

**Faculty Council on Teaching and Learning  
2022-2023 Annual Report  
Submitted by Chair Lynn Dietrich**

**Summary:**

During the 2022-2023 academic year, the Faculty Council on Teaching and Learning (FCTL) met 10 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.

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

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- ❖ Continue to analyze faculty evaluations and measures of classroom learning and develop a Class C resolution on best practices of peer evaluation
  - ❖ Create a webinar on course and classroom accessibility to share informational resources with instructors
  - ❖ Propose Class C resolution on syllabus requirement inconsistencies

In addition, the following joint agenda items were included for consideration:

- ❖ Collaborate with the Faculty Council on Informational Technology and Cybersecurity to review UW-IT's programs for teaching and learning
- ❖ Review accessibility of courses for Disability Resources for Students (DRS) with the Faculty Council on Student Affairs and Associated Students of the University of Washington
- ❖ Develop Class A legislation on the use of student and peer teaching evaluations for promotion and tenure with the Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs

The Council convened for our first meeting on Oct. 13, 2022 with membership representing faculty and staff from across the three campuses:

***Faculty Code Section 21 - 61A***

Fred Bookstein*	Professor Emeritus	Statistics
Leighann Chaffee*	Associate Teaching Professor	IAS, UWT
Lynn Dietrich (Chair)*	Teaching Professor	Education
Mathew Gliboff*	Associate Teaching Professor	School of STEM, UWB
Anne-Marie Gloster*	Associate Teaching Professor	SPH, Epidemiology
Lauren Graham*	Assistant Teaching Professor	Psychology
Ranjini Grove*	Associate Teaching Professor	Statistics
Kristin Gustafson *	Teaching Professor	IAS, UWB
Rania Hussein*	Associate Teaching Professor	Electrical and Computer Eng.
Sunita Iyer*	Associate Teaching Professor	Nursing and Health Studies

Louisa Mackenzie*	Associate Professor	French and Italian Studies
Casey Self*	Associate Teaching Professor	Biology
Duong Than*	Assistant Teaching Professor	IAS, UWT
SoYoung Kang*	Assistant Teaching Professor	Mechanical Engineering

***Faculty Code Section 21-61 B***

TBD		UWRA UW Retirement Association
Adrien Chen*		ASUW Associates Students of UW
TBD*		GPSS
Laine Ritter		PSO Professional Staff Organization
Deb Raftus*		ALUW Association of Librarians UW

***Faculty Code Section 21-61 C***

LeAnne Jones Wiles	Director	First Year Programs
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***Regularly Invited Guests***

Bree Callahan	ADA/Section 504 Coordinator	
Sean Gehrke	Director of the Office of Educational Assessment, out today	
Tom Lewis	Director of Academic and Collaborative Applications, UW-IT	
Katie Malcolm	Center for Teaching and Learning	
Tina Miller	Senior Associate Registrar	
Penelope Moon	Director, Center for Teaching and Learning	

*\* indicates voting member*

**❖ Subcommittees on Student Accessibility, Peer Review of teaching, Student Course Evaluations, and joint working group on technology in teaching and learning**

After an examination of the charge and a general discussion of priorities and interests of the council members, subcommittees were formed. At the next meeting there was some reorganization of the committees resulting in the following groups:

1. Information technology
2. Course and peer teaching evaluations
3. Student accessibility/access

A chair for each subcommittee was designated by the council chair, and time was allocated during each council meeting for the subcommittees to meet (in addition to meeting independently). Each subcommittee reviewed work that had been accomplished in the prior academic year and set goals for the current year.

In December, The Provost convened two working groups, Access and Accessibility to Courses and Programs, and Future of Teaching and Learning Quality. The work of each of these groups included overlap with all three of the FCTL subcommittees, and both of the working groups included FCTL

members. This presented an opportunity to reimagine how these three groups could collaborate on their common goals without the duplication of efforts. It was suggested that FCTL could provide an avenue for any legislation that may be required by the working groups.

**Subcommittee: [Information Technology:](#)**

***ChatGPT***

The new AI language modeling tool, chatGPT, became a concern and the council discussed ways in which this might impact teaching and learning across campuses. The council was provided the opportunity to contribute to a draft document developed by the Center for Teaching and Learning that was designed to develop teaching strategies to address the use of AI tools. The council also discussed potential changes to Scholastic Regulations Chapter 209, which defines academic misconduct and did not include challenges such as the use of AI tools. The subcommittees continued their work independently and in collaboration with the working groups.

The subcommittee recommended collaborating with FCITC and FCSA next year to address the use of chatGPT and other AI technologies as teaching and learning tools.

***MyPlan/DawgPath***

The Information technology subcommittee researched the university's available course tools MyPlan and DawgPath, as a way to understand what course information students have prior to enrolling in a course. and the challenges faced when syllabi are not available:

*Current students want enough information about a course before registering so that they can: (1) understand the impact on their workload in comparison to other classes; (2) make decisions that balance the course demands, including its delivery mode, with work and cocurricular demands; (3) center the course, its content, its requirements, and the requirements it meets in their chosen academic plan; and (4) know any costs associated with the course. (Subcommittee notes, March 7, 2023).*

Additional concerns included what faculty want students to know about the course and how to make it easier for students to compare courses.

Much of this information can be found in the course Canvas page; however it is not available to students until they enroll and the Canvas site is published. Access to course materials via Canvas before students are enrolled could compromise student data and private course information, so it was not considered a viable solution. Subsequent discussions included the possibility of revisions to MyPlan regarding course flexibility and standardization of course descriptions. They also considered the development of a set of brief phrases coded for MyPlan that would indicate additional course expectations or expenses, such as field trips and other experiences outside the classroom.

The committee recommended continuing the work into 2023-2024 with the plan to work in collaboration with UWIT to develop a way for faculty to provide more course information in MyPlan through a series of brief choices that would be coded for MyPlan and the time schedule.

**Subcommittee: Course/Peer Evaluations of Teaching**

The course and peer evaluation subcommittee shared their plans to develop recommendations for benchmarking evaluation processes and their intention to create a survey to distribute to appropriate unit leadership about current peer evaluation practices. A survey of council members the year before yielded a wide range of processes and indicated the need to gather more information before making recommendations about best practices. The subcommittee was engaged in a literature review to gather information beyond the university. A survey was developed that included mostly open-ended questions and some framing around practices across campus as reference points. The intention was to distribute the survey to potential respondents, including department coordinators, chairs, and peer review coordinators. The draft was finalized in May for distribution in Autumn 2023.

The subcommittee, with the leadership of Sean Gehrke and support from OEA, developed a tri-campus survey that was distributed to students in spring quarter to ask students about their perceptions of the benefit of course evaluations on teaching and learning. Approximately 1200 students responded to the survey using Huskey Check-In. Next steps included analysis of demographics to identify how representative the survey respondents are to the current student body.

#### **Subcommittee: Student Accessibility and Access**

Members of the accessibility subcommittee worked in collaboration with the Provost's working group and the Faculty Council on Student Affairs (FCSA) to determine priorities and identify shared vs. separate work. The subcommittee developed a [draft of a survey](#) on current accessibility awareness and practices to distribute to instructors in Autumn 2023, in collaboration with FCAS and OMAD. The results of this survey will be used to make recommendations to FCTL and other councils on next steps.

Much of the student accessibility and access work was taken up by the Provost's working group, including unifying existing efforts of ADA projects, achieving tri-campus alignment of accommodations, and resolving issues with bottleneck courses.

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