

Committee on Teaching (COT)
MINUTES
April 8, 2014, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Present: Charlie McDowell, *Chair*, Maria-Elena Diaz, Matthew McCarthy, Jim Phillips, *sits with*, Kirsten Silva-Gruesz, Anjali Dutt (Graduate Student Rep.), Suzanne Millward (ASO Staff)

Absent with Notice: Michael Chemers

Routine Announcements:

Director Phillips gave an update about online teacher evaluations, stating that response rates for winter quarter, 2014, were much better than in fall, 2013. There was an insignificant amount of data loss and response rates are back to their normal percentage, which is about 58% overall. Director Phillips also announced that the Learning Technology Committee (LTC) has reviewed a survey which he would also like COT to review. The survey is composed of 20 questions and will be used to help UCSC answer the question “Do we want to keep using eCommons?” Additionally, the Committee on Computing and Telecommunications (CCT) wants to start a pilot of Canvas to compare it to Sakai. The cost of Canvas is comparable to Sakai, and Berkeley has been running both Sakai and Canvas for an entire year. CCT needs some faculty to participate in a pilot of Canvas (and potentially other systems) over the summer / fall and compare them to eCommons.

Excellence in Teaching Awards:

After the preliminary review of Excellence in Teaching Award (ETA) nominations, the committee agreed that the ETA process needs to be adjusted. Nominations should require more information-rich submissions, class size should be estimated, and the staff should develop a tool that is easier to use for reviewing nominations.

Following routine procedures, the committee discussed the nominations and composed a short-list of 19 professors. The Department Chairs will be asked to provide a letter of recommendation, and the short-listed nominees will be asked to provide a statement of teaching philosophy.

Forum Lightning Talks – April 23, 2014:

Outreach and event details were finalized.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.