

FTLCAC Meeting Minutes

Time: Monday, November 18, 2013, 12PM-2PM

Location: 1104 KC

Present: Kyle Felker, Christine Rener, Janel Pettes-Guikema, Peter Riemersma, Darren Walhof, David Bair, Cynthia Grapszyinski, Mostafa El-Said, Matthew Roberts, Vendana Pednekar-Magal, Jacob Schacht (Student Senate)

1. Agenda approved.
2. October meeting minutes approved.
3. A graduate student representative to the FTLCAC was approved by the ECS. We are awaiting student government to identify our new rep.
4. ECS deliberation of the IDEA student evaluation recommendation:
 - a. Three ECS-led Town Hall Meetings have been scheduled. About 15 people attended the Friday, November 15 meeting that Kyle attended.
 - b. A motion related to a consistent university student evaluation instrument was passed by ECS. The motion does not mention the IDEA form.
5. Upcoming FTLC workshops and events were discussed.
 - a. Issues with FTLC event attendance were discussed. Three formats for successful events were mentioned: January, before the start of the semester; mini-conference during the semester; May, before the start of the summer term
 - b. General Education support was discussed. The following recommendations were made:
 - i. Specific questions to be addressed in workshops be gathered ahead of time from those who sign up, that matters of organization, logistics, and assessment of new general education goals and their teaching be presented.
 - ii. Classroom spaces are in issue for collaborative learning activities – having tables on wheels, collaborative spaces for students outside of the classroom – possibly in reservable spaces in the library
 - iii. Safe “space” needs to be created in the classroom for discussion of sensitive topics, particularly those related to ethical reasoning

c. Teaching with simulation was discussed, following up on a conversation started at the October FTLCAC meeting.

i. A summer or fall mini-conference was suggested, with attention to the following areas: (a) introduction to the concepts of simulation, (b) implementing simulation and workshopping ideas, (c) preparing students and assessing the experiences.

ii. Three possible topical/model areas rose to the forefront: humanities (e.g. Reacting to the Past), health care, and political science

6. The Teaching Awards were discussed. Following the meeting of the Teaching Award Subcommittee, a number of items were brought to the attention of the full committee. The criteria for the awards, the review criteria, the timeframe of nominations, packet deadlines, and nomination packet materials were discussed. Some of these items will be discussed further at the January FTLCAC meeting. Janel and Vendana will bring forth recommendations for discussion. Patty Bolea from the FTLC will be invited to attend this meeting.

7. The meeting ended with a spirited discussion of the role of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning at GV. The value of this type of work for the institution as well as individual faculty was discussed. College cultures, personnel and tenure processes, and the nontraditional evidence that can be associated with SoTL work were all mentioned as potential barriers to more widespread engagement in this type of scholarship.

Winter Semester 2014

Mon, Jan 27 – 302E DeVos

Mon, Feb 17 – 302E DeVos

Mon, Mar 17 – 302E DeVos

Mon, Apr 21 – 302E DeVos