

FACULTY TEACHING AND LEARNING CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AY 2015-2016 MIDYEAR REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The FTLCAC has made significant progress towards completing its charges for the academic year. We have held in-depth discussions on promotion of the scholarship of teaching and learning and are planning initiatives for Winter 2016 semester to address this issue concretely. We have met with university representatives regarding academic integrity, particularly in online courses, and we are working with FTLC staff to disseminate materials regarding this subject. The committee oversaw the first round of a revamped FTLC grant process and is gathering information on how further to improve the new process. Finally, we have partnered with leadership in the College of Health Sciences to understand that college's use of simulations in teaching and have plans to interact with CHS further on this matter in the Winter.

PROGRESS ON AY 2015-2016 CHARGES

Charge	Progress
1(a): Continue to assist the FTLC staff to execute goals for the 2015-16 academic year, with special emphasis on promoting the scholarship of teaching, in particular investigating possible disconnects between the Faculty Handbook and unit expectations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">FTLCAC has begun planning initiatives to promote the scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) that will be developed further in the Winter, namely: flyers for new faculty about SoTL opportunities, inclusion of SoTL related news items in the FTLC newsletter, and most notably, plans for a public repository of peer-reviewed open educational resources created by GVSU faculty. The last item would provide GVSU faculty a way to share their work in a peer-reviewed setting that provides a stepping stone to more in-depth SoTL research.We are continuing to study existing promotion and tenure language across units regarding SoTL and investigate the drafting of standardized language for unit expectations for promotion and tenure regarding SoTL.
1(b): Continue to assist the FTLC staff to execute goals for the 2015-16 academic year, with special emphasis on Promoting the scholarship of teaching, in particular investigating ways to promote best practices for academic integrity, especially for online courses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">We met with Aaron Haight to discuss university guidelines and initiatives for academic integrity in all courses.We held a lengthy discussion of best practices for academic integrity in online courses based on a set of readings from Faculty Focus.We are working with Christine Rener to explore ways that FTLC can disseminate case studies of academic integrity for faculty to use as well as other materials that can promote best practices for academic integrity.
2: Support the implementation of USETI recommendations.	FTLCAC has discussed the USETI recommendations as they have made their way through Faculty Senate.
3: Continue to assist the FTLC staff with considering ways to improve the process for FTLC grants.	FTLC implemented a new system for teaching and travel grants this year. As faculty apply for these new grants, FTLCAC is taking notes of what is working well and not-so-well and will discuss improvements in Winter 2016.

Charge	Progress
4: Confer with the appropriate committees in KCON and CHP to recommend to FTLC best practices for teaching with simulations, and make recommendations regarding transferable practices to other colleges and units.	<p>Robert Talbert (FTLCAC chair) met with Jean Nagelkirk (Vice Provost for Health) and Doris French (Director of Simulation, CHS) on November 10 for an in-depth discussion of CHS' efforts in teaching with simulation. A report was made to FTLCAC and a discussion followed. In Winter 2016 we intend to have either Jean Nagelkirk or Doris French (or both) visit a committee meeting to discuss the matter further.</p>
5: Advise FTLC on ways to support the unique professional development needs of unit heads and emerging leaders.	<p>Only minor discussion on this point so far. This will be a priority item for Winter 2016.</p>

PRIORITY ITEMS FOR WINTER 2016

- An *ad hoc* subcommittee will explore the creation of the peer-reviewed open educational resource repository with a goal of having specific plans laid for it by the end of the semester.
- We will continue to investigate ways to encourage units to promote the scholarship of teaching and learning, particularly in promotion and tenure expectations. One specific initiative will be to draft standard language for units to use in those expectations.
- We will continue to plan specific FTLC programming to promote SoTL, particularly to new faculty.
- Draft specific recommendations for FTLC programming regarding best practices for academic integrity in both traditional and online courses, to add to what is currently offered.
- Make concrete plans for supporting the USETI recommendations in their final form.
- Draft specific improvements to the grant system based on the application and grant process from Fall 2015.
- Investigate the “unique professional development needs of unit heads and emerging leaders” and ways FTLC can support such development.
- Meet as a committee with Jean Nagelkirk and/or Doris French for further discussion of teaching with simulations.

RECOGNITION OF SUBCOMMITTEES

FTLCAC has two subcommittees, one for determining grant recipients and another for determining university teaching award winners. Both subcommittees did outstanding work, and the committee wishes to recognize their contributions.

Respectfully submitted,



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