

University of Puget Sound
Faculty Senate
May 12, 2008

Present: Douglas Cannon (Chair), Hans Ostrom (scribe of the day), Terry Beck, Karen Johnson, Jim McCullough, Rob Hutchinson, Alyce DeMarais, Suzanne Holland, Leslie Saucedo, John Hanson.

Cannon called the meeting order and advised those present that one objective of the meeting was to elect officers for next year. Cannon also said he will delay posting a recent PSC interpretation so that there will be opportunity for the faculty to challenge the interpretation, although (he noted) no one anticipates that a challenge will occur. The interpretation is attached to the minutes of May 5.

Beck raised a question about “streamlined” evaluations, and Cannon reiterated that a faculty-member scheduled for a five-year, full-professor evaluation is eligible for a streamlined review every other time, unless the evaluation could result in dismissal (in which case the previous evaluation would presumably have resulted in “unsatisfactory”). He noted that streamlined evaluations do not apply in cases involving potential reappointment, promotion, tenure, or dismissal.

M/S/P approval of the minutes of May 5, as amended by Leslie Saucedo.

Announcements: John Hanson announced the results of the just-completed election of Faculty Senators. Rob Hutchinson, Kristin Johnson, Lisa Johnson, and Steven Neshyba were elected for three-year terms.

He also reported that the ad hoc committee on elections will report to the Senate in Fall 2008.

Cannon reported that, on behalf of the Faculty Senate, he will deliver a report to the Board of Trustees at its regularly scheduled Spring meeting. Holland requested that Cannon alert the Trustees to the fact that the university does not give healthcare-benefits to colleagues who teach only one semester per year. She asserted that the practice was wrong and should be changed. DeMarais agreed that it would be good to let the Trustees know about the situation, and she noted that the university does provide such colleagues a means by which to purchase their own healthcare-policies. Holland noted that this practice was not a solution to the problem, and DeMarais noted that it was an interim measure. Holland encourage the Faculty Senate to advocate for change.

Hanson and Ostrom asked for clarification, and DeMarais reported that colleagues teaching 3 units or fewer per year were not currently eligible for healthcare benefits, and in response to Ostrom, she noted that about 4 colleagues per year were affected by the policy.

Holland observed that the university has been good about addressing justice-issues, including domestic-partner benefits, and that it should address this issue. She noted that as a visiting professor at Colgate for one semester, she received full benefits, including retirement benefits.

Senators agreed to consider the issue again next year.

Ostrom expressed appreciation for Hanson's service on the Senate, including his work with elections, an ad hoc committee, and *Code and By Laws* changes.

Saucedo suggested that something be done about colleagues who have 30 or more advisees. Such colleagues need more relief from the burden of advising, she argued. Senators concurred that this would be a good topic to consider next year.

The 2007-2008 Senate adjourned, and the 2008-2009 Senate materialized, all in the blink of an eye.

Cannon asked for nominations for Vice Chair and Secretary, and Ostrom nominated Stacy Weiss for Secretary and Robin Foster for Vice Chair. Holland wondered whether elections of officers via email might be preferable, Ostrom observed that email elections were unprecedented, and Holland noted that their being unprecedented didn't mean they weren't worth pursuing. Holland and Hutchinson nominated Beck for Secretary. DeMarais and Hutchinson nominated Holland for Vice Chair. A paper ballot was conducted, with Foster and Holland as candidates for Vice Chair and Weiss and Beck as candidates for Secretary, and the results of the election were as follows:

2008-2009 Vice Chair of Senate: Suzanne Holland

2008-2009 Secretary: Terry Beck.

Cannon noted that, owing to sabbatical leaves, the runners-up in the recent Senate election--Sue Hannaford and Leslie Saucedo--will occupy senate-seats in due course next year.

Cannon asked whether another Senate "retreat," in the form of a discussion followed by supper, might be in order. Holland and Ostrom asserted that the retreat in 2007 was most useful. Cannon mentioned September 4 and September 8 as possible dates for a 2008 retreat but said that he would, with the help of senators, settle on a date later.

M/S/P adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Hans Ostrom