

UAF Faculty Development, Assessment and Improvement Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2016

I. Franz Meyer called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

Roll call

Present: Gerri Brightwell, Candi Dierenfield, Diana DiStefano, Andrea Ferrante, Kelly Houlton, Steve Hunt, Duff Johnston, Chris Lott, Trina Mamoon, Franz Meyer, Joy Morrison

Excused: Mike Castellini, Brian Himelbloom

Absent: Bernie Coakley, Cindy Fabbri, Channon Price

II. News on Electronic Course Assessment Implementation Committee (ECAI)

Andrea reported that the information website “Inspire us!” for UAF’s Blue electronic course evaluations is fully functioning and public (<http://www.uaf.edu/inspire-us>) . There are tabs which include historical results – including the old paper versions – and FAQs for students and faculty. There is also a link to a YouTube video on how to fill out the surveys on Blue. A few more items will be added including information on instructors’ reports and testimonials on how faculty have used their results to change and fine-tune their teaching and courses.

Andrea explained that Marketing and Communications are designing flyers for the spring semester which will hopefully be ready to hand out right after Spring Break. He also plans on getting an article regarding electronic evaluations in the Cornerstone after Spring Break. Andrea reminded us of the following dates: April 4 to 17 – faculty can start adding their own questions; and April 18 to May 2 – students will have access to fill out the surveys.

Joy asked if faculty are supposed to print their results. Andrea replied that they are stored electronically on Blue, but faculty could print them as well. Since the comments are private, faculty do not need to provide a copy for P and T files as access to appropriate parts of the surveys will be made available to review personnel.

Andrea reported that there is no consensus yet on numerical averages and how they relate to the old paper system. He also stated that since some unit criteria is under review, some of the numbers have been eliminated anyway.

III. Upcoming activities of the UAF Office of Faculty Development (report from Joy)

Joy reported that she is noticing a significant amount of stress amongst first-year faculty as she meets with them. There is a lot of uncertainty about future employment as only 5 of the 28 faculty members are tenure track.

Joy informed us that she will be getting a copy of UAA's video on faculty bullying that was shown last month. She reported that there are not so many incidences of faculty-to-faculty bullying but instead hears about TA-to-TA bullying and staff complaints. Joy indicated that her office will focus on faculty only.

Joy will be hosting a two-hour open house with pizza for second-year faculty later today to discuss various issues. She also added that a few faculty members were able to get special funding to attend ASTE (Alaska Society for Technology and Education).

IV. Upcoming activities by UAF eLearning & Distance Education

Chris referred us to the Faculty Development Events calendar:

<https://iteachu.uaf.edu/events/> as well as the iTeach Summer Clinic, May 9-13, info and application here:

<https://iteach.uaf.edu/>

He informed us that although the March iTeach is filled and they have closed the application process, it will still be possible for one or two more faculty to be included if they contact him.

V. Discussion on Status of the Faculty Mentoring program

Joy shared two survey drafts via Google docs with the committee in advance of our meeting. One survey is for second-, third-, and fourth-year faculty and the other is for deans. We discussed various different wordings and additional questions, including who drives the process and who initiates the meetings – the mentor or the mentee? What topics are discussed and/or what activities do you do with your mentor? Joy will revise both surveys and asked that everyone comment via email with their approval, thoughts and/or suggestions. She is hoping to implement the surveys after Spring Break.

VI. Introduction to the Quality Matters program and UAF's involvement

Chris explained that the program provides a diagnostic of the quality of online education using a research-based Rubric. The Rubric is revised every year and research driven. Formal reviews apply only to online courses or the online portion of hybrid courses. He stated that UAF is implementing the course content and curriculum peer review of course design and content but it does not apply to course delivery. For now eLearning and Distance Education is completing training of all designers at the end of this week to support faculty who wish to participate, and they are working to put peer review teams of three together using certified reviewers from multiple institutions. Reviews will take approximately three weeks to complete.

If you are interested or know of faculty who might be, please direct them to Chris or let him know so he can reach out to them.

VIII. Upcoming events

- a. Next FDAI meeting: Tuesday, 04/05/16, 10-11 am in Bunnell 222

(also: Tuesday, 05/03/16, same time/place)

b. Next admin committee meeting: 03/25/16

c. Next Faculty Senate meeting: 04/04/16

IX. Adjourned at 11:01 am. (Respectfully submitted by Kelly Houlton.)