

February 4, 2025

Noon - 1:20pm

In person: GLD 208J

<https://washington.zoom.us/j/96471410721>

Faculty Present

1. Christine Bae
2. Branden Born
3. Rachel Berney
4. Manish Chalana - Zoom
5. Karen Chen
6. Keith Harris
7. Helen Pineo
8. Qing Shen
9. Dylan Stevenson
10. Jan Whittington

Staff Present

3. Edith Olguin
4. Diana Siembor

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes from January 21, 2025: **tabled for next faculty meeting**

Announcements:

- Latin American Urbanism Lecture Feb 5 Wed at 6pm by Izabel Colusso, Visiting Scholar

Discussion and vote on taking on the PhD degree

The faculty discussed moving the UDP Interdisciplinary PhD degree program from The Graduate School to the Department of Urban Design and Planning.

Motion. Approve the move of the UDP Interdisciplinary PhD degree program from the Graduate School to the Department of Urban Design and Planning with the following acknowledgments. The degree program will transfer with the existing bylaws, administrative form, and steering committee. Two pillars of the program must be preserved and prioritized: (1) student funding: existing commitments and commitments made during the current round of applications. (2) interdisciplinarity: in the form of formal representation of other departments, schools, and colleges in the administrative body of the program. Interested members of the department, the core faculty group, will start meeting next year with the Steering Committee to adapt the program as we collectively see fit for the health of the program. Vote by raising hand - **Approved.**

College Council Updates and Faculty Feedback

- Tenure and promotion reviews for affiliate appointments were discussed. These reviews no longer require Provost-level approval.
- Updates were provided on the unit adjustment proposal; further communications with the Provost's office are ongoing.
- Plans for updating bylaws were mentioned, including aligning tenure and promotion guidelines with college-level standards.
- Faculty expressed concerns over limited communication regarding the search process.

- A leadership profile for the new Dean is being developed, incorporating faculty input.
- Three ways to provide feedback were outlined: via email, survey, and direct recommendations.
- The faculty emphasized the need for better inclusion and transparency in the search process.
- The ongoing issues with elevator failures in the department building were discussed.
- Faculty agreed that the university must address these concerns to ensure accessibility for all students and staff.
- A proposal was made to escalate the issue within the university's administration.

Good of the order, flex time, faculty senate announcements, UW budget horizon concerns

- Updates were provided on the AI Task Force at UW and its recommendations.
- Concerns were raised about the lack of Humanities representation in the task force.
- Faculty discussed the potential impacts of AI in urban planning and teaching methodologies.
- A strategic planning session is scheduled for February 21, 2025.
- Budgetary concerns for the next five years were outlined, with potential restrictions on travel, hiring, and resource allocation.
- The department is considering using existing endowment funds for faculty engagement, student support, or programmatic needs.
- Faculty were reminded to review applications for the Social Science Statistics Fellowship, with nominations due by February 13, 2025.

Adjourned 1:24pm