



Academic Assembly Meeting No. 11
Monday, February 6, 2023
2:05 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.
ADAL Stuart T. Rolfe & Zoom Meeting

MINUTES

Members Present: Mark Cohan, Marc Cohen, Douglas Eriksen, Nalini Iyer, Angie Jenkins (Staff Council, *ex-officio*), Benjamin Jones Rice (SGSU, *ex-officio*), Shane P. Martin (Provost, *ex-officio*), Richard McGaha, Margit McGuire, Jodi O'Brien (Associate Provost, *ex-officio*), Katie Oliveras, Russell Powell, Gayle Robinson, Bryan Ruppert, Patrick Schoettmer, Frank J. Shih, Gregory Silverman, Phillip Thompson, Michael Trice, Glenn Yasuda and Valentina Zamora.

- I. Opening Remarks, Frank J. Shih** **2:10 p.m. – 2:12 p.m.**
- a. Meeting was called to order at 2:06 p.m. by Academic Assembly President, Frank Shih.
 - b. **MOTION** Moved by Frank Shih: "Move to approve the agenda for the February 6, 2023, meeting of the AcA." Seconded. **Approved.**
 - c. The Faculty Welfare Charter will be discussed at the next meeting.
 - d. Provost Martin will have updates at the next AcA meeting.
- II. Seattle University Speaker Policy, David R. Lance & Sarah Cox** **2:12 p.m. – 2:42 p.m.**

Seattle University is currently drafting a university-wide speaker policy to clarify the guidelines and procedures for hosting speakers at Seattle University and/or on behalf of the University. A university working group is creating an interim draft policy and will subsequently draft a new policy. The working group is currently in Phase III of their work, *Consult with Stakeholders*, and will continue to Phase IV, *Refine and Finalize Policy*. The structure and function of this working group reflects President Peñalver's vision to convene smaller working groups that broadly consult with stakeholders. In this example, key stakeholders include Academic Assembly, Dean's Council, Staff Council, Student Government of Seattle University, Graduate Student Council, Student Bar Association and so forth.

The new Speaker Policy would apply to all faculty, staff, administrators, and official student clubs and organizations. The new policy would promote academic freedom and facilitate free speech and the free exchange of ideas while ensuring the physical safety of attendees and community members. The draft policy sets a high standard for the prohibition or disinvitation of an invited speaker. If an event is open to the University, the Speaker Policy would apply. However, the policy would not apply to speakers invited to participate in an individual course, and would not include private or invitation-only programs or events. Members offered comments that co-sponsored events and remote events should be clearly addressed in the policy. The Assembly and Speaker

Policy Working Group representatives discussed the importance of maintaining an environment of free speech and the free exchange of ideas in the event that demonstrations occur.

III. Memo on Faculty Workload Expectations, Frank J. Shih & Marc A. Cohen 2:42 p.m. – 3:21 p.m.

Revising the Annual Performance Review (APR) for faculty is an on-going collaboration with the APR Working Group and Academic Assembly. President-Elect Cohen presented a memo to the Assembly with a motion to endorse the workload expectations proposed by the APR Working Group.

The purpose of the proposal is to create a framework, based on the teach-scholar model, for faculty workload to be evaluated across the following categories: teaching, scholarship, university service, and institution building. The framework will also provide equity and consistency across faculty. President-Elect Cohen commented that the framework could be a tool to account for previously unnoticed and unrecognized faculty work.

The proposal is not intended to address performance-based/merit-based evaluation for compensation adjustments. Additionally, any changes would not apply to the School of Law.

A discussion ensued. Members of AcA provided feedback supporting faculty agency for a uniform evaluation process that emphasizes accountability. Further comments were made regarding accreditation/licensing requirements that may create a differential workload. There was appreciation for how the proposal takes a broad, inclusive view of faculty scholarship, consistent with SUAdvance. AcA commented on how the discussion and engagement on this topic is a model for shared governance.

IV. Approve PRC Memo on International Studies, Margit McGuire 3:21 p.m. – 3:28 p.m.

MOTION Moved by Margit McGuire: "I move to approve changes to the International Studies program." Seconded. **Approved.** Unanimously.

V. Committee on Committees Business, Patrick Schoettmer 3:28 p.m. – 3:32 p.m.

AcA needs to appoint one member to the Faculty Handbook Revision Committee.

MOTION Moved by Patrick Schoettmer: "I move to waive the seven-day notice rule." Seconded. **Approved.** Unanimously.

MOTION Moved by Patrick Schoettmer: "I move to approve the nomination of Nicholas Huntington-Klein to the Faculty Handbook Revision Committee." Second. **Approved.** Unanimously.

The Committee on Committees is shorthanded with two open seats.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

*Minutes taken and submitted by the AcA Administrative Assistant,
Caroline Pedro, Senior Administrative Assistant, Office of the Provost*