

UAF Faculty Development, Assessment and Improvement Committee Meeting Minutes for September 26, 2012

I. Franz Meyer called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

II. Roll call:

Present: Mike Castellini, Izetta Chambers, Andrea Ferrante, Kelly Houlton, Trina Mamoon, Franz Meyer, Joy Morrison, Amy Vinlove

Excused: Stephen Brown, Diane Erickson

Absent: David Fazzino

III. Changes to the FDAI team

We discussed adding Cindy Fabbri from the School of Education to the committee and decided that she would be a good addition. Franz will talk to her about becoming a member.

IV. Report from Joy

Joy reports that there have been many well-attended social events for new faculty members. She notes that there are several more planned and that our new faculty are getting out into the community.

Travel awards have been granted for the fall semester with a smaller amount given to more faculty members in UNAC. She notes that UAFT faculty members will need to work with their union to get faculty development funds raised to a top priority.

Joy is gearing up for October's presentations for CNSM and passed out a schedule of events. She also continues to work on the Lilly West conference and says that seven faculty members will be attending along with her. Because the conference occurs during spring break, travel arrangements are proving to be difficult and expensive.

Regarding postdocs, Joy has started collecting email addresses for adjunct faculty and TAs, noting that it is proving difficult to get a list of adjuncts from various departments.

She reports that last Friday's Blackboard pedagogy presentation at the eLearning and Distance Education Center was excellent and well-attended, and that there will be a presentation on eLive pedagogy this Friday.

Franz brought up his concern that the CNSM faculty had not yet heard about the schedule of faculty development presentations tailored for their college and feels that postdocs should be included. He will forward an email invitation from Joy to people at GI who may not be on the notification list from the Dean. This led to a discussion on how SOE faculty found out about the presentations tailor-made for them this month. Amy noted that she did not receive any emails early on but that faculty members did attend many

sessions. Joy noted that SOE faculty did not attend the session last Friday on Blackboard pedagogy despite requesting the session. After some discussion it was discovered that several issues came into play: 1) there was some confusion regarding communication of scheduling; 2) SOE faculty wanted a higher-level presentation than the basic level; and 3) the 3-hour block of time is too long for most teaching faculty. Joy noted that she is willing to present on Saturdays, but there is concern that faculty may not show up. Franz noted that there should be some encouragement in the form of a reminder to faculty that these development sessions are a part of their tenure process. Izetta mentioned that rural campus faculty members find it difficult to join in the faculty development opportunities. Joy pointed out that audio conferences are easy to set up if faculty from the rural campuses request it, while video conferencing – which is sometimes necessary for visual-intense presentations – is more difficult due to the limited number of available video conferencing rooms.

V. Discussion of including postdocs in the FDAI activities

Mike noted that he will be meeting with John Eichelberger next week and will talk with him about unifying postdocs. He will report back to our committee after their discussion. Mike mentioned that he recently attended two national-level postdoc meetings and can share the latest information. Andrea explained the postdoc situation at his previous institution, the Medical College of Wisconsin, and shared their Office of Postdoctoral Education website showing us the impressive various support features in place. Our committee decided to include postdocs in our activities in order to help them become organized since they are at a pivotal crossroad in their careers. Joy feels that postdocs should be invited to attend the informal teaching training that Laura Connor will be offering for CNSM faculty.

VI. Other business

CNSM will be hosting a New Faculty Lunch with Dean Paul Layer on October 25 from 12:45 – 2:15 p.m. in the Runcorn Room (Reichardt Building)

VII. Upcoming events

Administrative Committee meeting: Friday, September 29. Franz says he will remind faculty to attend development opportunities and try out the tailoring effort.

Faculty Senate meeting: Monday, October 8.

VIII. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, October 31 (costume optional) from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. in Bunnell 222.

VII. Adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Houlton.