

UAF Faculty Development, Assessment and Improvement Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
November 10, 2014

I. Franz Meyer called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm.

II. Roll call

Present: Bill Barnes, Diana DiStefano, Cindy Fabbri, Andrea Ferrante, Brian Himelbloom, Kelly Houlton, Duff Johnston, Chris Lott, Franz Meyer, Joy Morrison, Channon Price, Leslie Shallcross

Excused: Trina Mamoon, Amy Vinlove

Absent: Mark Herrmann

III. Summary of activities of the Office for Faculty Development (report from Joy)

Joy reports that the POD Network Conference was excellent, as always. She would like to see faculty members who are interested in professional development attend next year's conference which will be November 4 – 8, 2015 in San Francisco. She informed us that she attended two workshops addressing "survey fatigue" that were very helpful. She is planning on implementing a survey in January to garner more feedback on faculty members' professional development needs.

Joy passed out a flier specifying all the professional development activities for November, and there was some discussion regarding the NSF presentations. Franz asked if attendees are aware that the Office of Faculty Development organizes this. Joy responded that she is unsure since she is focused on facilitating the presentations. She also noted that the NSF presentations are highly interactive so are not recorded and archived for those unable to attend. Joy explained that teaching faculty are more interested in faculty development in general as compared to research faculty.

IV. Report by UAF eLearning & Distance Education on recent faculty development activities

Chris reported that he will send a list via email of the faculty development activities at eLearning so that it can be incorporated into our meeting minutes. He noted that the new Chancellor's Fellows have started and that there will be nine faculty members this year. He explained that the chosen Fellows will work with eLearning and Distance Ed for three semesters (Fall, Spring, Fall). He suggested we check out [www.cite.community.uaf.edu](http://www.cite.community.uaf.edu) to see the past groups' projects and what this year's Fellows are working on.

Chris noted that he is currently working on some reports for the BOR, the Chancellor and the Provost. He shared some of the challenges they are facing in tracking and quantifying their faculty development efforts. It has not been possible to have a lot of direct assessment, and there needs to be clear definitions of terms so that all faculty development efforts can be more clearly understood. Joy noted that this seems like

something she should collaborate on and so it really is a good time for eLearning and the OFD to work closely. Chris added that it will be even easier next year when they are moved to main campus. Franz asked that if there is anything that the FDAI committee can do to help with some kind of assessment plan for eLearning's faculty development efforts to please let us know.

Chris passed out a few fliers from eLearning, including one regarding their Faculty on T.A.P. (Teaching and Pedagogy) where faculty members choose a topic of conversation and eLearning will provide a place to meet (with food!) More information on upcoming topics or booking time is available on their website.

#### V. News on Electronic Course Assessment Implementation Committee

This is a subcommittee of the FDAI Committee and will include a variety of members with experience teaching various types of courses. Franz notes that we still need someone who teaches a "pure" lab course; CP volunteered to help with this for the current semester, but he will not be able to participate for spring 2015.

Franz informed us that the Provost's office is putting this together, and due to the fact that there have been a lot of things to set up, the committee may have to re-think the timeline. We will try to have a meeting this week, and Franz has sent out a draft brief outlining the committee's focus. There will be some notes on the progress at our next FDAI meeting.

#### VI. Discussion: What is the state of UAF's faculty development culture and how can we assist in its improvement?

Franz noted that while our committee has discussed this a lot in the past, it is a good time to revisit the topic since Chris has been added to FDAI, there will be a new faculty evaluation system, and there may be new ways of assessing faculty development efforts. Franz asked us to think about what FDAI can do to help, and what makes faculty development successful? He noted that successful faculty development cultures at other institutions indicate a strong support from administration, so how can we improve this at UAF? CP noted that where teaching is the main focus, faculty development is embraced. Joy added that the culture is formed by the leadership. Franz opined that connecting institutional culture with faculty development culture may require us to accept that UAF is a split campus between teaching and research. We may need to redefine faculty development as not being just about teaching, and we may need to suggest a reward structure for participation and success. Kelly asked if we might invite Paul Reichardt to come to one of our FDAI meetings so that we could ask him for some input since faculty development was something he really pushed for. We decided that this could be helpful, and that we will let Provost Henrichs know we will be inviting him.

Joy reminded us that she will be gone for December and January.

#### VII. Other Business

a. FDAI Committee mission and bylaws

We will continue to work on this.

b. Faculty 180 comments/actions?

We had no time to discuss this.

#### VIII. Upcoming Events

a. Next FDAI meeting: 12-8-14 at 3:00 pm

b. Next Administrative Committee meeting: 11-21-14

c. Next Faculty Senate meeting: 12-1-14

IX. Adjourned at 4:05 pm (Respectfully submitted by Kelly Houlton.)