

UAF Faculty Development, Assessment and Improvement Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2010

I. Josef Glowa called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm.

II. Roll call:

Present: Melanie Arthur, Diane Erickson, Josef Glowa, Kelly Houlton, Julie Lurman

Finally, Joy requested that while she is on sabbatical, the FDAI committee members should help promote upcoming Faculty Development opportunities and ask their colleagues what they would like to see offered. She reports that Eric Mazur's presentations were well-attended.

IV. Old Business

1. Update on electronic student evaluations

Josef followed up on the documents forwarded on to Provost Henrichs and Jon Dehn and discovered that while both had received said documents, they have not yet had time to look into them. He asked the committee if we felt FDAI should formulate a motion regarding electronic student evaluations. After some discussion, we decided that the motion should state that no decision should be made to implement electronic student evaluations without input from Faculty Senate, and that research on this issue needs to be done at the administrative level. The FDAI committee recommendations should accompany this motion. Larry suggested that we should ask Provost Henrichs to come to our meeting so we can present our recommendations to her and to have her be cognizant to our findings. Josef will work on a draft of the motion and send it out to committee members for input.

2. Faculty Forum for spring 2011

Committee members will read chapter three (teaching) in Kennedy's book so that we can begin planning the discussion for next year's Faculty Forum.

V. New Business

1. Libby Roderick's talk on Friday, November 19 in the Wood Center

There was some confusion as to the time and place of Libby Roderick's talk this Friday. Joy said she would look into it and send out an email clarification.

2. Comment sheets and IAS scores

Josef shared an email from Katrin Iken (Marine Biology) regarding her concern for student anonymity in small classes. Faculty can either recognize students' handwriting or sentence structure, or could even determine a student's identity from the nature of a particular complaint. Students do not feel they can be honest and frank. This adds another concern for the committee regarding student evaluations. While anonymity will always be an issue for small classes, the committee feels that it might be necessary for Faculty Senate to appoint an ad hoc committee to deal with these concerns regarding student evaluations (problems with electronic format *and* student anonymity issues).

3. March 3-5, 2011 for the 6th annual Lilly Arctic Institute on Innovations & Excellence in Teaching

Larry sent out a detailed invitation to FDAI committee members to read through. He asks that we let him know if we have any comments or questions.

4. Another template for improving teaching strategies?

After a very brief discussion to determine where we are on this issue, we decided we could drop it until any new requests come up.

VI. Next Meeting: Thursday, December 2, 2010, 3:00 – 4:00 pm in Bunnell 222.

VII. Adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Houlton.