

UAF Faculty Development, Assessment and Improvement Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2014

I. Franz Meyer called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm.

II. Roll call:

Present: Bill Barnes, Mike Castellini, Mike Davis, Cindy Fabbri, David Fazzino, Andrea Ferrante, Kelly Houlton, Eric Madsen, Trina Mamoon, Franz Meyer, Joy Morrison, Channon Price

Excused: Leslie Shallcross, Amy Vinlove

III. Report from Joy

After we welcomed Joy back, she informed us that she has sent out the OFD February agenda to all new faculty as well as to faculty that are still relatively new to UAF. She is cutting back on the number of the OFD emails by sending out a monthly agenda to a filtered email list for specific groups of faculty. Joy reported that she is meeting with all new faculty during February – either face to face or via online.

Joy mentioned that the weekly Tuesday, 1:00 – 2:00 pm time slot is still being used for departmental meetings so some faculty are unable to attend the OFD's arranged presentations.

Joy reported that the Faculty Learning Communities formed last fall are going really well with 8 – 12 people in each of the six groups. She credits the facilitators with keeping up the momentum. Mike C. asked for a quick summary of some of the meetings Joy has sat in on. Joy responded that the groups meet for 90 minutes, and the members of the Learning Community that is looking at Flipping the Classroom all bought some kind of technology to use in their classrooms. After reading books on it and presenting their learnings during the fall semester, they have all implemented their various technologies in their respective classes this spring. Joy also noted that another FLC comprised mostly of CLA and Engineering faculty was currently meeting on how to write a good Annual Activities Report as just one of their topics.

Joy informed us that she has just signed another contract with Bob Lucas, so he will be coming to Fairbanks again.

Since UNAC has a new CBA there has been some confusion regarding their OFD funding. Joy reports that UNAC travel funding will be going to the Provost in the future.

The previously-titled Faculty Speed Dating event is now called a Research Schmooze and will take place April 15 on West Ridge from 1:00 – 2:00 pm. Joy has been working with the Office of Sponsored Programs to put the event together. They are hoping for 30 – 40 participants and have about 10 so far. Eric noted that the new electronic Annual

Activities Reporting software, Faculty 180, allows faculty to search for research interests amongst their fellow faculty members. Joy indicated that she wants to learn about this so she can show faculty how to go about it. Eric said he would send out an email to the FDAI Committee with instructions. Franz mentioned that Madara Mason of eLearning and Distance Education did a similar Schmooze event to pair research faculty with instructional designers and has written up the results on their website. Joy opined that it would be a good idea to have someone from eLearning on our committee as a permanent member. We all agreed and Franz will let Madara know our next meeting dates/times for the remainder of the semester.

Joy informed us that she still meets with candidates for new faculty positions to let them know what UAF has to offer. C.P. indicated that if this interaction was a factor for new faculty accepting a position at UAF, then Deans and Directors should be made aware of the importance of this service offered by OFD.

Joy also let us know that faculty have been asking her when UAF will be switching to electronic course evaluations as they are tired of waiting so long for their results – which was a perfect segue for the next item on our agenda.

IV. Discussion on Electronic Course Evaluation Report

Franz explained that the report has two main components: 1) a summary of the work that has been done up to this point along with the recommendations of the workgroup that UAF switch to eXplorance/Blue as the new course evaluation vendor; and 2) recommendations on transitioning to a new electronic/paper hybrid system along with what kinds of side-effects may be encountered. He shared that he had received comments on the report draft from 5 – 6 FDAI members and would be sharing the progress of the report with the Administrative Committee at their meeting tomorrow. The plan is to present the finished report to Faculty Senate in March and propose a vote in April. If the Senate approves, the report will then go to the Provost. Joy asked if there was a plan for testing the recommended product. Eric answered that it is too early in the process to tell but presumably it would be tested by a college or department first. He also informed us that the company itself (eXplorance/Blue) has recommendations on how to begin the transition if UAF decides to make the switch.

V. Discussion on Faculty Speed Dating Event

We already discussed this during Joy's report (see III above).

VI. Other Business

Mike C. shared information regarding post docs: A new SFOS faculty member in Juneau is setting up a Post-Doctoral Development Session and would like to get the information out to all UA post docs and faculty. Joy said she will facilitate a meeting with the aforementioned faculty member when she comes to visit UAF.

Mike C. asked about the possible re-naming of our committee, and Franz informed us that we are waiting for the Administrative Committee to make their decisions regarding the proposed mission statements, after which we will again visit the discussion on a possible name change.

Franz indicated that the FDAI Committee was instrumental in bringing the issues some Peer Review committees were experiencing to the attention of Provost Henrichs. He said that the Provost agreed with our suggestion that FDAI be involved in the process of resolving the issues but that our committee should not lead the effort.

VII. Upcoming Events

- a. Next FDAI meeting: 3-27-14 from 4-5:00 pm
- b. Administrative Committee meeting: 2-21-14
- c. Faculty Senate meeting: 3-3-14

VIII. Adjourned at 5:10 pm

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Houlton.