

## **Faculty Development Council AY 2014-15 Annual Report**

The Faculty Development Council (FDC) was composed of 10 faculty and three ex officio representatives including Lynn Bartels (representative from the Provost's office), Wayne Nelson (EUE Director), and Matt Schmitz (representative from IDLT), Jennifer Logue, Belinda Carstens-Wickham, Serdar Celik (replaced by Igor Crk for sabbatical), Anne Powell, Elza Ibroscheva, (Chair), Shadrack Msengi, Jack Glassman. During the 14-15 AY, the FDC organized a well attended continuing improvement conference, reviewed 22 EUE applications, crafted and passed to FS a travel statement, amended Teaching Excellence Award Committee (TEAC) operating papers to allow representative from the Dental School to serve on the review committee, amending the FDC operating papers to include ad hoc a representative from LIS, actively participated in the developing of the concept of new Center for Faculty Development and Innovation.

### **Travel Philosophy Statement:**

In response to the Provost's concerns about travel funding procedures, and particularly so, at the international level, the FDC invited Provost Ansari to share his concerns about these issues with the Council. In response, the FDC crafted a philosophy statement outlining the importance of travel for faculty's research and creative activities and the university at large. This statement was then voted on and accepted by the Senate at large, outlining responsibilities and expectations of faculty who apply for travel funding, both nationally and internationally.

### **Bridging Disciplinary and Digital Divides:**

FDC organized a continuing improvement conference, *Bridging Disciplinary and Digital Divides*, which was held as a whole day event on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at the MUC conference center. The conference included a keynote speaker, Dr. Cris Mayo, professor and director for online learning at the College of Education at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Her talk on the digital divide was very well received and was followed by three simultaneous sessions on facing new challenges in online education, the importance of technological comfort, and innovative technique in online pedagogy. All three sessions were well attended, offering 13 speaker presentations and drawing a crowd of over 55 attending faculty and staff. The conference was also supported by the Office of Academic Innovation and Effectiveness, which provided funding along with the Faculty Senate.

### **EUE Applications:**

22 EUE applications requesting ~ \$ 230,000 forth of funding were reviewed in the month of May, once funds for the EUE were made available. The call for application and the submission deadline this year were unprecedentedly short, but the Council was able to complete reviews, rank proposal and submit recommendation to the Provost Office. Nine proposals were funded.

### **Operating Paper Revisions:**

Revisions to the FDC and TEAC operating papers were approved. FDC Operating Papers were revised to provide an ex-officio membership from the LIS constituency, and the TEAC revised papers were approved to be include members of the Dental School on the TEAC review committee (the revised papers are to be voted on at the Faculty Senate at first meeting of AY 2015-16). Additional work will be completed in the Fall of 2016 to further optimize the application process for the TEA as well as providing continued input in the structure of the award and its review.

### **Faculty Development Center:**

The FDC also provided input on the idea of development of Center for Faculty Development and Innovation (FDCI), which is to serve as a centralized hub for assisting faculty in various areas as they develop their careers at SIUE. The Chair of the Council served as the FDC representative on the Faculty Development Center Task Force, tasked by the Provost to develop a proposal and a structure for the future FDCI. The FDCI proposal was developed and approved, and the web hub for the center was launched over the summer of 2015, with the understanding the FDC Chair will be involved in the operation of the center and the FDC senators will serve in the capacity of advisory board members.