

**Academic Assembly
February 8, 2010**

MINUTES

Present: John Strait, Chuck Lawrence, Jacquelyn Miller, David Neel, Flora Wilson Bridges, John Weaver, Randy Horton, Karen Feldt, Jen Sorensen, Nina Valerio, Jean Tang, Sonora Jha, Jason Wirth, Paul Fontana, David Arnesen, Mary Graham, Kristen Shuyler, Tracey Pepper, McKenzie Weber, Chips Chipalkatti, Katherine Raichle, Isiaah Crawford.

Guests: Ted Fortier, College of Arts & Sciences

Minutes taken by Kristen Heinemeyer

- Election
 - FHRC Representative
- Ombudsperson
- Revision of Learning Outcomes

1) Welcome

2) Review of Minutes

Action Item: Present Assembly members unanimously approved minutes from January 11th and January 25th meetings.

3) Faculty Handbook Representative Nominations & Elections

Action Item: Present Assembly members unanimously approved Xusheng Chen, College of Science & Engineering, as the Academic Assembly nominated representative for Faculty Handbook Representative.

4) Ombudsperson

- a) Ted Fortier joined the Assembly to help in the discussion of the position of the Ombudsperson and how this position came to be. He was the Academic Assembly President at the time of the original conversations.
- b) Discussion was had, topics and questions include:
 - i) Last final discussion of Ombudsperson listed in October 30, 2006 Academic Assembly minutes.
 - ii) Seattle University wanted something/-one to anonymously reflect on issues, and to find resolution in conflicts.
 - iii) How would an Ombudsperson work well at SU? What does this office have to offer for SU that EthicsPoint and/or the grievance committee doesn't?

- (1) the need for an anonymous sounding board, could provide advice, act as a mediator in conflict, would not replace existing structure
- iv) Consider the cost of this office, full-time versus half-time
- v) What is the demand for this service?
- vi) What about the steps currently in place? How can we use the current structure?
- vii) How/Why is this associate with Academic Affairs if it would be more than just a faculty service, extending to staff and/or students?
 - (1) Has this been discussed with the staff? or students?
- viii) This position/office would work within the current policies and procedures that are in place at SU.
- ix) Developing structures and resources at the start of a faculty member's career so that they can be successful.

Action Item: At the next Assembly meeting, this will be on the agenda to further discuss and determine, 1) leave the approval from 2006 as it stands, 2) reopen, discuss and revise the Assembly's proposal for this position, or 3) reject the proposal.

5) Revision of Learning Outcomes

- a) The revision has been recommended by multiple committees to the University Assessment Committee (UAC).
- b) The UAC consists of the broader university community, including Academics, Student Development, and Mission & Ministry.
- c) This revision process was on pause in 2008 for the development of the Academic Strategic Action Plan, but has been asked to start back up.
- d) Currently, the UAC is setting up and will be conducting forums during the month of February.

6) Updates, Announcements, Etc.

- a) Faculty Brown Bag, February 16th, Casey Commons (beverages and cookies provided)
- b) Bookstore Report, sent an e-mail to SU community January 29th.
- c) Faculty Technology Committee, looking at the transfer from Angel to Blackboard, are there alternatives to Blackboard, concerns?

Action Item: Assembly to invite Bob Dullea and Joanne Hughes Clark to future meeting to discuss the Angel concerns.