Faculty Development Council Meeting Minutes: September 18th, 2014

Present: Lynn Bartels, Shadrack Msengi, Elza Ibroscheva, Jennifer Logue

Absent: Belinda Carstens-Wickham (excused), Matt Schmitz, Wayne Nelson, Igor Crk

Announcements: Wayne Nelson announced he will be collecting input from previous EUE applicants on how to improve the application process next time around. Bryan Smith, chair of TEAC, announced that they are in the new requirement for the Dossiers and the increase the Teaching Distinction Award was forwarded to the Dean’s on May 9th. Also, the School of Dental Medicine was contacted regarding their participation on the committee and they have indicated that they would like to have a member on the committee. Bryan asked that we consider allowing the School of Dental Medicine to have a voting member on the committee this year. By allowing them to have a member on the committee, that would have the opportunity to determine if they wish to permanently rejoin the TEAC committee and nominate faculty for this award. Bryan will also be contacting the Deans of Pharmacy, CAS, and Engineering next week to get the names of their representatives. He also will be contacting the Deans of all SIUE Schools, with the exception of Dental Medicine, to request their nominations the first week of October. At that time, a campus wide announcement via the E-Today list-serve will be sent. In early November, a meeting of the TEAC will be convened to review the expectations of committee members along with their anticipated tasks. Dossiers will be due to the Committee on December 1st and the review of dossier and classroom observations will begin in early December and will conclude Mid-February.

Lynn Bartels announced that the Mid-Week Mentor workshops a bit different this time around, as they meet every other week, alternating with ITS and distributed a schedule of events to be shared with respective faculty.

The biggest news is that Provost in very interested in establishing a Faculty Development Center on campus. Essentially, this will center will consolidate all functional bodies that support faculty on campus—online, library, technology, diversity, etc. It will part of virtual center with teaching and research links, and a library link as well, putting already existing resources all in one place for easy one-stop access. In addition, there will also be a physical space in the library, which might be modeled after office hours, alternating different experts available for consultation. A representative from the FDC who will serve as liaison to the Task Force is needed. Elza Ibroscheva volunteered. The timeline is not set yet, but meeting will be held soon.

Consideration of Minutes: The April 17th, 2014 minutes were approved.

Unfinished Business: none

New Business:

1. The FDC members voted in support of the TEAC’s request to allow the School of Dental Medicine to rejoin the committee. The only concern we had was with possible issues during classroom observations, which might be complicated because of the commute from Alton.

2. We discussed the continuous improvement conference and possible areas of focus for the symposium. The FDC decided that a topic close to the REALITY theme of last year will be good, and we directed our attention to bringing a fresh look at online teaching. Suggestions were made to make the conference an open-ended discussion of all aspects of online teaching, ranging from best practices to lessons learned from the online world, as well as collaborative learning and sharing experiences across disciplines. We discussed possible titles. Shadrack suggested teaching online across disciplines. Jennifer further refined the title to “Bridging Disciplinary and Digital Divides.” We also decided that would align well with the ongoing discussion of e-textbooks and social media policy. Elza also made a suggestion to have a panel of students who will share their best experiences with online courses as well as present the learner perspective, rather than teacher’s alone. We discussed possible times for the conference and decided to hold the event either in February or March, depending upon conference room availability in the MUC. Elza is going to look into that and report back.

3. We also considered Aminata Cairo’s request for funding for the community experiential learning group. Since no funds are available through the FDC, we encouraged Cairo to look for funds with alumni
association or the Emeritus Faculty Association, both of which might be good places to seek financial support. As a whole, the FDC is very excited about this new initiative and will be happy to offer any other support that might be needed.

4. We tabled voting on the annual report for next meeting since the wrong report was distributed by mistake.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 4:04 p.m.