

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, TACOMA  
FACULTY ASSEMBLY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

October 22, 2008

CP 206C

12:30-1:30 pm

In Attendance: Gregory Benner, Donald Chinn, Marjorie Dobratz, Michael Forman, Janice Laakso, Mark Pendras, Johann Reusch, Vice-Chancellor Beth Rushing (Ex-Officio), Chancellor Patricia Spakes

Absent: Sian Davies-Vollum, Ehsan Feroz

The meeting was called to order at 12:32 p.m.

**Meeting Synopsis:**

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes from May 12, 2008
3. Committees
4. Faculty views on budgetary crisis: philosophy
5. Faculty views on excellence and access
6. Adjournment

**1. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from May 12, 2008 were approved. The minutes from the faculty retreat will be available for discussion at the next meeting.

**3. Academic Affairs Committees: discussion highlights**

Budget: The Executive Council voted in Gregory Benner (Education) to serve on the Budget Committee. Greg will serve a two-year term. He joins Katie Baird.

Scholarships Committee: The Executive Council agreed that Academic programs should be in charge of appointing members for this committee.

Opportunities Committee: The Executive Council agreed that each program should appoint members for this committee.

Spring Celebration Committee: The Executive Council agreed that this is not a governance issue. The Chancellor's office can appoint members for this committee.

Tacoma Arts Committee: The Executive Council agreed that the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor's office can appoint these members. Vice-Chancellor Beth Rushing noted that she is the chair of this committee and they need one faculty member.

Naming Committee: The Executive Council agreed that this is not a shared governance issue. Chancellor Patricia Spakes noted that the process of naming a building involves consultation.

#### **4. Faculty Views on budgetary crisis: philosophy**

Highlights of the discussion included the following points:

There was a discussion about the current economic crisis and the need for the faculty to address a philosophical and empirical stance. Michael Forman stated that there are a couple of questions to consider: At the very least, current economic/ fiscal conditions will require measures of budgetary savings. In addition, Forman stated that the faculty should put forth a set of priorities that addresses terms of budget cuts.

Mark Pendras and Marjorie Dobraz noted that input should come from Faculty Assembly. Dobraz suggested that there should be a set of formalized questions through a Catalyst survey to ensure that absent faculty members have opportunities for expression. Johann Reusch noted there need to be a series of clear statements about, for example, preservation of programs and protection of faculty, and an adjusted strategic plan for student enrollment growth. Forman suggested that the council should bring two to three sets of questions to the next Faculty Assembly meeting.

#### **5. Faculty views on excellence and access**

Highlights of the discussion include the following points:

The Executive Council would like to clarify the faculty stance about the terms Academic Excellence and Access. At the last meeting there was a discussion about adding a statement to bring forth a relatively clear stance. Janice Laasko noted that Access might impact the Seattle campus. Forman noted that faculty may have the most influence when there is a clear statement. Reusch suggested that this could be an opportunity, especially since the Seattle campus has severely limited access, and that academic standards for Tacoma admission could be improved. Forman suggested that questions should be sent to Academic Policy committee. Vice-Chancellor Rushing noted that the set of questions could be sent to Faculty Affairs as well. Greg Benner noted that the Development office could also play a role. Chancellor Spakes noted that the candidates for Vice-Chancellor of Development also could be asked these questions. Vice-Chancellor Rushing added that, if there are specific questions they should be forwarded to her.

#### **6. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:31 p.m.