2007 ADT Fall Retreat Agenda

Higher Education in the Next Decade:
Where’s the U, where are You, and where are We, the ADT?

NOTE: ALL rooms will have newsprint and markers

Friday, October 5, 2007

5:00-6:00 p.m.  Check In  Lobby/Room 10

6:00-7:00 p.m.  Dinner  Ruby’s Dining Room

7:00-7:30 p.m.  Welcome / Introductions / Overview Room 8
Mary Rowan, Chair, ADT Executive Committee

7:30-9:30 p.m.  Higher Education – What Do We Know?
Many forces, both internal and external, influence and shape higher education. What do we know about some of the most powerful forces influencing higher education today? What is fact? What is fiction? This session will provide an opportunity to explore a few key higher education trends and discuss how we think they are influencing our work.

9:30-???  Social  Room 1
Reception in honor of Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Education, Craig Swan
Saturday, October 6, 2007

7:30-8:15 a.m.  Breakfast  Ruby’s Dining Room

8:30-11:45 a.m.  Contemporary Issues in Teaching and Learning

We have observed and discussed many forces that are influencing our work at the University of Minnesota, particularly our work in teaching and learning. These concurrent sessions feature some key University, ADT and Higher Education initiatives.

8:30-10:00

- Advising: Undergraduate, Graduate and Professional Students – An Update on Current Initiatives  Room 2

The University is initiating a number of undergraduate advising reforms as a result of strategic positioning. Additionally, an ADT working group, led by ADT member Kristin Anderson, has been looking at issues around graduate and professional advising and possible recommendations to be made regarding the training and information faculty receive. This session will update participants on these initiatives and facilitate a discussion regarding feedback and ideas ADT members may have.

Facilitators: Laura Coffin Koch, Associate Vice Provost for First Year Programs and Associate Professor, Postsecondary Teaching and Learning, UMTC

Karen Zentner Bacig, Assistant to the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs, UMTC

- Undergraduate Research: Does It Work?  Room 3

Many colleges and universities in the United States are attempting to improve their outcomes in undergraduate education, often as part of a quest for higher rankings. An emphasis on undergraduate research is often part of this initiative both to attract better students and to provide more support to students that the institution already has. What benefits does undergraduate research really provide? How can both students and Faculty Mentors make the most of these programs? This session will consist of a panel discussion with two faculty members and two students with experience in the University’s Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP).

Facilitator: Marvin Marshak, Faculty Director, Undergraduate Research, and Professor, Physics and Astronomy, UMTC

- Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL)  Room 4

10:00-10:15  Break  Mezzanine
10:15-11:45  Harnessing Technologies for Learning – Part I  Room 8
This plenary session will introduce some key trends in the technologies that are impacting higher education and how we teach and learn today. The session will also introduce the small-group sessions to follow on Sunday, which will offer opportunities to explore a couple of technologies being used by ADT colleagues as well as to discuss approaches that are not technologically based.

Facilitator: Billie Wahlstrom, Vice Provost for Distributed Education and Instructional Technology, UMTC

12:00 noon-12:45 p.m. Lunch  Ruby’s Dining Room

1:00-4:30 p.m.  Free Time / Activities  Meet in lobby for activities

Biking – Bert Ahern
Golfing – Laura Coffin Koch and Art Erdman
Nature Walk – Dan Svedarsky
Pontoon Ride – Jay Hatch (limit 12)

4:45 – 5:45 p.m. Informal Discussions
Descriptions provided at retreat.

6:00-6:45 p.m. Dinner  Ruby’s Dining Room

7:00-8:00 p.m.  The “Spellings Commission”: Friend or Foe?  Room 8
The “Commission on the Future of Higher Education”, also known as the “Spellings Commission”, was charged in September 2005 with the task of “...recommending a national strategy for reforming post-secondary education, with a particular focus on how well colleges and universities are preparing students for the 21st-century workplace...” In a September 2006 report, the Commission reported that its focus was on four areas: “...access, affordability (particularly for non-traditional students), the standards of quality in instruction, and the accountability of institutions of higher learning to their constituencies (students, families, taxpayers, and other investors in higher education).” It is the last area, “accountability”, and its relation to our current efforts in the area of undergraduate student learning outcomes on which our session will focus.

Facilitator: Arlene Carney, Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs, UMTC

For more information on the Spellings Commission, see
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commission_on_the_Future_of_Higher_Education
8:00-9:00 p.m. Evaluating Teaching in an Accountability Era Room 8
This past year, the Senate Committee on Educational Policy (SCEP) and the Senate Committee on Faculty Affairs (SCFA) jointly commissioned a task force, chaired by David Langley, Director of the Twin Cities Center for Teaching and Learning, to review the Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET) form and to recommend revisions. This session will look at the recommended changes, their rationale and how they link to the undergraduate student learning outcomes, and will review the results of a pilot during spring semester 2007.

Facilitator: David Langley, Director, Center for Teaching and Learning, UMTC

9:00 p.m.-? Bonfire Behind Cabin 621
**Sunday, October 7, 2007**

**The ADT: The Next Decade**

7:30-8:15 a.m. **Breakfast**

8:30-10:00 a.m. **Harnessing Technologies for Learning – Part II**

There are many technological tools available to support a variety of pedagogical goals. During these concurrent sessions, retreat participants have an opportunity to explore a couple of the uses of technology by their ADT colleagues. A third session provides an opportunity for those who are less than convinced of the contributions technology makes to teaching and learning to have a discussion with Vice Provost Billie Wahlstrom.

1. **Title TBD.**
   Helen Mongan-Rallis, UMD Room 2

2. **TBD.**
   Room 3

3. **Pedagogical Goals for Teaching and Learning: What Does Technology REALLY Contribute?**
   Facilitator: Billie Wahlstrom, UMTC Room 4

10:00 a.m. **Break**

10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. **The ADT Mission: What Will We Be in the Coming Decade?**

The mission of the Academy of Distinguished Teachers is:

...to recognize and celebrate teaching excellence, to foster the continued improvement of teaching and learning at the University of Minnesota, and to strengthen the resources necessary to do so.

The ADT began in spring 1999. We have existed now for over eight years. We find ourselves in a dynamic, challenging environment, both at the University of Minnesota and in higher education generally. What do we want our role as the ADT to be in the coming decade? What will be our contribution to being a great University, where teaching and learning are top notch and highly valued? In what ways can the ADT have the most impact on the direction and future of the University?

In this session, a panel of ADT colleagues will reflect on their involvement in the ADT and on the role of the ADT in the University to date, as well as for the future. The session will then engage participants in a dialogue about the ADT’s future.

Facilitator: Dan Svedarsky, UMC

12:15-1:00 p.m. **Lunch & Departure**

Ruby’s Dining Room