UAF Faculty Development, Assessment and Improvement Committee
Meeting Minutes for March 26, 2013

I. Franz Meyer called the meeting to order at 11:09 am.

II. Roll call:

Present: Izetta Chambers, Cindy Fabbri, David Fazzino, Andrea Ferrante, Kelly Houlton, Eric Madsen, Franz Meyer, Joy Morrison
Excused: Stephen Brown, Mike Castellini,
Absent: Trina Mamoon, Amy Vinlove

III. Report from Joy

Joy informed us that six faculty members went to the Lilly West Conference in southern California, joining a higher-than-average turnout for the 25th anniversary of Lilly West. Joy stated that the innovations presented were very interesting and speakers were excellent. The evaluations she has gotten so far from participants have been very positive.

Joy has been meeting with all new faculty and reports that the mentoring program seems to be going well. Nearly all have met with their respective mentors and are finding the program helpful. She will continue to meet with new faculty all month.

She has been meeting with candidates for positions in various departments in order to show them what OFD provides for faculty development. She does this to let candidates know what they can expect from her office if they accept a position at UAF.

There is no particular college focus this month, just general presentations. Next month will feature CLA. She notes that Maggie Griscavace from the Office of Grants and Contracts will be presenting a session on grants administration on April 2. CLA asked specifically for a panel discussion on different ways of assessing student learning and she is putting together a panel for this. There are also several eLearning and Distance Education presentations in April. Joy reminded us of Walt Gmelch’s upcoming leadership presentation “Managing Conflict in the Ivory Tower” on April 11 and reports that over thirty people have signed up. Bob Lucas’ upcoming workshops on scholarly writing and grant writing are filling up as well. Izetta asked if there was any chance of video conferencing these presentations. Joy replied that these guest speakers are reluctant to be recorded and that some of the interactive workshops are difficult to video conference. However Joy will email Walt Gmelch’s presentation slides to Izetta in advance and ask him about the possibility of having the three-hour workshop video conferenced. There is also a possibility it could be audio conferenced.

Due to construction beginning soon and rooms in Bunnell closing, the research “Speed Dating” event has been postponed until fall semester at the request of OIT. Joy also reminded us of the new Magna Commons subscription and will send out email reminders to faculty once a month with instructions on accessing their videos.
Linda Hapsmith of the Academic Advising Center has 50 one-way railroad tickets for faculty advisors to travel to the regional advising conference being held in Anchorage in late April/early May. Linda will also be awarding $750 travel grants for 25 faculty advisors.

IV. Progress on analysis of electronic student evaluation options for UAF

Eric and Franz met with Faculty Senate leadership to discuss our next steps and have outlined a two-step process of a short summary report and a longer full report. The preliminary summary written by the core group that has attended almost all of the vendor demonstrations describing our approach and evaluation criteria and outlining the content for the full report has been presented to the Administrative Committee and was well received. It will be presented to Faculty Senate for their feedback at their April meeting. The full report will be written in April after the core group can meet to discuss items to ensure that the report will reflect the views of the whole core. The final report will be sent to FDAI committee members when it is finished. The core group consists of Franz, Eric, Andrea, and Kelly, as well as Sally Skrip (Provost’s Office), Mike Koskey (ANSRD), Brenda Konar (SFOS), Chris Beks (OIT), and Nathan Zierfuss (OIT).

Franz reports that both Faculty Senate leadership and Provost Henrichs are satisfied with the approach we have taken and that what we have done is in line with what was expected of us. We have emphasized that we are not making a decision but are providing Faculty Senate with enough information so that a decision can be made.

Our last vendor demonstration is this Friday, March 29 at 9:00 am in Rasmuson 503.

V. Other Business

Joy requested that we each take some New Faculty Mentoring Program fliers back to our respective departments to share with faculty members and candidates.

Franz noted that at the Administrative Committee meeting there was some discussion regarding the expansion of eLearning and distance delivery at UAF. The discussion focused on ways for the eLearning Center to address some concerns that linger amongst the faculty about the expansion of eLearning activities on campus. Joy suggested that Faculty Senate invite Carol Gering to talk to them. Franz said that YouTube videos were mentioned as a way to demonstrate what their instructional designers can do to help faculty.

Izetta brought up the fact that she never sees the results of her student course evaluations whether they are paper-based or electronic and noted that there needs to be some standardization and training for new faculty. Joy stated that she is not alone in this and went on to clarify that it is Izetta’s unit’s responsibility to ensure that she gets evaluated and receives the results of her student course evaluations.
VI. Upcoming events:

Faculty Senate Meeting: Monday, April 1, 2013 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm in Wood Center

VII. Next FDAI Meeting: Tuesday, April 30, 2013 from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm.

IX. Adjourned at 11:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Houlton.