

## UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND FACULTY SENATE

March 1, 2010, 4 pm, Misner Room

Senators present: Fred Hamel, Zaixin Hong, Kris Bartanen, Steven Neshyba, Doug Cannon, James Luu, Dan Miller, Seth Weinberger, Suzanne Holland, Dan Burgard, Rich Anderson-Connolly, Mike Segawa, Kelli Delaney, Lisa Johnson, Bill Barry

Guests: Jack Roundy, Brad Tomhave, Derek Buescher, Sarah Moore

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 pm.

### **Approval of minutes of February 8, 2010**

The Feb 8 minutes were approved with minor corrections.

### **Announcements**

Keith Ward, Rob Hutchinson, and Marc Phillips were unable to attend today's meeting because they were in rehearsals for the Composers Conference, March 5-6.

The Medieval Association of the Pacific Conference is the weekend of March 5-6.

Steven Neshyba and Rich Anderson-Connolly have created a faculty governance discussion board on Moodle. It is found by search for "Faculty Governance" under the course listing. The password is <<pugetsound>>.

Dan Miller, the new ASUPS President, was introduced to the Senate.

The National Undergraduate Bioethics Conference is March 26-27.

### **Special orders**

None

### **Reports of Committee Liaison**

Doug Cannon relayed a report from Keith Ward that the PSC had drawn up questions for former members of the FAC with the aim of exploring the effects of the 2005 decision to permit open files at tenure. PSC will be reporting to the Senate before the end of the semester.

Dan Burgard reported that LMIS continues to discuss adopting a print management system. Test printers will be set up in the library and possibly elsewhere on campus to gather data on frequency of use of University printers. It is expected that at some point a page limit for student use of University printers will be established. Seth Weinberger requested that the faculty be informed about the page limit so that adjustments to syllabi and online assignments can be made, and Zaixin Hong urged faculty and students by printing on both sides of the page.

Rich Anderson-Connolly reported that Institutional Research will be supporting the IEC with the pre-departure and post-arrival study abroad surveys.

Seth Weinberger reported that the ASC declined to act on changing final exams. The ASC has moved deadlines for finishing “Incompletes” to the first Friday of the next regular semester.

Sarah Moore reported that the UEC was reviewing spending caps in subcategories in the area of faculty travel.

### **Information concerning spring governance elections**

Cannon noted upcoming faculty elections, including three Senate positions, Senate Chair, and (possibly) one Faculty Salary Committee position. There are no vacancies on the Faculty Advancement Committee.

Anderson-Connolly reminded Senators to participate in the test of the new online election system, urging Senators in this phase to try to hack the system.

Dan Miller was selected as Election Officer, in accord with the Procedures and Guidelines relating to faculty elections.

### **Report on organization of Ad Hoc Committee on Childcare**

Cannon reported that Julian Edgoose will be the convener of the committee and Rob Hutchinson will be the liaison to the Faculty Senate. The committee will review past discussions of this issue and begin to take steps to meet the needs of childcare on campus.

The membership of the committee: Allison Cannady-Smith (Alumni & Parent Relations), Jennifer Barlow (Accounting & Budget Services), Kathleen Campbell (Office of the Registrar), Julian Edgoose (Education), Tomi Johnson (Student), Julia Looper (Physical Therapy), Leslie Saucedo (Biology), Heidi Wasem (Technology Services), and Kira Wilpone-Jordan (Student).

### **Interpretation of Bylaws: how to withdraw a pending amendment**

Moved (Weinberger) and seconded: **In the case of an amendment to the Bylaws that has not yet been approved by the Board of Trustees, the Faculty Senate interprets the Bylaws as follows. If subsequent to the adoption of an amendment, but prior to approval by the Board, the Faculty adopts by the required three-quarter vote an amendment superceding the earlier amendment, the effect will be to withdraw the earlier amendment, but only on the condition that the intention to withdraw the earlier amendment is explicit in the motion before the faculty to adopt the superceding amendment.**

Cannon explained that this motion addresses faculty concerns voiced in the February 22 faculty meeting about the status of the faculty’s Spring 2009 amendment to Bylaws relating to the Diversity Committee. Specifically, if the Faculty should now pass another

revision of the Bylaws, what is to become of the prior amendment? The aim of the current motion before the Senate was to ensure that the prior amendment (Spring 2009) was withdrawn. Cannon noted that some faculty urged that this amendment or other discussion around the revision of the Diversity Bylaws in no way set a precedent for future negotiation with the Board of Trustees around revision of the Faculty Bylaws.

The motion passed.

**Course eligibility for Pass/Fail grading**

Cannon reminded the Senate that the ASC had approved before winter break a revision of pass/fail policy that limited the pass/fail option only to juniors and seniors and only to courses taken outside the department of the major. The policy will have no effect on courses for which the only grading option is pass/fail. Cannon noted that the ASC decision will go into effect if the Senate should fail to act on it specifically.

Moved (Barry) and seconded to forward the ASC revision of the pass/fail policy to the faculty for discussion and final approval. The motion failed.

In the absence of another motion addressing the ASC action, Cannon asserted that the ASC's change in pass/fail policy would go into effect.

Anderson-Connolly moved and seconded: To forward to the full faculty with a recommendation to pass the following motion: **Students must obtain permission of instructor in order to enroll a course with a pass/fail grade.**

Anderson-Connolly noted that students who elect pass/fail option can sometimes prove a drag on the class as they are not fully invested in the coursework. Holland noted that an added benefit of the motion would be instructor knowledge of who was taking the course pass/fail. She noted that she agonizes over assigning grades and finds it particularly frustrating when her final grade decision for a pass/fail student might not matter. Luu worried that if faculty know who is taking the course pass fail, they might not be fully invested in evaluating student coursework.

The meeting was extended by 10 minutes, but with still no resolution of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at about 5:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Barry  
Scribe of the Meeting

Richard Anderson-Connolly  
Faculty Senate Secretary