FTLC-AC MINUTES

Date: October 22, 2012

Location: 211 A DEV (Grand Rapids) and D-1-142 MAK (Allendale)

Meeting called to order at 1:00

Present: David Bair, Kyle Felker, Vijay Gondhalekar, Scott Grissom, Janel Pettes-Guikema, Deborah Herrington, Sarah Hay (student senate rep), Kim Kenward, Christine Rener, Laurie Stickler, Darren Walhof, Joy Washburn

1. Approval of Agenda
   a. Motion to approve, Vijay, second Darren

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Oct. 8, 2012)
   a. Motion to approve, Scott, second Vijay
   b. All approved, except Darren and Kim abstained

3. Announcements
   none

4. Follow-up: 2012-13 Committee Charge for FTLC-AC
   a. No response yet from

5. Discussion: IDEA Paper
   a. How do you see this fitting in to GVSU?
      -The IDEA Center produced this paper; are they unbiased?
      -they have references; are not selling a product
      -of course, they will use references that support their point of view; there are papers that present contrary views (such as some that abandon evaluations, but that is not going to happen at GVSU)
      -characteristics of students not related to the rating system; factors that undermine the reliability of any evaluation tool; these represent likely concerns of faculty when this issue is discussed more broadly.
      -should we also look for more varied articles, that might provide some balance to this article
         -but this article did survey a range of the literature
         -does provide some balance on the issues
         -key researchers are included and addressed in this paper
         -most studies of student evaluations are positive
         -studies have found that on evaluations, students can discern faculty enthusiasm and faculty effectiveness
         -this paper would be a good starting point for faculty who want to become familiar with the literature.

6. Discussion: Tools used to assess student perceptions of teaching/instruction
who owns the data?
- it is owned by the University, but remains on the server for the organization
- Scantron web page: discussion of information:
- Do we want this information to be available to the public? To students?
- Can we share how well our faculty are rated by the students? as a marketing tool for GVSU?
 Would admissions like this?
- We could have a set of questions that are on all evaluations across campus.
- Can we give extra/bonus points for completing the evaluation
- email students regularly to remind them
- provide access to the results ONLY to students who complete the evaluations
- raffles or some reward for students who complete evaluations
- low response rates tend to be biased toward more negative comments
- perhaps not every faculty needs to be evaluated every term
- or have untenured faculty evaluated every term, and tenured faculty evaluated once a year.
- but there should be a campus-wide consistent policy on who gets evaluated how often
- reliability is dependent upon response rate
- if less than 10 students, more classes of students need to be done in order to get a more valid indicator
- our handbook says normally, faculty are evaluated every course every semester.

7. FTC Director Updates
none

8. Sub-Committee Updates
a. Grants:
   i. The committee met; decisions were made; letters were sent out
b. Teaching Awards:
   i. Meeting on November 12, 12-3:00, in 327 LOH

Our next meeting is scheduled for November 12. At the November 26 meeting: Kim Kenward will lead discussion on alternative technologies we may want to use for our meetings beginning Fall 2013.
Meeting adjourned at 2:00

Respectfully submitted,

David Bair

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