University of Washington
Faculty Council on Educational Technology
April 20, 2009
36 Gerberding Hall

<u>**Meeting Synopsis**</u>

1. Approve Agenda
2. Approve minutes from March 13, 2009 meeting
3. Chair's announcements
4. Open announcements
5. Old business
    *   Class C Legislation on plagiarism prevention (Anis Bawarshi)
    *   News on data Retention (Anjanette Young)

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Chair Kaminsky called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

1.   Approve Agenda

The agenda was approved.

2.   Approve minutes from the March 13, 2009 meeting

The Council approved the minutes from the March 13, 2009 meeting.

3.   Chair's announcements

Chair Kaminsky informed the Council that the Teaching and Learning Symposium would be held
tomorrow and that Council member David Masuda volunteered to do a presentation on similarity checking
software and anti-plagiarism tools. Council member Linda Martin-Morris plans to do a presentation on
peer instructors. With regard to the budget situation Martin-Morris has some ideas about how to solve the
loss of funding for TA and RA positions and that would be to offer them course credit in lieu of salaried
pay. Kaminsky also told FCET members that regarding the UW budget situation, the final budget from
Olympia has yet to be seen. He feels it is more important now than ever to get the Class C Plagiarism
resolution back into play quickly so as not to be overshadowed by the University's economic situation.

4.   Open announcements

There were no open announcements.

5.   Old Business.

<u>Class C Legislation on Plagiarism Prevention (Anis Bawarshi)</u>

Chair Kaminsky informed the Council he has been working with Anis Bawarshi, Associate Professor
Director of Expository Writing via email on the wording of the Class C Legislation on Plagiarism
Prevention. Their main focus was spent on drafting the proper phrasing for the document in order to gain
support from faculty and students alike. Kaminsky noted that in redrafting the resolution the biggest
change to it was that they took out the requirement for students to submit the report generated by the
similarity checking tool. The main idea was that the resolution would provide some directional change
and not implement a new requirement for students.

Kaminsky informed the Council that his sense is that people generally agree there should be legislation in place and if FCET could draft something that would gain the support of the Faculty Senate, then a change would come. He introduced Anis Bawarshi to speak to the proposed resolution.

Bawarshi informed FCET that he has been in contact with UW librarians and that there is a unified strong opposition to the response. He felt the proposed solution would not work and would be counterproductive. Bawarshi described in detail the various plagiarism checking tools available and how they work. He stated that in his conversations with faculty and librarians the main problems people are identifying are that the checking tools are merely advanced forms of Google which search for jargon or commonly used phrases. The tools are too simplistic and do not do much more than create confusion and anxiety for students and faculty. He feels that often times plagiarism is a sign of a deeper problem which is an issue of learning correct citation procedures and formatting.

Bawarshi told the Council that his department sees 4000 students and some 33,000 papers per year. Of those 33,000 papers, approximately 4 of them are plagiarized. Some of the plagiarism revolves around learning related issues and citation and formatting guidelines, while others are actually stolen papers. He feels the software could work, but it needs added support to be provided to teachers and students to be productive. This was the reason his department did not support the original legislation. Kaminsky pointed out that the ASUW agrees in that they like the idea but not in the current form.

There was a brief discussion among Council members and the group agreed that changes should be made to gain support and have the right intention. Bawarshi recommended to the Council that this legislation be suspended. Lewis stated that he was just in Olympia and felt that Kaminsky's concern is substantiated. He noted higher education and plagiarism has been a hot topic there recently. Kaminsky stated that he would like to have something official in place that could be useful to the UW and not be costly.

Bawarshi thanked the Council members for the time they have spent on this subject and wanted the members to know that typically he is a supporter of their work. He closed in stating that there are many reasons students plagiarize and to label them all as cheaters without providing clear instruction and support would be a mistake. He feels the software should be used in conjunction with other aspects of learning.

Chair Kaminsky informed the Council that the next Senate Executive Committee meeting is May 4th. If they are going to submit something for consideration it needs to get put on the agenda this week. He would like to submit a revised version and invites Bawarshi to join him at the meeting. Bawarshi stated he would have to further consider endorsing the legislation and he wanted to be sure to solve the right problem with the right legislation.

Kaminsky called for a vote of the Council members to support the legislation. Merati made a motion to approve and Masuda seconded the motion. Council members asked for some time to review the newly written legislation and to respond via email. Kaminsky agreed. He noted that one of the changes they will see will be to the title of the Class C legislation. He plans to include the words "increasing awareness" in hopes that the sentiment will be better received.

News on Data Retention (Anjanette Young)

Young informed the FCET that she emailed communication a couple of months ago with the Data Retention group and that she received a response. She stated UW was turned down for a NSF Google grant. Despite the fact that UW is working with OCLC they wanted it to be a more institutional grant process. She noted that the Libraries in the process of collaborating with other universities and are adding them to the grant request for resubmission. She stated that the cost for warehousing and metadata storage would be of particular interest and thought someone from CATALYST or the ESciences could offer some information.

Tom Lewis stated the costs for storage of research data come from infrastructure related issues. The UW repository and graduate school notions for electronic thesis and dissertation deposits while having the University pick up the fees for open access may provide a solution. Lewis informed the Council that he would bring someone from CATALYST to speak to the topic in a future meeting. He noted that his office is close to finalizing relationships with a couple of the "cloud" vendors which could prove to be helpful in this effort.

The Council members discussed these topics briefly and stated they would like to hear more about the data storage and "cloud" vendor relationships in a future meeting.

6. New Business

There was no new business.

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The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Minutes by Kelly Baker, Council Support Specialist
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Present: ***Faculty members:*** Efthimiadis, Hollmann, Kaminsky, Lane, Martin-Morris, Masuda, Merati, Seidler
President's Designee: Lewis
Ex-officio members: Deshazo, Young

Absent: ***Faculty members:*** Andrews, Hudson, Moskal
Ex-officio members: Maring, Schmidt