

Academic Health Center
Faculty Consultative Committee
February 7, 2008
Minutes of the Meeting

Present: Lois Heller, chair, Peter Davies, Susan Berry, Colin Campbell, Paul Olin, and Cheryl Robertson

Guests: Barbara Brandt

In These Minutes {Discussion on Academy of Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, the Faculty Forum Survey, the AHC Academic Advisory Committee, and a report on Finance and Planning}

Professor Heller began by leading a discussion on the Academy of Excellence in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. Vice President Brandt suggested presenting the award to recipients at the “ Best Practices Institute” to be held on May 20th and 21st. Committee members agreed this would be an excellent venue for presenting the award. She said she would identify national experts to serve on the selection committee for the academy for this year. Members then discussed the criteria for acceptance into the Academy. Some members expressed concern that the instruction regarding submission of teaching portfolios is not clear. It was decided to make some changes to the website that will provide clarification of the criteria.

The committee then discussed the four areas of focus provided by the nomination requirements. Those areas are listed below:

1. **Direct Student Instruction:** Educational activities documented through applied research activities including but not limited to:
 - Classroom teaching
 - Clinical teaching
 - Community-based education
 - Advisement
 - Mentoring curriculum
 - Program development
 - Special student projects and/or service learning
2. **Research and Scholarly Activities Related to Teaching and Learning:**
 - Creative contributions made in education as documented through peer-reviewed activities, such as funded research
 - Publications
 - Education journal review
 - Involvement in national workshops
 - Invited lectureships
 - Presentations at scholarly meetings
3. **Public Service and Outreach:**
 - Teaching and presentations in continuing education
 - Public service and outreach to practitioners, faculty, and the public
 - Development of programs connecting the University to communities throughout Minnesota
 - Strategies to enhance access to health sciences education throughout Minnesota

4. Academic Leadership in AHC Programs:

- Service on committees
- Positions that provide guidance and direction to education in AHC programs
- Leadership in evidence-based curriculum innovation
- Collaboration on the development of interprofessional education across AHC programs

Professor Heller then noted that there is a University Senate Chairs luncheon being held on February 11th. This is an opportunity to discuss issues of importance to each of the committees. Professor Davies will attend on behalf of the AHC FCC, as Professor Heller is not able to attend.

The members then discussed the AHC FCC forum survey questions. The members would like to learn more about topics that are of interest to the AHC faculty and whether a change to the format would make it possible for more people to attend. The committee is hoping the survey will ultimately result in increased forum attendance. Professor Davies will post the survey and distribute it to the AHC list serve.

Professor Berry said the Academic Advisory Committee has met once a month since the summer. The initial meetings were used to define the parameters of the committee's work. The Advisory Committee has been formed because there are a number of educational programs that do not simply come under the purview of a particular college or of the Graduate School. The Advisory Committee has been assembled to provide oversight and evaluate accreditation for programs of this kind. The committee evaluated a proposal for the Doctorate of Nursing Practice Program. Detailed information was provided by the program including:

- The program's specific educational and career benefits
- The responsibilities of the program faculty
- A business plan including a cost analysis
- Outcome evaluation measures

Professor Berry learned there is a high need level for the Advisory committee to set standards by which to evaluate the rigor and sustainability of programs. The evaluation process and its impact have impressed her.

Professor Olin then led a discussion on issues raised at the University Senate Finance and Planning committee. The salient points of the discussion are noted below:

- The University continues to be successful at containing fuel and other utility costs.
- There are currently three possible plans for Light Rail Transit (LRT) construction on the University campus. Professor Olin said many people are concerned about one of the plans, which calls for the rail to be constructed at grade level. The plan building the line at subgrade has been discarded. The two alternatives are to either designate Washington Avenue as a mall that does not allow private vehicles or constructing the rail around the campus using a route to the north. The state legislature is scheduled to decide which of the plans will be implemented in the coming weeks.
- The Enterprise Finance System (EFS) is coming on line over the next several weeks. There is training required of all people who work with the finance system in any manner. There are a number of concerns being raised about the transition to EFS and the system's design. The committee members would like to invite a representative from the Finance Department to an upcoming meeting to discuss their concerns.
- Professor Berry will look into problems with classroom space being experienced within the Medical School and report back to the committee.

Hearing no further business Professor Heller adjourned the meeting.

Sara Balick
University Senate