

**Faculty Council on Teaching and Learning
2020-2021 Annual Report
Submitted by Chair Thomas Halverson**

Summary:

During the 2020-2021 academic year, a very challenging year in which all UW business was done remotely due to the global pandemic, the Faculty Council on Teaching and Learning (FCTL) met nine times in regular meetings, conducting its routine business of policy, both academic and non-academic, relating to improvement of teaching and learning in the university; including distance learning, educational outreach, and summer quarter, and the use of educational technology in instruction. Details of these actions can be found in the meeting minutes, which are located on the council's page on the UW Faculty Senate website. In addition to the routine business outlined above, the following non-routine business was conducted.

Major topics the council worked to address and/or completed during the year include:

❖ **[Class B Legislation 195: Distance Learning](#)**

FCTL created this legislation in response to their charge letter to update distance learning policies for students. It now allows additional distance learning courses to be considered residence credits applied to graduation requirements. The continued review of these policies is the obligation of the school or college hosting distance learning courses. It was passed by the Faculty Senate in a special meeting on April 30, 2020.

❖ **[Class B Legislation 197: Course Access](#)**

It was brought to the attention of FCTL that there was a lack of access to state-funded courses at the UW forcing students admitted to fee-based programs to seek general education and elective course options at other institutions, inside and outside Washington State. As a result, the UW was losing considerable tuition revenue (SCH) by denying students access to these UW courses. This lack of access was also diminishing the "Husky experience" for these students who were taking their electives at another institution. As a result, this Class B legislation was drafted to amend the language in Scholastic Regulations Chapter 101 to allow these fee-based students access to State courses.

❖ **[Class C Legislation: Reconceptualizing Merit](#)**

FCTL received a tremendous amount of input and feedback from UW faculty during this challenging year with concerns about the toll managing their personal lives was taking on their professional lives (personal and professional isolation, managing their health, caregiving

for others) and the degree to which this unprecedented circumstance would be taken into consideration during annual faculty merit review. As a result, Class C legislation was drafted to encourage the University community to explore a more flexible, accommodating, and contemporary system of merit review that allowed faculty to, 1.) Create more ways for areas, units, divisions to identify, articulate, and recognize meritorious faculty activity, and 2.) To build into the merit review process, opportunities for the faculty under review to have more agency and input.

❖ **Creation of new faculty council on Information Technology and Cybersecurity**

Over the past three years, the volume and complexity of technological issues brought to FCTL has been steadily increasing, and these issues were beginning to overwhelm the council. Not only was FCTL unable to give these issues the time they deserved (due to an increase in the volume and complexity of teaching and learning challenges facing FCTL), but we also found that we didn't have the expertise needed to make informed decisions. As a result of considerable support from Faculty Senate Chair Robin Angotti and Vice-Chair Chris Laws, as well as the support of other council chairs and the SEC group, we moved in the direction of forming a new council that would deal specifically with the information technology and cybersecurity.

Council members during 2020-2021 academic year:

Faculty Code Section 21-61 A: Thomas Halverson (Chair), Fred Bookstein, Sri Devi Duvvuri, Lynn Dietrich, Kimberlee Gillis-Bridges, Kristin Gustafson, Rania Hussein, Kathleen Peterson, Timea Tihanyi, Ruben Casas

Faculty Code Section 21-61 B: Deepa Banerjee, Clara Coyote, Kat Eli, Ashlee Abrantes

Presidential Designee: LeeAnne Jones Wiles