September 16, 2016

Dan Turner,
Chair, Faculty Council on Teaching and Learning

Dear Professor Turner:

The Faculty Council on Teaching & Learning is charged with responsibility “for all matters of policy, both academic and non-academic, relating to improvement of teaching and learning in the university; including distance learning, educational outreach, and summer quarter, and the use of educational technology in instruction” (Faculty Code, Section 42-33). Activities historically performed include addressing a prioritized list of student and faculty-related concerns, inquiries, and interests relating to the effectiveness and overall well-being of pedagogy at the UW, especially by way of inviting key administrators and stakeholders to council meetings for providing supplementary information, and for receiving council and student guidance on the topics at-hand.

Our recommendation is that the council identify 3 specific goals that can be accomplished by the end of the 2016-17 academic year.

The Senate office did a background review to help identify goals for your council. This included review of minutes from last year’s meetings, review of discussions at Faculty Senate meetings, and selected outreach for topics. Recommended goals and / or topics for discussion include:

- Collaborate with FCMA, the Race and Equity Initiative Steering Committee, and the Center for Teaching and Learning to review current teaching and learning initiatives designed to support faculty development in regards to diversity and equity-informed pedagogies. Seek to identify best practices and tools that might be shared, and explore how best to share and support faculty development in these domains. Receive an update on faculty workshops/pilots relating to the topic.
- Continue analyzing potential policy or service changes necessary to help UW-IT support faculty and students, potentially through information technology solutions, new online academic tools, or discontinuation of existing tools and services. Make efforts to ensure timely transitions of pedagogical tools and/or software, and encourage timely awareness of any service changes, also considering tri-campus implementation/awareness.
- Continue oversight of recommended changes to broad UW classroom usage policies by way of receiving periodic updates from the Learning Spaces Governance Committee, headed by faculty member Bruce Balick, and discuss how to communicate changes to broader university community. Evaluate what dashboard or metrics (e.g. types of data) would be beneficial to inform the committee on the effectiveness of policy changes.

Supplementary:

- **Develop and complete a campus Map showing on-site services for faculty (relating to teaching and learning).**

After your first council meeting we will be available to discuss the goals your council identified. Thereafter, we will post your council’s goals on the Faculty Senate Website to communicate the important work you are doing on their behalf.

Sincerely,

Zoe Barsness
Faculty Senate Chair
Associate Professor of Business