The Faculty Council on Tri-Campus Policy met at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 12, 2004, in 36 Gerberding Hall. Chair Marcia Killien presided.

PRESENT:  Professors Killien (chair), Leppa, Schwartz and Stein;  
Ex officio members Barsness, Emery, James, Laverty and Nelson.

ABSENT:  Professor Behler and Reusch;  
Ex officio members Campbell, Decker, Fugate, Olswang and Stygall.

Synopsis

1. Approval of the minutes of June 1, 2004.
2. Introduction and orientation of members.
3. Goal setting for coming year.

Approval of minutes

The minutes of the June 1, 2004 meeting were approved as written.

Introduction and orientation of members – Marcia Killien, Chair

2004-2005 FCTCP Chair Marcia Killien and new and returning members of the council introduced themselves and mentioned their position, campus, and home department or unit.

Killien pointed out that FCTCP is the newest of the faculty councils, and that its charge is to address policy affecting all three campuses of the University. There are two faculty members from each campus on the council and several ex officio positions, including administrative representatives.

Killien said the council has worked exceptionally hard in the first several years of its existence in fashioning a set of recommendations entitled “Three Campus Undergraduate Curriculum Review Procedures”. A key motive behind the recommendations, she stressed, was to find “areas of common ground” among the three campuses, while allowing for independence and autonomy. The recommendations were sent to the president, as they were a response to an executive order. Current Faculty Senate Chair Ross Heath was involved in the drafting of the recommendations.

FCTCP approves voting status to all non-administrative ex officio members of the council

The council voted unanimously to accord voting status to all non-administrative ex officio members of the council. This includes ex officio members Zoe Barsness, Cynthia Fugate and Christene James, and Kevin Laverty.

Goal setting for the 2004-2005 academic year

Killien noted that last year the council was in “an interesting position” with the formation of the Presidential Tri-Campus Task Force, which will be holding a two-day retreat at the end of October 2004. (2003-04 Faculty Senate Chair Doug Wadden is the chair of the Presidential Task Force.) Ross Heath and former FCTCP Chair Jacqueline Meszaros represented the council on the task force’s steering committee. There were no faculty members from the council on the steering committee last year, however. (Meszaros’s term on the council expired in 2002-2003.)

Killien said the differentiation between the Presidential Tri-Campus Task Force and FCTCP is that the former’s charge is to look at the broader vision and relationship of the three campuses, while the council’s
charge is to focus on current working responsibilities to, and development of, tri-campus policies, particularly from the faculty perspective.

As for the Presidential Tri-Campus Task Force Retreat, FCTCP ex officio member Jack Nelson, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at UW, Tacoma, will be attending, as will regular faculty members Marcy Stein and Ileen Schwartz, and ex officio member Kevin Laverty. All FCTCP voting members were invited to the retreat, which will be held at Salish Lodge. A chief emphasis of discussion at the retreat will be “options and models” for a multi-campus vision. Killien suggested that those from the council who will be attending the retreat should take an FCTCP and faculty perspective to the discussions. Killien said President Emmert is expected to be involved in the retreat.

Updates from FCTCP members

Stein said she elicited faculty responses at UW, Tacoma regarding faculty governance. This is an important issue at that campus, she stressed. Faculty members are grappling with understanding the faculty’s role on campus. They want to know what input they have, and in what instances they have it. There is confusion with respect to program directors, some of whom consider themselves administrators, while others serve more as department chairs who consider their role more as faculty advocate. Stein said the program director is the primary means for faculty to reach administration. “Faculty feel underrepresented,” she noted.

Stein said Interim Chancellor Steven Olswang “wants to strengthen the campus community”, but that needs a healthy campus, and improved faculty communication. Stein said the campus and the faculty “need leadership in this way, and the prevailing structure at UW, Tacoma does not help.” Killien asked if this problem was an internal one. Barsness (from UW, Tacoma herself) said there is something of a “schizophrenic relationship” with UW, Seattle on the part of many faculty and administrators at UW, Tacoma. Sometimes they want to be at arm’s length from UW, Seattle; at other times they want a closer relationship, without feeling a loss of autonomy. Killien said these concerns are of greatest concern to faculty involved with faculty governance. Barsness said this plays out in the context of campus growth, “and where we’re going in the next ten years.”

