

**MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON TEACHING
May 7, 2007**

Wednesday, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Kerr Hall Rm 129

Present: Murray Baumgarten (Chair), John Borrego, Henry Burnett (Media Services Director), Rachel Dewey (NSTF Rep), Ruth Harris-Barnett (CTE Director), Kevin Karplus, Roxanne Monnet (Senate analyst), Cynthia Polecritti.

Absent: Lindsey Hinck

Chair's Announcements

Members were reminded of the May 23 teaching award ceremony.

The Committee decided to retain the May 21 COT meeting to make decisions on recently received mini grants. They also decided to invite the Disability Resource Center Director to the June 4 meeting.

Budgetary request lists for the Instructional Technology Committee were discussed. It was noted that the highest priorities on the list are related to business administration and not directly related to teaching technology, perhaps with one exception, and that only those things marked "critical" are expected to be funded for 2007-08. No funds have been provided for instructional technology ideas and non-critical needs for the past two years. COT expressed that there were a number of highly important things not on the list such as staff to assist faculty in course development and support for innovation in learning technology for instructional projects. A need was expressed for people with backgrounds in both pedagogy and technology. ITC will hold a sequence of meetings to gather input toward these spending decisions which will start with assistant deans, then deans, and lastly with the Vice Chancellor for Information Technology Services. COT wonders from where the funding (\$1.4M for the critical needs list) will be drawn. The point was made that by not having access to the \$1.4M to openly consider how best to support the teaching mission, there is a loss for teaching in the form of a lost opportunity. COT thinks that unless there is a separate funding stream for instructional technology, it appears that non-critical instructional technology items will never get to the top of the list to be funded.

Draft minutes from April 30 The minutes from April 30, 2007, were accepted as amended.

COT voted to post its minutes on the Web. Minutes from the current year will be reviewed for changes that may be appropriate in light of public posting of the minutes.

Director's announcements and updates

None.

Mini Grants

Two mini grants were funded, for a total of \$3,035. Two were denied. One grant was held for more information.

It was noted that the most common reasons for the denying of mini grant proposals are that the proposals seemed to benefit the faculty more than the students and/or that the requests are for things that COT thinks the department should be funding.

Annual Report

The group accepted assignments to draft portions of the COT annual report for 2006-07 as follows:

Consultation with CEP: Baumgarten
Consultation with DRC: Baumgarten
Draft strategic academic plan: Baumgarten (using COT's letter of response)
Awards/mini grants appendix: Harris-Barnett
Interface between technology and pedagogy: Burnett
Consultation with ITC: Burnett
Consultation with University Librarian: Burnett
L&T symposium: Polecritti
Major grant awards: Polecritti
What to do to raise the profile of teaching: Karplus and Polecritti
Consultation with CCT (and the CEP Chair) on laptop for students: Karplus
Erosion of teaching: Borrego
TA training: Borrego
Need for new teaching mission statement: Dewey

Member Hinck will be asked to draft the portions of the report regarding the on-line evaluation proposal, the consultation with VPDUE Ladusaw, and the request for increase of the grant budget (which is still pending).

Where are we on raising the profile on teaching?

This topic was carried forward due to a lack of time.

Review of mini grant and award processes

This topic was carried forward due to a lack of time.

Attest,

Murray Baumgarten, Chair
Committee on Teaching