FTLCAC Meeting Minutes

Time: January 27th, 2014, 12pm-2pm

Location: 302 DeVos

Present: Kyle Felker, Christine Rener, Alisha Davis, Patty Stow Bolea, Barbara Hooper, Bruce Bettinghaus, Matthew Roberts, Peter Riemersma, Mostafa El-Said, David Bair, Jacob Schacht

1. Agenda approved.

2. November meeting minutes approved.

3. FTLC update:

Members of the FTLC recently attended the Association of American Colleges and Universities. Christine hopes to share gathered information soon.

Described was the recent subscription to 20 Minute Mentor Commons which covers various teaching topics and resources. Christine will email soon with information regarding login. FTLC has a year trial, and it is hoped that the Commons would function as discussion starters on teaching, topics: learning students names, classroom assessment techniques, difficult topic discussion approaches. Feedback on usefulness is hopefully coming.

A subscription with the Sloan Consortium was described. The program includes week long and online courses on how to use online tools, such as online discussion boards. Christine will send the application and catalog to the committee.

The date was given for the upcoming Faculty awards convocation, Thursday Feb. 6th at 4pm in Loosemore.

4. Old Business

Kyle shared information he gathered from attending the recent town hall meetings on evaluations. Questions asked at the meetings clustered around how student evaluation will be used. A motion was passed in ECS favoring implementation of a standardized instrument; however, it did not state a specific instrument to be used. Survey fatigue was of concern and alternative evaluation methods were left as an option considering the motion’s wording. A delivery system has thus far been undetermined.

5. New Business

Concerns over the nomination processes of the various Pew Faculty Awards were discussed. Issues primarily revolved around timeline problems. General consensus was for FTLC to move forward its deadline to open up time for consideration of applications, and prompt departments and colleges to begin their nomination processes in the spring. It was noticed through individual
stories that colleges practice different nomination processes, and the spring deadline was thought to alleviate any stress caused by a certain process along with lack of time. The FTLCAC concluded that reminders of the upcoming awards and recommended timelines would be helpful to improve department practice. Additionally, FTLC provided application samples and best practices could at possibly provide an education piece for departments. Moving up the FTLC deadline to October 1st was seen as an appropriate date.

Straw poll, motioned by Kyle: who would favor restructuring form? Voiced majority agreement in favor of restructuring. The FTLC will consider ways of restructuring the application forms through a subcommittee. Kyle will draft sample charges and contact Institutional Marketing.

The trend of recurring nominations was addressed. The committee desired to ensure good people continue to be nominated.

Discussion continued to why the Teaching with Technology Award did not get awarded at the last event. Involved members mentioned how no applicants seemed to stand out. The committee recommended criteria be reviewed by FTLC. Kyle mentioned Library interest in changing the criteria of their award to accommodate the ever change nature of library work. Recommendations would be entertained from the FTLC and the Provost. Kyle will draft legislation for vote at the February meeting.

Lapses in communication were voiced regarding the appropriate people not being informed of who must sit on the related subcommittee for award review. The committee recommended the FTLC better clarify the purpose of the Teaching with Technology Award, and it’s subcommittee so members understand their role. Framing on what good work looks like is important. A need for increasing detailed information in applications was expressed.

6. Adjourned at 1:46pm.

Upcoming Meeting Times:

February 17, 2014
March 17, 2014
April 21, 2014

All located in 302 DeVos