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Faculty Development minutes 03/08/2013

Faculty Development Committee

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Minutes of the Faculty Development Committee

Friday, March 8, 2013

Present: Siobhan Bremer, chair; Farah Gilanshah; Rita Bolluyt; William Straub

Absent: Matt Fredericks, Mark Logan, and Jon Troe

We still have no replacement for Kristin Beck from Grants Development.

Guests: Jennifer Goodnough, associate professor Division of Science and Math; Sarah Buchanan, associate professor Division of Humanities (French)

As people were entering the room, there was an initial discussion about labeling students. Chair Bremer opened the meeting by reviewing the schedule of our next FDC meetings: Friday, March 29. We will then meet again April 12, April 19 or 26, and our final meeting for the semester will be on May 3.

Mark took notes last week, but have not been submitted so there is nothing to approve yet. We reviewed the minutes procedure which is for the note taker to e-mail minutes to all the committee members, at the following meeting date will be corrected and approved. The note taker then submits the corrected minutes to Jayne Blodgett in the library for posting on the Digital Well.

Continued our discussion of Fall Professional Development Day. Currently our plan is to begin with a "world café" breakout discussion of various approaches to teaching international students.

The chair introduced and welcomed Jenn Goodnough who summarized a few scholarly articles on millennial students. The data shows millennial students as being achievement oriented, optimistic, seeing themselves as special. They want attention and services tailored to each individual unique person; their parents have been highly involved; they have faced standardized tests so they enjoy science more than history because science is more objective with right and wrong answers whereas history is open and gray. Discussion ensued of how we can connect this to teaching since that is the main topic of this year's Fall Professional Development Day. One idea proposed is to have different tables in which faculty and staff will discuss traits of millennial and discuss impact on teaching. One person from each group will present to the whole group and then open up to larger discussion. Do we want to have students involved? Specifically do we wish to have a student in each group, at each table? Discussion ensued of how to involve students using this knowledge. For example many students change their majors in order to get higher grades instead of following their passion. How do instructors need to "sell" difficult classes, and/or convince students of the importance of my class especially to non-majors. Can we include teaching and advising? Another idea: e-mail articles ahead of time. Jenn said she would e-mail the article she read and summarized to Siobhan. Another idea: there are five master advisers, one from each of the different divisions. Can we create five tables?

Topic switched to internationalizing teaching. Sarah Buchanan presented her experience participating in Internationalizing Teaching and Learning (ITL) Cohort last January directed by Gayle Woodruff in the Twin Cities. The main goal was to rewrite/revamp a course syllabus to include internationalization in every aspect of the class, rather than simply adding a unit. For

example, approach course having students research and think about the global village -- each student is assigned to represent an individual in the global society based on percentages. Students then need to represent and portray this character in class in order to bring about greater understanding of various cultures. The goal is to integrate global citizenship into all curriculum, not just have this be a check off. Sarah expressed great enthusiasm for the ITL and she believes it would appeal to mid and late career faculty as well as to new faculty.

Discussion of how to integrate ITL ideas and concepts into Fall Professional Development Day. Perhaps Gayle Woodruff could be contacted to travel from the Twin Cities and to work within the time constraints of the day -- perhaps 1-4 p.m. Perhaps she or Sarah could present the main ideas and then moderate a discussion. Another idea is to have the morning be discussion time for the faculty and staff, and then the afternoon would be learning about this ITL.

Meeting adjourned 4:58 p.m.

Action items: William will send final itinerary from last year's Fall Professional Day to committee

Minutes respectfully submitted by
William Straub
Briggs Librarian