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Committee on Teaching (COT)
MINUTES
March 4, 2014, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

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Present: Charlie McDowell, *Chair*, Maria-Elena Diaz, Michael Chemers, Matthew McCarthy, Jim Phillips, *sits with*

Absent with Notice: Annapurna Pandey (NSTF), Kirsten Silva Gruesz, Anjali Dutt (Graduate Student Rep.)

Routine Announcements:
Chair McDowell reported on the International Proposal discussion at SEC: It is not clear whether these efforts belong under the VPDUE or another unit, nor is it clear how all the money made from this program will be distributed.

McDowell also reported that online course evaluations were discussed at the Computer Science department meeting. The new cycle of course evaluations are happening right now, and the vendor has added additional monitoring on the system so that if things fail, they can see why.

Excellence in Teaching:
On March 7, the call for Excellence in Teaching Awards (ETA) nominations will go out through Undergraduate Education (with a deadline of March 25). Responses will go into a spreadsheet, and will then be separated by division. COT agreed that each nomination letter will be reviewed by two members (ASO staff will assign nominations to members). Once the short list is agreed upon on at the upcoming April 8 COT meeting, Department Chairs will be solicited to provide letters of recommendation for those on the short list, and additionally, those nominated will be asked to submit a statement of teaching philosophy. Department Chairs and short-listed nominees will be given a response deadline of April 23, and COT will have read all materials by the May 6 committee meeting, at which time the awardees will be determined.

Consultation with Academic Affairs Analyst Michael Tassio:
After discussing the ETA process, Michael Tassio explained that he would like to work with COT at his new position focused around online education. The hopes are that UCSC will fund the development of one Coursera course per year as a common good, and that there will then be hybrid offerings of these classes on campus. The proposal for funding such a structure will be finished soon, at which time it will be sent to the Senate for review. VPAA Lee also hopes that once UCSC has enough resources around the development of online and hybrid courses, the campus will be able to make more than one course per year. It was noted that many of these courses will require animations, advanced modeling, and movies, some of which bring about copyright issues that will need further consideration.

ILTI has been calling for proposals to fund cross-campus online education programs. Because spring programs were unable to go forth, there will be a lump sum (approximately $50K) given for infrastructure of online education to each campus, and UCSC will be making an extraordinary case as to why the campus needs more funds than some other campuses.

Forum Lightning Talks - April 23, 2014
The committee members agreed to personally reach out to previous Excellence in Teaching Award nominees from their divisions.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.