Asked about the search for a new chancellor at UW, Tacoma, Nelson said each of the five finalists will make a two-day visit to the campus. Nelson said other issues being addressed at UW, Tacoma include: conducting a self-study mandated by House Bill 2707; addressing the 2+2 model; research and cost issues; the possibility of going to four-year institutions; and assessing the mix of courses driven by major and degree requirements. He said the student population at UW, Tacoma is expected to be upwards of 6,000 by 2014. He said the campus has $219 million in capital, and a $54 million increase in its overall budget. A vote on the self-study to be submitted to the HEC Board will be taken on November 19th. The HEC Board will look it over, and the Board of Regents will vote to approve the final document. If approved, it will be submitted in January 2005. There have been campus, faculty, staff and student meetings on the results of the self-study, and there will be two open meetings.

Leppa said UW, Bothell definitely wants to stay affiliated with the University of Washington, no less than UW, Tacoma, regardless of the decision it makes about becoming a four-year institution. There is a new vice chancellor at UW, Bothell, George Thomas Bellamy. Killien recommended asking Bellamy to come to FCTCP. Nelson said UW, Bothell gets 20% of its transfer students from UW, Seattle, whereas UW, Tacoma gets only 2% of its transfer students from the UW. This is a “major difference,” he noted.

Faculty Senate Vice Chair Ashley Emery said that UW, Seattle faculty are almost totally unaware of the other campuses, and that a value of FCTCP meetings can be for UW, Seattle faculty and administrators to find out more about the Tacoma and Bothell campuses. He said that, originally, faculty joining the other campuses were told that research would be far less important in their University work than teaching, but that research now is becoming more significant at the other campuses. “You probably understand us better than we do you,” he said to those representing UW, Tacoma and UW, Bothell.
Killien said, “That’s a focus on FCTCP, a mission of the council, and always has been: to try not to have the University be viewed as two campuses vs. one campus, but as a three-campus University. In my time, there have been pockets of better understanding.” She said she is hearing more three-campus discussions all the time, and has increasingly over the last four years. Many of the discussions are concerned with the changes that have occurred in that time, and that are continuing to occur. Stein said that, with respect to Emery’s comment about faculty at Bothell and Tacoma being told that research would not be an integral part of their work, there actually is much ambiguity in that area. “We weren’t just hired for teaching,” she insisted. “Research was emphasized as well.” Killien said there are somewhat different visions for different people at both campuses.

Laverty said there are a lot of discussions on faculty governance that have come through the Executive Council at UW, Bothell. He also said that a “Master of Arts in Cultural Studies” degree proposal will be submitted by UW, Bothell this academic year. Killien said this will be an interesting test of the council’s recommendations to the President on three campus curriculum review procedures. “We’ll see if it comes to our council.”

Killien said that, at UW, Seattle, the faculty councils and special committees shared their agendas and issues at the initial Senate Executive Committee Meeting. Several councils will be addressing curriculum issues during the academic year. Killien said it is important that FCTCP communicates with other councils when and where there are issues of overlapping interest. Budget naturally will be a very important issue in 2004-05 (with the outcome dependent in part on the 884 Educational Trust Fund). All campuses are going wireless, she noted, though the Bothell and Tacoma campuses already are largely wireless. This will impact finances on all three campuses.

Performance contracts are another key issue this year. It will be important to engage faculty on all campuses, on this issue. Killien said the performance contracts are University-wide, involving all three campuses. The University as a whole has a contract with the legislature. She said there is some fear at the University that if there is a performance standard that your program isn’t meeting, you might be in trouble, and that, because of this, the performance contract could be used in the wrong way. A question is: How can issues surrounding performance contracts best be communicated to faculty at all three campuses? Stein said a question to consider is: What kinds of evidence would be used to arrive at reasonable performance standards? Nelson said, “This is all about money, finally.” Killien stressed that the fallout is: How will it be used?

Killien said it will be interesting to see the influence of President Emmert on tri-campus issues. As for issues that may arise during the academic year, Killien reiterated the following:

1) Performance Contracts and their affect on tri-campus relations;
2) Faculty governance, both within each campus and throughout the University as a whole;
3) House Bill 2707 and its impact on campus relations if campuses move to becoming four-year institutions;
4) The new interdisciplinary arts and culture studies proposal from UW, Bothell, and whether it comes to FCTCP as was recommended in the council’s document: “Three Campus Undergraduate Curriculum Review Procedures”;
5) Budget (and planning) issues;
6) Faculty salaries and the process for adjustments on faculty salaries.

Next meeting

The next FCTCP meeting, on Thursday, November 18, 2004, at 2:30 p.m., in 36 Gerberding Hall, will focus on a report from the Presidential Tri-Campus Task Force Retreat.

Brian Taylor
Recorder