

UAF Faculty Development, Assessment and Improvement Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2013

I. Franz Meyer called the meeting to order at 4:08 pm.

II. Roll call:

Present: Bill Barnes, Mike Davis, Cindy Fabbri, David Fazzino, Andrea Ferrante, Kelly Houlton, Eric Madsen, Trina Mamoon, Franz Meyer, Joy Morrison, Leslie Shallcross, Amy Vinlove

Excused: Mike Castellini

Absent: Patrick Plattet

III. Summary of last year's FDAI activities

Franz briefly talked about Joy's tailor-made faculty development efforts last year of focusing each month on the needs of a specific college within UAF. She is still assessing the successfulness of the endeavor. Franz also mentioned the work done on integrating post-docs into faculty development, and the work of the core committee on examining electronic course evaluations. The year-end report on the FDAI committee's work last year, and the report from the electronic course evaluations core committee, are both posted on the Faculty Senate webpage.

IV. Election of Committee Chair for the academic year 2013 – 2014

A motion was made for Franz Meyer to continue as Chair and Kelly Houlton to continue as meeting recorder. There were no objections and the motion was seconded.

V. Recent progress regarding Faculty 180

Eric Madsen is leading the work on both the switch to electronic Annual Activities reporting and the examination of electronic course evaluations. Eric reported that Faculty 180 is available this year for volunteer faculty members to utilize, but next year electronic AARs will be required. The company is working closely with UAF to help fix issues and problems as they are identified this fall.

Eric also spoke briefly about the collaboration between our committee, Provost Henrichs, and Faculty Senate in looking into electronic course evaluations (ECEs) and improving our current course evaluation process. He reported that four vendors chosen from last year's demonstrations (there were twelve total) will be examined more closely this fall by an as-yet-undetermined core committee. The Provost has indicated the importance of having representation from each unit – particularly rural campus faculty in order to get their unique perspective on the impact of electronic course evaluations on their classes. People wishing to be on the core committee should plan on participating in all four demos this fall and weigh in with the pros and cons at a later de-briefing meeting. Eric

stated that UAF needs to decide on a clear purpose for course evaluations (i.e. what are they to be used for, how are they to be used and by whom, etc.) Franz added that participants will come to the demos with preconceived notions but afterwards will have a different perspective on what ECEs can and cannot do for UAF. Eric added that we all need to have a voice in getting a fair assessment system in place.

VI. Report from Joy Morrison on activities of the Faculty Development Office

Joy informed us that she has two copies of her annual report in her office; any committee member interested in learning more about Joy's work last year is welcome to borrow a copy, but one copy needs to stay in her office.

An exciting opportunity this year is the formation of six faculty learning communities created around different topics such as flipped classrooms, blended learning, and communicating across the curriculum. Each learning community has a designated facilitator and will meet throughout the academic year. More information can be found on Joy's homepage.

Joy reported that three vans took new faculty and post-docs to Denali earlier this semester and the weather was glorious. She has just gotten back from meeting with UAS faculty in Juneau, and is working on proposals for using extra UNAC funds. While all of her funding is already used for travel, UNAC has some extra money that can be put to good use. Joy encouraged us to attend the Google Glass demo on Friday, September 20 to learn about wearable technology and its possibilities for education. She also stated that the subscription to Magna Publications will probably be renewed for this year. Faculty members can go online to the Magna Publications' website and choose specific archived presentations to suit their own development needs.

VII. Discussion of future committee focus

Franz suggested that we develop a mission statement for the FDAI committee so that our focus is clear. He has started brainstorming and emailed a document for our comments and suggestions. Mike D. remarked that we want to make sure the statement is succinct. Franz has included some information on how the committee should operate. There has been some confusion about how committee members are appointed which Franz feels Faculty Senate will help clarify in the days to come. He feels it is important to state our mission clearly so that we do not overlap other committees' works. Joy suggested changing the name of the committee to just "Development and Assessment Committee" since "Improvement" is redundant. Several members agreed and liked the idea of a shortened title. Franz asked committee members to please respond with feedback to his mission statement document via email or through Google Docs.

VIII. Upcoming events

The Administrative Committee meets September 27. Please send Franz any items that should be addressed. Faculty Senate meets October 7.

IX. Next meeting

We will meet three more times this semester: October 24, November 14, and December 5. All of these meetings are Thursdays, 4:00 – 5:00 pm in Bunnell 222.

X. Adjourned at 5:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Houlton.