Academy of Distinguished Teachers
Twin Cities Steering Committee

MINUTES

Friday, March 27, 2009
238 Morrill Hall, 2:30-4:00 p.m.

Present: Jay Hatch, Chair, Mike White, Deborah Levison, Ruth Lindquist, Marshall Stern, Karen Zentner Bacig, Jeremy Hernandez

Regrets: Tom Molitor, Vern Cardwell, Gary Gray

Guest: Steve Fitzgerald, Director, Office of Classroom Management

Announcements

Nominations for TCSC

Nominations for the Twin Cities Steering Committee ballot for the 2009-2010 election are due to Karen by Friday, March 27th. Karen will be contacting nominees the week of March 30th to ask about their willingness to be on the ballot. Ballots will hopefully go out the week of April 6th.

President Bruininks has expressed an interest in having faculty be able to effectively use classroom learning spaces, especially newly constructed spaces. The President has asked David Langley (CTL), Linda Jorn (DMC) and others to propose possible faculty development activities.

Spring Conference – Update (Jeremy)

Five morning workshops, seven guided discussions, and five afternoon workshops, plus poster sessions (concurrent with guided discussions). ~120 registrants. Please make sure to register!

Need to send registration information out to all faculty, staff and students again. Jeremy will be doing this in the coming weeks via Brief, the ADT list serv, VIP mail, various blogs, etc.

2009 New Faculty Orientation Information Fair

Ruth Lindquist will participate. Need at least one more steering committee members.

Classrooms in Academic Buildings – Discussion with Steve Fitzgerald, Director, Classroom Management (3:15-4:00 p.m.)

In past, ADT has been an important voice for classroom issues.

Use of balanced score card. Four perspectives to analyze the process and results of OCM policy and practices. Use to communicate with those who provide funding for OCM.

Active Learning Classrooms. Available now for two years. (Bio Sci Bldg, St. Paul and EECE Bldg, East Bank)

Pilots:
1. Utilize new construction techniques that are more flexible in nature. Opportunity to evaluate them and have code officials, etc. determine whether spaces were suitable for the U environment.
2. Want faculty to test drive the classrooms to give feedback
3. Partner with OIT
4. Assess how they figure into future inventory of classrooms. Will be in new STSS building.
5. Flexibility important. Also want to anticipate future needs.
6. NC State and MIT early adopters of this approach. NC State first to develop.
7. Initial cost 20% greater but long-term benefits make it worth the investment.

Round tables and white boards have been very important components of the room for getting students actively involved. Tablet PCs could also be useful in students working together on an activity and then projecting it on the monitors.

Netbooks
Smaller than notebooks and cheap ($2-400). There are also netbook tablets. Can separate the tablet from the keyboard and wirelessly communicate with the rest of the computer. Tablet is also the monitor. Roughly the size of a textbook or a Kindle.

Mobile Computing Initiative – OIT
Campus initiatives features 3/26/09 on Kare11.
ADT conference will feature presentation on use of active classroom.
OCM web site has two short videos on active learning classroom use.

10 active learning classrooms will be in new STSS Building on the East Bank (former site of Science Classroom Building).

“Class Capture” systems
Application that is resident on a computer that allows asynchronous streaming. Working on what the next generation might look like to allow synchronous applications. ITV is disappearing. Will need to have a bridge technology until we have something else that will allow the same kind of synchronous application.

OCM conducts ongoing scanning for new technologies, acoustic solutions, furniture, etc.

Classroom Inventory and Scheduling
Number of classrooms over the past few years has been reduced. We teach 17,000 sections per semester in fewer rooms than under the quarter system. More efficient. Goal is to have fewer but higher-quality classrooms. However, need to rebuild some of the quantity. 1701 Classroom Building (670 seats) will no longer be in use. Also, old Science Classroom Building had about 1,000 seats.

Difficult to get people to follow classroom scheduling guidelines. Working toward more efficient classroom use and scheduling. Ongoing work with colleges. Need to offer courses at all times across the entire week.

If we are to be more efficient we do reduce flexibility somewhat (meaning more constraints on the time a course is offered and in what room). Currently operate very close to the margins. If a high degree of flexibility is the goal, inventory has to go up fairly substantially.

See page 10 of balanced score card report.

300 Central classrooms in 55 buildings. Overall U buildings approximately 280. Central classrooms are 3% of overall building space. 260 departmental classrooms. OCM is trying to get more activity into departmental classrooms to help address demand issues.
St. Paul campus has more flexibility. Efforts are being made to try to have more classes taught in St. Paul.

**DO:** Follow-up discussion at April TCSC meeting.

**Upcoming meetings:**
April 17, 2009, 2:30-4:00 p.m., 238 Morrill Hall
May 15, 2009, 2:30-4:00 p.m., 238 Morrill Hall