

Executive Council Meeting

April 29, 2009, 1:00 pm, UW2 327

Present: Chuck Jackels, EC Chair, Dan Jaffe, Pam Joseph, Bruce Kochis, Pete Nye and Suzanne Sikma

Absent: Kelvin Sung

Guests: Colin Danby, Hung Dang and Jill Orcutt

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Review of EC Minutes of April 15, 2009

The EC minutes of April 15, 2009 were approved with amendment with a vote of 5 yes and 1 abstain.

Report of GFO Officers

A. GFO Chair - Dan Jaffe

Dan announced the GFO meeting today at 3:30pm. Bruce Kochis made a recommendation for a discussion/blog site for general faculty comment, feedback or input. Dan suggested adding it to the GFO Blackboard site. He will open discussion at the meeting on this item and general topics.

Dan updated the EC on the UW budget. The 2009-11 Legislative budget has been finalized, state funding for the UW was cut by 25%, with a authorized tuition increase of 14% which should ameliorate some of the impact of the cut. The UW now receives more revenue from tuition than state support. UWB will implement 6 - 9% cuts this biennium within academic units with slightly higher cuts in administrative units. On a very positive note, UWB received \$5 million for the design of its third building, UW3 out of the capital budget. This significant gain of funding for UWB will allow the campus to continue its positive enrollment growth. Dan thanked UWB administrators, faculty and students for effective lobbying in Olympia and recognized the faculty initiative in this regard. He also acknowledged the support of legislative representatives Mark Ericks, Al O'brien and Senator Rosemary McAuliffe. Bruce Kochis announced the creation of a UW Human Rights Center passed by the Legislature and Suzanne Sikma added that the Nursing Program received \$300,000 in Federal funding.

Dan shared information about enrollment at UWB. Our enrollment and transfer applications are up, although transfer admits are down. This is due to processing timelines in the programs and does not reflect negatively overall.

B. GFO Vice Chair - Chuck Jackels

Chuck reported on the FCTCP meeting he attended, budget cuts across the UW are impacting the UW Faculty Senate, the Senate councils are considering a re-structure with fewer meetings. A sub-task force,

on which Alan Wood serves is working on tri-campus relationship issues. There is one opening for a UWB representative on the FCTCP.

Regional accreditation assessment is changing from 10-year review to 7-year review cycles, with intermediate reports on operational themes issued throughout the 7-year process.

Reports from Program Representatives. None.

Reports of Standing Councils/Committees. None.

Special Report None

Special Report

A. Report/discussion of the conditional admission of students with high school foreign language deficits (*Jill Orcutt*)

EC previously passed a conditional admission policy to adjust the foreign language admission requirement so that students who did not meet the requirement at the time of admission could be conditionally admitted and complete the requirement in a designated timeframe. Jill reported on the status of the policy: it is a viable option for students that are academically prepared but do not have the foreign language requirement at the time of admission. Jill provided detailed information on the students admitted under this policy this academic year and their success at satisfying the admission condition. The concern was raised that once students who are deficient in foreign language are admitted to programs, tracking of this requirement falls on program advisors. Jill stated that registration holds are put in place on these students to track their progress in fulfilling the requirement. Generally, the program was viewed by the EC as functioning satisfactorily. The EC asked for a report again next year on the total number of students that are deficient and the number that complete the requirement within the designated timeframe. The present report will also be disseminated to the CCASC. No further EC action is required at this time, and the current policy will continue .

New Business

A. Revision of TOEFL score admission policy for international students. Proposal from Director Admissions for discussion and possible action. (Jill Orcutt and Hung Dang will be invited to answer questions).

The current policy for international students applying to UWB requires international students to have a TOEFL score of 580 (written), 237 (computer), or 70 (internet) or an IELTS score of 7.. The revised TOEFL score admission policy would require the student to meet the University's minimum requirement for admissions in any of the following ways:

- Adequate scores as above on the TOEFL or IELTS exams

- Completing UW Seattle's English Language Program with grade of 80% or greater.
- Completing the Direct Transfer Agreement/Associate of Arts Degree with a minimum grade of 3.0 in two English composition courses from a community college in Washington State with a minimum of a 2.75 cumulative gpa.
- Have achieved academic success in English writing or literature courses and have a minimum SAT critical reading score of 500 or an ACT English score of 22.

Jill indicated that the new policy would broaden the applicant pool of eligible international students for admission to UWB by expanding the options for students to meet English proficiency requirements. In discussion, members of the EC requested more information on the current situation and the number of students this policy affects before there is a decision to act on this. It was also requested that some of the criteria in the last option above be made more specific. A revised proposal will be considered at a future meeting.

B. Proposal for new BA degree in InterArts. *First reading for discussion.* (Colin Danby and Jeanne Heuving will be invited to answer questions).

Jeanne Heuving introduced the proposal for a BA in Interdisciplinary Arts (InterArts) to the EC. InterArts is currently an option within IAS, and it is now proposed to make it a BA degree. The arts and practices of arts-making form the basis of the IAS major, emphasizing artistic practice, while addressing the history and philosophy of the larger fields of visual, literary and performance studies.

In discussion a revision was requested to clarify credit allocation across the curriculum. A second reading with possible action will be scheduled in the future.

C. Proposal for a new BA degree in Environmental Studies. *First reading for discussion.* (Colin Danby and David Stokes will be invited to answer questions).

David Stokes submitted the proposal for a BA degree in Environmental Studies to the EC. Environmental Studies is currently an option within IAS, it is now proposed to make it a BA degree. This degree will provide a broad coverage of diverse knowledge areas foundational to environmental studies across natural science, social science, the arts and humanities. This is a high demand area and degree; it builds upon the interdisciplinary strengths of UWB and responds to the campus initiatives to develop science.

In discussion, EC members asked for clarification of upper division course requirements and a correction to the Introduction stating that IAS forms the arts and science core of a growing campus, as the Science and Technology program also houses science degree programs. A second reading with possible action will be scheduled in the future.

**The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm
Minutes submitted by Barbara Van Sant
Next EC meeting will be May 13, 2009**

Announcements;

Next Meeting: May 13, 2009, 1-3:00 PM. Possible items: Discussion with Chancellor; Ed program report; 2nd reading on one BA degree from IAS, EE responses to tricampus review comments.

