tri-campus relationship does not need to be an either-or regarding Research I institute status. The tight geographic boundaries of the campuses with the same demographic groups and constituents suggest another model exists, something like “unity with appendages with a kind of specialization.”

Primomo asked members to send her their thoughts which she will forward to Meyer. She also asked members if the next meeting scheduled for Friday, May 29, 2:00-4:00 p.m. could take place in Seattle, because of heavy traffic conditions in the afternoon.
The meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

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

Present: Faculty: Collins, Wood, Primomo (Chair), Barsness
President's Designee: Wadden, Rushing
Ex Officio Reps: Lord, Paredes, Petersen, West, Weitkamp, Balick, Forman (for Reusch), Jackels

Absent: Faculty: Harrington, Endicott-Popovskiy
President’s Designee: Jeffords
Ex Officio Reps: Fridley