

MINUTES – FACULTY SENATE, 13 SEPTEMBER 2004

Present: Senators Barry Anton, Kris Bartanen (Academic Vice-President and Dean of the University), William Beardsley (Chair of the Faculty Senate), Ryan Cunningham (Student Senator), Alyce DeMarais, Houston Dougharty, Interim Dean of Students, Julian Edgoose, Robin Foster, William Haltom, Suzanne Holland, Keith Maxwell, Eric Orlin, Karen A. Porter, David Tinsley

Visitors: Richard Anderson-Connolly, Comparative Sociology, Bill Barry, Associate Dean

Called to order by Senate Chair Beardsley at 4:05 PM

Senator Anton's minutes of May 10, 2004 were approved as submitted.

Announcements:

The Senate thanked Senator Anton for handling the preparation of the plaque for the Walter E. Lowrie Sustained Service Award. Three motions were added to the official minutes: that there be a distinguished service award; that the award be called the Walter E. Lowrie Award for Sustained Service; and that the first award be given to Walter Lowrie in Fall 2004. Dean Bartanen announced that the Dean's Office will fund this award which generated applause from the senators.

M/S/P for receipt of The University Enrichment Committee Report sent by Jeff Matthews.

Dean Bartanen will be taking the Faculty ByLaw amendment to the Board at the October 15 meeting. Once that happens, then Staff Senate Chair Beth Bricker can move forward with the selection process.

Senator Edgoose will research last year's votes for election to the Faculty Salary Committee since one member recently resigned. There is no clear procedure for filling a vacancy. Senator Anton praised the FSC for its work. Senator Orlin noted the lack of an FSC "institutional memory" and suggested that procedures be formalized. Senator Foster noted that the issue had already come up among FSC members to be considered this year.

Special Orders:

Senator Maxwell requested more details about the Medical Benefits consortium. Senator Holland raised concerns about the quality of UPS's Disability Policy and urged re-examination of the policy.

Senator Porter suggested the Senate ask Facility Services to synchronize clocks on campus. Senator Foster indicated that she had made such a request herself to FS a few days earlier.

New Business: Charges to Standing Committees

Curriculum Committee

On behalf of her colleagues, Senator Holland raised the issue of course labels and listings, noting that the current practice thinned out department's offerings and did not well characterize courses on the computer. Bill Barry explained that interdisciplinary programs use interdisciplinary labels unless they have a departmental designation. Chair Beardsley asked if reconsidering labels and listings should be formulated into a charge. Senator Haltom reminded that the issue of labels and listings had been thoroughly discussed and decided upon by the Senate in Spring 2004 and Senator Tinsley pointed out that the Senate's decision followed the Curriculum Committee's thorough debate of the issue. Chair Beardsley said he would consult the Senate minutes.

Senators Foster, Porter, and Tinsley urged that the CC be charged with assessing the effect of freshman courses on sophomore/200 level courses. Bill Barry agreed to take the issue to the Curriculum Committee. The issue is to be added to the second charge.

Senator Holland suggested that the CC be charged with establishing a procedure for following up on proposed issues/charges/raised questions.

Proposed Charges for 2004-5:

1. Continue the on-going business of the Committee including the 5-year reviews for Biology, Environmental Studies, Foreign Language and Literature, Philosophy, Physical Education, Religion, and Women's Studies.
2. Continue implementation of the core assessment process with particular emphasis on assessing the first year seminars and on assessing the effect of freshman courses on sophomore/200 level courses.
3. Establish guidelines to ensure that Connections course proposals will both satisfy the core guidelines as well as have appropriate content.
4. Establish a procedure for following up on proposed issues/charges/raised questions.

M/S/P to assign these charges to the Committee

Diversity Committee: The committee's end-of-the-year report to the Senate proposed six charges.

Proposed Charges for 2004-5:

1. Continue working with the Office of Admission, the Office of Human Resources,

the Office of the Academic Vice President, and other appropriate offices and governing bodies in support of efforts to recruit and retain an increasingly talented and diverse faculty, staff, and student body.

