

General Faculty Organization Spring Meeting

May 27, 2020, 4:30 – 5:30pm, via Zoom

Present: David Socha (GFO Chair), Wolf Yeigh (Chancellor), Sharon Jones (VCAA), Gowri Shankar (VCAP)

Socha welcomed all and opened Q&A, inviting questions for GFO leadership, Chancellor Yeigh, VCAA Jones, and VCPA Shankar. He also congratulated Jason Naranjo on his election to the GFO Vice Chair position.

Q&A with Chancellor Yeigh, VCAA Jones, VCPA Shankar and GFO Leadership

Q. *Do you anticipate a tuition increase?*

A. While fees are differentiated and determined by the needs of each UW campus, undergraduate tuition rate is determined for all 3 campuses by the Board of Regents. Although a decision has not been made yet, it is anticipated that the 2% increase planned pre-Covid will move forward. The president and provost are sensitive to the fact student working environments have changed significantly. Those changes have actually increased costs to the institution. Revenue loss and additional expenses could possibly be recovered through the CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) but that is currently unknown. UW Bothell remains high in the national rankings of affordability.

Q. *What are enrollment projections for Autumn 2020?*

A. UW Bothell is currently tracking at approximately 100 more deposits compared to this time last year. That would normally mean a projection of approximately 930 first year students for Autumn. However, due to current unprecedented circumstance, historical data is not as reliable for projecting. The number of transfer students is tracking lower but that could also change. UW Seattle is tracking higher number but UW Tacoma is tracking lower in both first year and transfer students. Unlike returning students, we have no connection with first year and transfer students. Collective efforts to connect with new students and fortify connections with returning students is paramount. Orientation and Student Affairs is working to make that happen.

Q. *In what unique ways can we connect with new and/or returning students over the summer?*

A. VCAA Jones is leading a group focused on faculty, curricular, and student success support, VCPA Shankar is leading a campus operation support group, and Director of Career Support, Kim Wilson, is leading a group focused on student success and advising. These groups will focus partly on how to attract, connect with and support new and returning students and could use suggestions from faculty. You can share now or can be forwarded to VCAA Jones and VCPA Shankar after the meeting. We have an opportunity to make UW Bothell stand out in this difficult time by ensuring our students feel seen, heard, and welcome. Suggestions on ways to do that?

- Host a “get-to-know-your-school” informal social hour, offering a chance to foster and build relationships prior to courses beginning.
- Using technology, create communities within programs, pulling students into smaller networks, a space for belonging and connection.
- Think about how Discovery Core can help to build community

Q. *How can we persuade students to come to UWB who have been accepted but are undecided?*

A.

- Invite students to call directly to speak with someone individually.
- A welcome email from the chancellor to newly accepted students.
- Call from Chancellor, VCs, or Deans congratulating students with scholarships.
- A welcome event with newly admitted students and the Chancellor and VCs.
- Consider how to connect with marginalized students.

Q. Faculty, what are you hearing? What is frustrating? What is complicating your work?

A. Chancellor Yeigh encourages faculty to send their questions and concerns to him and he will try to get an answer. Although UWB is a separate campus and autonomous, there are some decisions that we cannot make (e.g. tuition rates) and there is some information that the Chancellor is not authorized to share or act on. GFO leadership also encourages faculty to bring questions and rumors to them and they can help navigate you to answers/information. Chancellor and GFO are thankful and appreciate the dedication that faculty have shown in this difficult time. Hopefully, infrastructure put in place over the summer will provide better support.

Online Proctoring

Socha opened the discussion on online proctoring at UWB by referring everyone to an email sent out to faculty by GFO VC and asked for any questions or concerns?

- Concern that decisions are being made around online proctoring without discussions around repercussions.
 - A need arose and UW Seattle rushed the decision through to use Proctorio. Faculty didn't know it was coming.
 - There has been no time for wide investigation to determine if Proctorio makes sense at UWB
 - Chancellor Yeigh communicated to campus to be cautious as Proctorio can be problematic for students
- Strong opposition from students to the use of online proctoring
 - They are being asked to their home environments
 - They can go to DRS and faculty will have to accommodate
- Executive Council discussed and has done some exploration in different schools at UWB
 - 4 of 5 schools strongly oppose the use of Proctorio. STEM has some faculty you use it
 - Concerns that faculty won't be able to teach as they see fit. How do we think about that?
 - Highly variable to the class. Benefits vs. downfalls
 - If a course is designed to be 100% online and it's in the syllabus and a student has opted in, that is different. When students don't have the option, it becomes problematic
- In the future, a long-term robust study would be ideal but what do we do right now?
 - Create one-page pros and cons and let faculty decide
 - Have a faculty vote
- Other questions, concerns, decisions that should be made around this?

Socha thanked everyone and adjourned meeting.

Minutes submitted by Dawn Moncalieri
Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm
Next Meeting: Fall 2020 – date/time TBD