

CFR Meeting Minutes
11 October 2024
VCLS 14 & Zoom
9:15 – 10:45AM

Representatives Attending:

Bonamy, Drapela, Fortin, Grigar (Chair), He, Olson, Pascoe, Reisz, Schimelpfenig

Ex-officio members in attendance:

Dimitrov (Senator, TT)

Guest: Mel Netzhammer (WSUV Chancellor)

Recording Secretary: Paul Bonamy

The meeting began with *a conversation with Chancellor Netzhammer*. Discussion included:

- *The Event Planning Guide is currently a pilot program, and admin is eager to receive feedback about it.* There are already some planned changes, and more are likely based on feedback. The original impetus of the guide is that the campus has been out of compliance with Clark County requirements, so this is intended to bring us back into compliance.
Netzhammer is aware that some issues are unclear, and others feel unnecessarily punitive. The distinction between meetings and events is unclear, and is currently causing some issues with, e.g., academic operations needing to submit budget numbers. There are also concerns about risk assessment. No events have been disallowed so far this year under the guide, though there was an event last year that was meant to be open to the public and had no controls in place until far too late. Feedback about these and other issues is valuable and will be taken into account next semester as the guide is reviewed and improved.
- *Messaging and processes around release of the guide, and the centralization of UCORE scheduling was not handled well.* The event planning guide was essentially leaked from the committee that was working on it, wrongfooting communication. Leak aside, the existence of the committee was not well known, nor was the existence of the UCORE scheduling group. Netzhammer acknowledges that dropping these sorts of changes on the academic units without warning is not great, especially when there is little to no faculty involvement on the committees.
- *President Schulz's request that the Senate suspend / repeal Academic Policy 60 regarding vaccinations for all non-Pullman campus.* AP 60 requires that campuses enforce Executive Policy 43 (requiring proof of vaccination) by placing a hold on the accounts of any students who have not provided proof of vaccination (or exemption) by the time they register for their second semester. The rationale for the request in general is as follows:

- This is the only academic policy that specifically calls for enforcing an EP, so it is an unusual AP and removing it wouldn't affect the underlying EP.
- The AP creates an additional burden on students to provide proof of vaccination without providing extra information for most students. Any student who graduated from a Washington high school must have been able to show proof of vaccination in order to attend said school. These students make up the overwhelming majority of the student body at the non-residential campuses. So, for these students we can already infer that they have the correct immunizations. Suspending or repealing the AP would immediately clear holds on the accounts of 700 student at Vancouver alone.
- Specifically in Vancouver, Clark College does not have an equivalent requirement.

There are two primary reasons for Pullman to be treated differently, both stemming from being a residential campus. First, it draws students from a much wider range, so it cannot rely on Washington public school requirements. Second, Pullman students already need to provide proof of vaccination in order to live in the dorms, which means passing AP 60's requirements is automatic for them.

Netzhammer would prefer the policy to a uniform case of 'if you graduated from a Washington high school, no further work is required. Otherwise, you must submit vaccination records'. This would ensure proper vaccination while minimizing paperwork requirements for the majority of students.

- *The Modernization Fee is 1% of salaries, assessed on each department or unit.* The modernization effort had up-front costs for the switch to Workday, along with ongoing costs for maintenance, upgrades, development, etc. The modernization fee is paying for those ongoing costs and will continue for the foreseeable future.
 - *Academic Program Optimization is not envisioned as cutting programs on the non-Pullman campuses.* In Netzhammer's estimation, the Provost is thinking about how to move the entire system forward over the long term, including things like having residence halls in Vancouver. As part of this, there are some majors that are appropriate for every campus, while others are so expensive or have such specialized needs that they can only practically be hosted in one place. The Provost believes that Pullman is not necessarily the place to host such majors, and that we need to build infrastructure on the other campuses to be able to support unique offerings. [The wine science program is used as an example of this.] The goal for the APO this year is to agree on a common data set that can be evaluated each year to track changes. This will allow us to be more data-driven.
- Netzhammer also notes that there is an administrative / HR component of the review, and it's already looking like that might alleviate issues with HRS.

Following the conversation with Chancellor Netzhammer, *minutes from the 9/13 were approved and the 9/27 minutes were approved with an amendment.*

The meeting included some brief announcements. The Laptop Lunch series has been successful thus far. The next sessions are 15 October and 22 October. Additionally, the

Research Reception on the 9th was well attended, and Christine Portfors has put out a call for participants in a 3 minute research event.

Discussion then turned to workload and service among CFR members [Recorder's Note: see Appendix A] to make sure work is evenly distributed and set up some additional ad hoc committees.

- Reisz and Bonamy are currently serving on the ad-hoc bylaws revision committee.
- Fortin volunteered to serve on an ad-hoc committee related to the event planning guide. For the time being, this committee is primarily for information gathering, but it is expected to either interface with or send a representative to a committee formed by admin to evaluate the guide in the spring. We will recruit additional faculty members beyond CFR.
- Drapela volunteered to serve on an ad-hoc committee dealing with APO. The committee does not need to be formed now but will serve as a faculty voice in the spring.
- Grigar is on the Senate Steering Committee and is also now a Senator.
- Olson was nominated for the APO committee.

Grigar introduced *a question of selecting a Vice Chair during the first year of a Chair's term*. This is intended to provide continuity in leadership should something happen to the Chair. Two primary concerns were raised in response: first, it would make the chairship a five-year commitment (two as vice-chair, two as chair, one more as immediately past chair) which may bias the position against career-track faculty. Second, the bylaws currently call for the immediately past chair to take over if the current chair cannot serve in their first year, so there is no loss of continuity. There is also the issue that, while external commitments like conferences cannot be moved, remote attendance is possible for members including the ex-officio chair, and CFR meetings should be scheduled to account for everyone's commitments, anyway.

Discussion then turned to *preparing for the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs' visit on 25 October*, and especially gathering discussion topics. Dimitrov reports that Vancouver has a very high adjunct to full-time faculty ratio, with 1/3 of the overall faculty in adjunct positions. We also intended to ask VCAA's position on the APO, as well as details of how TA lines are allocated to units, and travel and profession development funds.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Bonamy, Recording Secretary