2. Continue working with the Student Diversity Center and the Office of Multicultural Student Services to support the work of Student Diversity Center organizations, Diversity Theme Year, and other existing and emerging organizations and programs.
3. Work with the Office of Human Resources and the Division of Student Affairs to develop and implement additional educational programs promoting awareness of and support for the values articulated in the University Diversity Statement and the proposed Campus Policy Prohibiting Harassment.
4. Work with the Office of Institutional Research to institutionalize the collection of data regarding staff and faculty members' attitudes toward and experiences of diversity as an element of campus climate.
5. Explore the possibility of sending delegates to gather information at one of the several national conferences devoted to diversity issues in higher education or of sponsoring a regional conference dedicated to these issues.
6. Explore the possibility of developing a "Response Team" of students and of faculty and staff members equipped to convene and moderate campus-wide discussions of potentially bias-related incidents at Puget Sound.

M/S/P to accept the Committee's suggestions and return them to the Committee as charges.

Student Life Committee:

Senator Foster asked if the Committee would be working with the Master Planners about parking (#2 of the committee's self-proposed charges). Dean Bartanen noted that the committee is interested in this issue and should be involved and proposed having a liaison between the SLC and the President's master plan group. Senator Tinsley proposed that the parking issue should be publicized to encourage discussion and noted that the Thompson Hall lot especially experiences difficulties.

Proposed Charges for 2004-5:

1. To continue to explore ways to encourage campus conversations aimed at promoting greater responsibility, accountability and civility on campus.
2. Consider alternatives to decrease the number of cars on campus and develop parking management. Create a liaison from the Senate to the implementation group. Publicize the discussion and welcome participation.

3. Consider the recommendations of the Advising Review report and the impact it has on students with disabilities, specific behaviors, or issues relating to academic performance.

M/S/P so charged.

Institutional Review Board

Senator Tinsley raised the issue of frequency of meetings of the IRB. Senator Foster reported that the committee agrees that should meet on an ad hoc basis.

Proposed Charges for 2004-5:

1. Continue to monitor protocols and maintain and manage records for research involving human subjects.
2. Upgrade and refine the IRB Web Page with information appropriate for student and faculty researchers. Make the IACUC more visible on the web page.
3. Develop a system for ensuring timely review of protocols originating during the summer months.
4. Arrange for consultations with a certified Compliance Officer to ensure that the IRB is current with evolving case law and Federal mandates.
5. Include a report from the IACUC subcommittee in the IRB Final Report

M/S/P charges as amended.

Academic Standards

Senators discussed need to reexamine the course schedule and assess its impact, and agreed that the ASC should be asked to reevaluate old business. It was proposed that each committee should be invited by email to propose changes or charges.

Senator Foster said she would reexamine Spring 2004 minutes and will prepare ASC charges for the next meeting of the Senate. Charges for remaining committees will be addressed next time.

New Business:

Senator Holland suggested reexamination of the student evaluation forms. Sarah Sloane and Keith Maxwell did such a study a number of years ago, the latter of whom volunteered to try to locate a copy of the report. Chair Beardsley suggested a form for team-taught courses. Senator Cunningham emphasized the need for student anonymity. Senator Tinsley noted the cyclical nature of such concerns and it was agreed to add reconsideration of teaching evaluations to the agenda.

Senator Holland queried why UPS has a 15-week semester when so many of our peer and target institutions do not and urged a longer fall break. Dean Bartanen reminded that, according to John Finney, the calendar must meet NW accreditation standards. Senator Haltom urged we ask John Finney to distinguish between what UPS must do and what it can do. Chair Beardsley offered to research calendar issues and added them to the agenda.

Then a general discussion ensued about issues of governance at UPS. Several Senators have serious concerns that governance has not been working nearly as well as it could. Concerns and questions raised include Senate representation on the President's Cabinet, chairing of Faculty Meetings, processes by which standing committees are chosen, the confidentiality of ballots, and other topics. Some argued we should reexamine the whole governance structure giving special attention to issues of accountability and transparency.

A "Task Force on Governance" was floated though others noted how it would demand more administrative duty from faculty. Others thought that proposals could be brought and considered in turn. Senator Haltom emphasized that charges must be worthy. Four Senators and present and/or former members of the FAC also noted that too many junior faculty members come up for promotion with too much service and that the FAC could perhaps add to transparency on service as one of its duties this year.

Schedule of Meetings for 2004-05:

September 13
 September 27
 October 11
 November 1
 November 15
 November 29
 December 13

At 4PM in the McCormick Room, Collins Memorial Library.

The meeting adjourned at 5:26 PM.

Dutifully submitted,

Karen A. Porter
 Anthropologist and Scribe of the Day