Academy of Distinguished Teachers  
Twin Cities Steering Committee

MINUTES

Friday, April 17, 2009
238 Morrill Hall, 2:30-4:00 p.m.

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

Regrets: Tom Molitor, Marshall Stern, Vern Cardwell, Gary Gray

Announcements

- Reminder: Gathering with new ADT members Sunday, April 26, 7-9 p.m. in the University Lounge at the Radisson Hotel
- Reminder: Distinguished Teaching Awards ceremony is Monday, April 27, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Memorial Hall, McNamara Alumni Center

Spring Conference – Update (Jeremy)

- Online registration closed
- Jeremy shared breakdown of demographics for conference participants
- Jeremy also shared a copy of the program
- 222 are currently registered
- Seeking volunteers to staff rooms during presentations

2009 New Faculty Orientation Information Fair

Need at least one more volunteer.

ACTION: Karen will send a request to the TC ADT members. (DONE)

Follow-up re Discussion with Steve Fitzgerald, Director, Classroom Management

- Reactions
- Sequestering classrooms in small number of buildings

Advantages:
- Design, building and implementation logistics are easier because many things are all located in one location
- Classrooms that will be used at off-peak times are more easily accommodated when in one location

Disadvantages
- More separation between students and faculty. Student to student interaction and student to faculty interaction are very important; this will be more difficult
- New science classroom building is essentially classrooms and offices.
- We have lost classroom space. At certain times of day, we have twice as many requests as we have space.
Seems we need to have both buildings with a lot of classrooms as well as building where there are classrooms as well as faculty offices.

Some concern that within buildings that are multi-purpose is that if costs need to be cut, sometimes it is the classroom(s) that is/are cut

**ACTION:** Jay will forward a motion that is before SCC from the Classroom Advisory Subcommittee that the Senate should support getting faculty adhering to a policy about classroom scheduling principles and another about increasing the number of classrooms and that this needs to be built into an ongoing plan. CAS is proposing that these kinds of issues would come before CAS.

**ACTION:** Ask Steve Fitzgerald what would be most useful to OCM coming from ADT?

**Future Issues for TCSC**

Interdisciplinary teaching

- Continue discussion.
- How to make manageable within a college as well as between colleges. Current system makes it too hard to do this easily. Too many obstacles.
- Possible retreat topic?
  - Administrative panel addressing institutional inhibitors
  - Then brainstorming session
- Motion to U Senate? SCEP?
- Work with Provost’s Interdisciplinary Team? Could use February meeting notes from discussion with Bob McMaster as foundation for future discussions with this team.

**ACTION:** Karen will ask that Provost’s Interdisciplinary Team address this.

**ACTION:** Jay will talk with Cathy Wambach about whether SCEP might have interest in appointing a sub committee to explore issues around interdisciplinary teaching.

- Maybe this issue ought to be the primary focus for next year’s TCSC work.

**ACTION:** Draft a talking points sheet, drawn from past TCSC minutes, to which the committee can continually add.

- Could make use of a Wiki around interdisciplinarity.

**Upcoming meetings:**

May 15, 2009, 2:30-4:00 p.m., 238 Morrill Hall – **Please come prepared to discuss ideas for the Fall 2009 ADT Retreat**