Faculty Development, Assessment and Improvement Committee
Minutes 12-11-17
Submitted by Karen Jensen

I. Steve Hunt called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.


III. Minutes from last meeting not reviewed.

IV. Open issues - update on search committee for Faculty Development position. Steve said he had contacted Susan Henrichs, who indicated she had been too busy to move ahead with the position but will let him know when she does. Madara and Steve from FDAI are on the search committee. Steve suggested that committee members think about the attributes they’d like to see in the person hired, such as experience required. Sarah suggested creating a google doc to share ideas about what we’d like to see, such as someone open to technology and approachable, personable.

V. New Business

A. Chancellor’s CACNE request - After some discussion the group agreed that we will send a provisional “yes” to the request, and suggested that CACNE consider using our committee as a test base for the training session they want to develop and get our feedback. Sarah drafted a response to the Chancellor and sent it during the meeting, letting him know that we hope to redesign orientation altogether, and include CACNE in the redesign.

B. Blue evaluation system - the group reviewed questions from a survey intended to be distributed to all on campus involved with course evaluations. The committee recommended that survey questions be changed from open ended to check boxes for most questions so that responses can be more easily quantified, while leaving a “other please specify” option for additional feedback. The group also recommended having only 3 questions on the survey. As part of discussion, Sarah suggested that adjuncts should also be polled, and she stated her view that we should have an adjunct on our committee, to which there was general agreement.

C. It should be noted that C was actually discussed after D. The committee discussed the faculty development web page. Madara has control of the website and can change as needed; she will make corrections for now, but design and goals for the website need further discussion. In connection with the mentor link on the page, Nate mentioned a book that had been given to him as a worthy resource, with a front cover model that could be a model for the website. Heather
suggested that faculty have a mentor not only in their own unit, but one in another unit as well, for the sake of perspective.

D. UAA Faculty Fellows - Steve wrote to and then talked with on the phone, UAA Professor Shawnalee Whitney, who is Director of UAA's “CAFE” or Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence.” Shawnalee has an 80% assignment as CAFE director, and also has a full time staff person to help. She is very supportive of the idea of working with us, including encouraging us to link to resources on their website. Sarah suggested that we find out if we can add their events calendar to ours, to promote awareness of their offerings. Sarah also said that our new person, when hired, could connect with Shawnalee, and that we might consider working with them on a teaching and learning conference. Steve said that UAA has faculty learning communities, that UAA faculty are not monetarily compensated for leading talks, but that they do count as service. The website has a link for faculty to volunteer.

Steve also suggested that we might consider adding breakout sessions on teaching after convocation. Sarah suggested inviting Shawnalee or other speakers such as the Pub Manager, and head of the adjuncts union to our committee meetings.

VI. Meeting adjourned at 12:07 pm.